Wednesday of the First Week of Lent – St. Peter Damian.

Readings: Jonah 3.1-10 – Sin city repents; Luke 11.29-32 – Pharisees jeer.

Reality: "The entire 20th century is being sucked into the vortex of atheism and self-destruction. We can only reach out with determination. We can only reach out with determination for the warm hand of God, which we so rashly and self-confidently pushed away...there is nothing to cling to in the landslide. No matter how formidable Communism bristles with tanks and rockets, no matter what success it attains in seizing the planet, it is doomed never to vanquish Christianity." (Excerpt from Alexander Solzhenitsyn's 1978 commencement speech at Harvard University).

Prayer: God, you place your love upon the heart of the unfaithful. From time to time, when the heart is cracked open, you fall inside to overwhelm us with a new way of believing.