

Daily Homily
St. Kateri Tekawitha, Virgin
Optional Memorial
Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time: Wednesday
14 July 2021
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Three brief things captivate me about Moses' initial encounter with the Lord.

1. As pray-ers ourselves, what do we often do to encounter the Lord? We often sit down, settle down, take in the quiet, calm ourselves and we either take in the quiet or read a scripture passage or we listen or we speak to God. When we go to pray, we anticipate God showing up. As pray-ers we do the action of prayer in order to encounter the Lord. Moses was not in this state at all. He was working, running around a mountainside, doing arduous work, tending his flocks. It would seem that the Lord was in this, sort of, prayerful state waiting for Moses to show up. Next time you go to pray, believe this, God is already in a state of prayer, waiting for you to show up.
2. In prayer many times we normally get distracted by things... laundry needs to get done, grocery list begins to formulate, I should call this person or that person... normally in prayer all sorts of distractions come our way. Moses, however, is distracted by prayer itself. It pulls him away from his duty, his work, his sheep and he has a moment with God. Get an upper hand on your distractions. Be consciously distracted by prayer in the course of a day. You're standing in line somewhere, pray. You're driving by someone walking, pray for that person. A person calls you on the phone, friend or sales person, pray for that individual as you talk to them. Like Moses, let prayer be our distraction throughout the day.
3. Moses is called to do this task – go to Pharaoh and tell him that the people of Israel are moving out of town. Moses reaction, as with any call in Sacred Scripture, "Who am I to do this?" The reaction is questioning, objection, and resistance. But God gives the confidence of these credentials of suitability... "I will be with you." Great words, reassuring words. Let these be the words that we take with us, as we approach this new day before us.