

**All things are possible
for God!!**

*Twenty-eighth Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

San Ignacio de Loyola Parish

October 11, 2015



REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Who of us wouldn't want to be the man in the Gospel who approaches Jesus with the question about what he must "do to inherit eternal life"? Jesus does more than affirm his faithful living of the commandments: "looking at him" Jesus "loved him". Wouldn't we all want to have such concrete affirmation that Jesus loves us? Then again, maybe we wouldn't want to be that man. Jesus clearly tells him the cost of following him; he must give up everything. The man "went away sad".



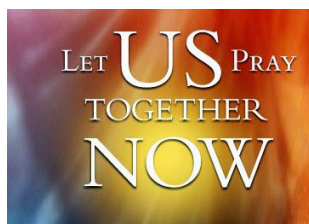
Where is our heart? Are we overjoyed at Jesus' glance of love, or are we sad because it is too much?

Giving our all to follow Jesus doesn't mean that we literally sell everything. Jesus is saying that we can't let possessions (or

anything else for that matter) divide our hearts. We must let go so only God possesses us.

Words to reflect upon: we must let go

LET US PRAY! All Together, 24/7



FOR the success of the Bishops Synod *which is currently taking place in Rome,*

FOR relief for the terrible sufferings of Christians throughout the Middle East especially Syria and Iraq,

FOR an end to the drought conditions causing so much suffering in Puerto Rico and

FOR the thousands of panicked North African refugees risking their lives daily on the Mediterranean in overcrowded unsafe boats.

LIVING YOUR PASCHAL MYSTERY

The Suffering, Death And Resurrection Of Jesus And Our Participation In It

The lovely words "eternal life" appear at the beginning of today's Gospel in the rich young man's question and at the end of the Gospel in Jesus' promise of a hundredfold reward for his disciples. In between the two comes the invitation to renounce anything that keeps us from surrendering to God's action to bring about the kingdom.

Sometimes the dispossession we need to consider most seriously has nothing to do with material possessions. At times, we need to dispossess ourselves of our opinions in order to listen carefully to what another is saying. Perhaps we need to dispossess ourselves of prejudice or obstinacy or gossip or rigidity or arrogance or... And so, again, the question, to what are we clinging? To what are we running? Eternal life?

Words to reflect upon:

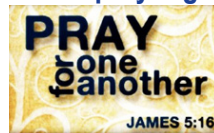
promise, invitation, dispossession

prayer

**Where there is fear I can allay,
Where there is pain I can heal,
Where there are wounds I can bind,
And hunger I can fill:
Lord, grant me courage,
Lord, grant me strength,
Grant me compassion
That I may be your heart today. Amen**

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers,
intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,
1 Timothy 2:1*

Let us pray together today for the chronically ill:



Sylvia Tasner, Jerry and Albert Vega, Fr. Vega, Rudy & Sonia Méndez, **Maggie and Don Maziarz**, Olga Pérez and Ritmo Aponte.

POPE FRANCIS

Addressing the first working session of the **Synod on the Family**, Pope Francis reminded the bishops and other participants that this assembly *“is not a parliament” where one negotiates, bargains or compromises to reach consensus or agreement, much less is it “a talk shop.”*



On the contrary, Francis said, it is “a protected space where the church experiences the action of the Holy Spirit,” and its “only method” is that of “opening oneself to the Holy Spirit, with apostolic courage, evangelical humility and trusting prayer so that it is he who guides us, enlightens us and makes us put before the eyes [of all at the synod] not our personal positions, but the faith in God, fidelity to the magisterium, the good of the church and the salvation of souls.”

He explained that “the synod is not a ‘conference’ or ‘talk shop,’ nor is it a parliament or senate, where agreement is reached.” Instead, “it is the church that walks together to read the reality with the eyes of faith and the heart of God.” It is the church “that interrogates itself about its fidelity to the deposit of faith which, as such, does not represent a museum to be looked at, or even just to be safeguarded.” He reminded all present that the deposit of faith “is a living source at which the church quenches its thirst so as to [be able to] quench the thirst and illuminate the deposit of life.”

LITURGICAL CORNER

This week we celebrate two important days: the feast day of **St. Teresa of Avila** (Oct. 15) and **World Food Day** (Oct. 16).

St. Teresa of Avila, Carmelite nun, reformer, mystic, spiritual writer for the ages, contemplative, Doctor of the Church, was a woman “for God”, strong, courageous and faithful, a woman of prayer, discipline and compassion. Her heart belonged to God and he loved her.

World Food Day Most of the harvest of the world never gets to most of the poor of the world because the global economic system too often sows profit instead of human concern. Pope Francis often speaks of “the scandal of hunger” and “the globalization of indifference” criticizing what he calls “a growing tendency for us to close in on ourselves saying this leads to a certain generalized indifference towards hunger as though “it were an inevitable fact”.



**WORLD
FOOD
DAY-OCT16**

This is a pathetic situation, a harvest that demonstrates the weeds in the soul of the West. Take some food off of your own shelf on Friday for the poor of your community or send a donation to the nearest soup kitchen such as La Fondita de Jesus in Santurce (787-724-4051) or food bank (Food Bank of Puerto Rico 787-743-3663).

SYNOD ON THE FAMILY



SYNOD OF BISHOPS
on the Family

Interviewed on German television the evening of the first day of the synod in Rome, **Cardinal Reinhard Marx**, the president of the German bishops' conference. . . made it clear that the problem of whether or not to allow divorced and remarried Catholics to partake of communion *would not* be the major topic at the synod.

“The synod wants to underline that marriage and the family are part of the basic foundation of our coexistence,” Marx said. “They are most important and must be protected. What we must make clear, and the Pope has already made clear, that we will stand by people if and when their marriages fail.”

PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE

In their own ways, the following 3 texts are about the scripture messages today: emptying, dispossessing, giving up,

A New Creation

Slowly, painfully, we seek to allow the Spirit of God to renew the face of the earth. The restoration of society can only be achieved by those who are poor in spirit, gentle, compassionate, hungry for justice, merciful, pure in heart and peacemakers. Only those who are part of the new creation can hope to build a new world, a better society. The kingdom of God is established first in our hearts. Unless that happens our efforts will remain generous and well-intentioned, but not the work of the Holy Spirit. It is our mission, throughout our life to share the work of Christ and to renew, through the power of the Spirit, the face of the earth. Basil Hume, OSB

Zen Story on Emptying

A seeker went to visit a famous Zen master. While the master quietly served tea, the seeker talked about Zen. The master poured the visitor's cup to the brim, and then kept pouring. The seeker watched the overflowing cup until he could no longer restrain himself. “It's overfull! No more will go in!” the seeker blurted. “You are like this cup,” the master replied. “How can I show you Zen unless you first empty your cup”?

“Ripple in still water

when there is no pebble tossed
nor wind to blow”

This famous chorus from Ripple by Robert Hunter and made famous by The Grateful Dead, still speaks eternal truths to us today about searching out the different paths we can walk to God --if we can only learn to listen to the song's messages. One beautiful interpretation can be found on U-tube: as The Grateful Dead's Ripple played by musicians around the world.