## Three Sisters Journey

## A Modern Day Parable inspired by Matthew 2:1-12

When the COVID 19 Pandemic was born in the world, three wise women from the Southern United States arrived in the center of their city saying, "Where is the aide and assistance for the homeless? Why is there no food for these people? We saw the news of businesses shutting down and we came out of concern for the homeless."

These women are sisters who were raised by very loving and caring parents in a quaint country home where there was always room for another hungry worker at the dinner table, and there was always an extra bed for a weary traveler to lay his head for the night. When their parents died, they didn't leave much of an inheritance because they had given away most of their fortune to help those who were most in need.

The three sisters decided to combine what their parents had left them to set up a free food truck. They named it "3 Sisters Rolling Soup Kitchen" and planned to offer free soup to everyone! They would travel around the city feeding the hungry and letting them know they are not forgotten.

When the mayor heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all the City Council with him. Assembling the council members and leaders of the city, he inquired of them what implications the 3 Sisters Journey might have on keeping control of the people. Some said to him, "The restaurants might suffer loss of income after they reopen as the people might have become accustomed to free food from the Rolling Soup Kitchen." Others said to him, "We can deter them by collecting taxes and permit fees." Some questioned, who is liable if someone gets sick from the free food? Still others said to the mayor, "If we follow them, they will likely encounter illegal immigrants and vagrants. This could be a chance to clean up our city!"

The mayor called the 3 sisters secretly and tried to ascertain the route they planned to take for their mission. He sent them on their way and said, "Go and map out your journey to feed the hungry. When you have developed the route, bring me a map that I too may go help the people and do some good. After their meeting with the mayor they set out. And behold, the plan unfolded before them beautifully.

Now these sisters all looked very much alike, in fact many thought they were triplets. However, their personalities were quite different. Goldie is the oldest sister. She is always on the go and plunges into new projects without hesitation. She immediately went to work painting the food truck in order to draw attention to their new mission. The sides featured a bright star and in bold print the words, "And you, all people in the land, you are by no means the least among the cities and towns, for the Good Shepherd has called you each by name. Therefore, eat your fill and be fulfilled."

Frankie is the middle sister. She is more of a worrier and approaches new ventures with a guarded hopefulness. She liked the idea of the Rolling Soup Kitchen but had many worries. Will it make a true difference? Will the people respond? How will the hungry find their way to them? How long will we be able to sustain such a mission with our limited resources?

Mya is the youngest. She is a quiet, patient soul and she is very thoughtful. She takes time to ponder and discern her inspirations. She likes to plan them out carefully and always seeks the Lord's guidance and blessing in everything she does.

These 3 sisters balance each other well with their unique gifts, and they work quite well together. They set out on their journey and were overjoyed at seeing so many people. They saw children with their mothers, men with their friends, and people of all shapes and colors. Each place where they stopped was quickly filled with people who were truly in need and tremendously grateful for the free, hot, delicious meal. They parked the truck, opened the serving windows, and offered bowls of healthy homemade soup. Everyone celebrated as the wonderful aromas of vegetables and broth lifted the heaviness in the air and carried the good news down the street.

After having been warned that the mayor might not be planning to extend the same good will to the people, the 3 sisters departed for their country home by another way.

