

**"We are created to praise
reverence and serve
the Lord our God!"**

*Twenty-ninth Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

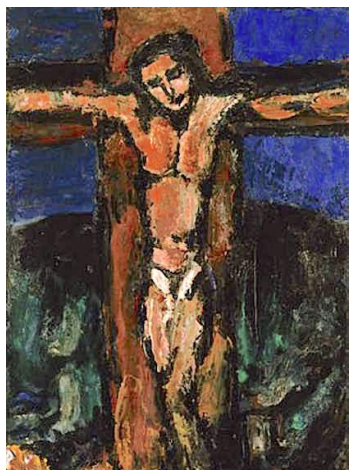


San Ignacio de Loyola Parish

October 18, 2015

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

Why did the apostles follow Jesus? Today's Gospel suggests they had reward on their minds: the glory of sitting at the right and left of



Jesus in positions of honor. It took the apostles a long time to learn that the real reward of following Jesus would be to "drink the cup" and "be baptized" with his baptism. His baptism was his lifelong choice to do the will of the Father no matter what the cost. The cost would be humbly serving others to the point even of giving his life "for many". As Jesus'

followers, we can choose no less. Like the apostles, it takes us no less time to learn this.

Words to reflect upon: it takes us no less time to learn

Today we honor a "Great Lady" of our Parish on the occasion of her 90th Birthday!

Maria Lina Juliá de Margarida

has dedicated a great portion of her life - time, talent and treasure - to the service of those who suffer the consequences of socio-economic marginalization on our Island. Among the many projects that she has sponsored, one in particular has great significance for our 9:30 Community. That is what is now known as "**Vietnam Estudia**". Maria Lina began this project in Guaynabo with Sor Vicky in 1986, and in 1987 the first Barrio Vietnam Center was inaugurated. She was a member of the Advisory Committee which included other members of our parish as well: Diana Unanue and Marie Calaf. Today we thank Maria Lina for her example as a tireless servant and benefactor of the People of God, as well as an admirable mother of seven children.



"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24: 15

LIVING YOUR PASCHAL MYSTERY

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

Answering the call of discipleship means that we are baptized into Jesus' life and ministry. Our baptism plunges us into the dying and rising mystery of Christ. The disciples kept misunderstanding this. We also often forget this. Discipleship means emptying ourselves to be servant (practical, everyday putting of others ahead of ourselves) over and over again and constantly learning what the cost of our baptismal "yes" is.

Serving means nothing other than giving our lives for others. It means that when our nerves are frazzled and the baby is crying, we manage to find the energy to caress and comfort. When the boss is demanding, rather than grumbling to coworkers, we put out the effort to mediate a better relationship. When we hear of a neighbor in need, we ring the doorbell, introduce ourselves, and ask how we might help. Serving others means that we look for ways to make the lives of others better. In turn, God gives us a share in Jesus' glory! Doesn't look so bad, then, does it?

Words to reflect upon: our participation in the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus

**Almighty and Eternal Lord, we pray for
the power to be gentle, the strength to be
forgiving, the patience to be understanding,
and the endurance to accept the consequences
of holding to what we believe to be right.
May we place our trust in the power of good
to overcome evil and the power of love to
overcome hatred. Help us to devote our life to
the constructing of peace. 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

A quote from Pope Francis;

"Dear friends, let these words of Jesus resound in our hearts: 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.' Let us ask sincerely for forgiveness for all the times in which we have caused division or misunderstanding within our communities, knowing well that communion is not achieved except through constant conversion. What is conversion? It is asking the Lord for the grace not to speak ill, not to criticize, not to gossip, to love everyone. This is what it means to convert the heart."

Down to Earth Advice for Families from Pope Francis



The Catholic Church has long taught that the family is a school of humanity—the first and best place to learn about love and respect. A healthy society relies on citizens who learn love, responsibility,

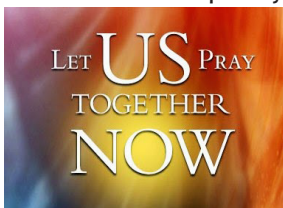
loyalty, acceptance of others and solidarity from their family relationships.

With examples from his own life and the real lives of others, he points to what is happening "on the ground" and frequently offers us some practical advice. For example, the Christian response to the all too typical problem of anger or misunderstanding is to choose the path of dialogue, which requires eating lots of tart "humble pie".

Other similarly practical advice: play with your kids more, be more affectionate and always say, "Please" and "Thank you". Kissing in front of the children is a "beautiful witness". When they see that dad and mom love each other, the children grow in that climate of love, happiness and security.

LET US PRAY! All Together, 24/7

FOR the Bishops' Synod that the Holy Spirit may inspire the bishops to make decisions that build the Family of God in an attitude of Mercy.



FOR relief for the terrible sufferings of Christians throughout the Middle East,

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.

SYNOD ON THE FAMILY

The ongoing worldwide meeting of Catholic bishops on family is being called to explore the "vast middle ground" between never-changing church teaching and committing iconoclasm, an Australian archbishop who leads one of the meetings' English-language groups has said.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge said that while there are many opinions among prelates at the Oct. 4-25 Synod of Bishops, one impression that has emerged is that some believe the choice facing the gathering is either to "abandon church teaching" or commit to a "bubble of immutability."

"Between those two extremes ... there is in fact a vast territory ... to be explored," said Coleridge, who heads the eastern Australia archdiocese of Brisbane.

"That's what the synod should be about," said the archbishop. "The words and exercise of pastoral activity -- saying, 'OK, we don't go to one extreme and say we're going to chuck church teaching out the window or the other extreme and say we're going to do nothing.'"

National Catholic Reporter - October 13, 2015

If you listen carefully enough just as you are awakening in the morning, you may hear God's voice whispering:

**Day draws near
Another one
Do what you can!**

Today is the feast of St. Luke, Evangelist. Luke was a physician who brought more to new life by following Jesus than he did by his profession. Luke's portrayal of Jesus is of a master who cares equally for women as he does for men. His account, at a time when the status of women was quite low, is consequently unique and possibly a result of having learned much about Jesus from the Virgin Mary.

PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE

Second Reading Hebrews 4:12-13



Christ is able to "sympathize with our weaknesses", the reading says. Does he completely understand your situation no matter how complicated it is? Are you able to understand other people's weaknesses?

Gospel Mark 10:35-45

What place do status, rank and privilege have in Christian ministry? Why does Jesus attribute so much importance to the emptying of oneself?