

Today we celebrate a somewhat obscure Feast Day — the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle. While there is a physical, ancient chair preserved in the Vatican, it's more about the one who sits in the chair — our Holy Father — beginning with St. Peter and continuing through Pope Francis today.

Our current Pope is such a humble leader. I would love the chance to sit on the porch and have a cup of coffee with him! His first words after being elected were, “Pray for me.” Later, when a reporter asked him who he is so we could get to know the man, Pope Francis replied, “I am a sinner.” Wow! Look at the chair this man sits in, but he doesn't view it as a position of prestige. He welcomes others to sit with him.

Our Holy Father exudes the love of Jesus no matter what type of chair. He understands the importance of balancing alone-time with the Lord and time in community — like our meeting in Small Groups.

The phrase “worship as a lifestyle” also made me think of St. Therese, the Little Flower, and the humble Brother Lawrence, who is featured in a wonderful little book titled, “Practicing the Presence of God.” Their lives show us how we can worship in all activities, whether we sit alone or in the company of others — like brushing our teeth, making a sandwich, having a cup of coffee or a glass of wine with a friend on the porch — It's about living in community and being in communion with God — aware that He is accompanying us every step on this Earth.

Happy Lent to you all!!!