



The Gospel & Homily † el Evangelio y la Homilía

17 June 2020

Wednesday of the Second Week After Pentecost

Miércoles de la segunda semana después de Pentecostés

Special Announcements

We are not meeting for Mass this Sunday. I hope that as you read this you feel the absence of your church family and pray for their safety; and for all those who suffer from sickness. May God protect the faithful.

Let us pray for the departure of this virus that changes how we worship and takes away our closeness; but never alters our love and faith in the Lord.

We pray for our loved ones and so many others in the world.

We are steadfast in the face of this challenge, through the courage and example of Jesus Christ.

Other announcements

- There are no birthdays & anniversaries
- We plan to meet for Mass on Wednesdays at 12:00p for the next several weeks.
- I will continue to make video recordings for Sunday Mass and post them about 9:00a on Sundays.
- Synodal Catholic Community update. I am meeting with Bishop Steven later this month.
- Let us watch the news carefully and pray for the development of a vaccine so that all churches may resume the gathering that means so much.
- I will stay in touch with each of you as we plan our church schedule for the months ahead.

Please also visit the website at <https://spcath.org>



In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.



We pray

Suscipe - St. Ignatius Loyola

Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty,
my memory, my understanding and my whole will.
All that I am and all that I possess, You have given me:
I surrender it all to You to be disposed of according to Your will.
Give me only Your love and Your grace;
with these I will be rich enough, and will desire nothing more.
† Amen

Confiteor

I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do. And I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

My God, I am sorry for my sins because I have offended you. I know I should love you above all things. Help me to do penance, to do better, and to avoid anything that might lead me to sin. Amen.



May the Lord have mercy on you,
find goodness in you,
pardon and deliver you from your sins;
and bring you to everlasting life.



Collect

Teach us, Lord God, to refrain from false judgments about the sins of others, and to hold fast to our path of discipleship when we suffer unjustly because of judgments made by others. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our only mediator and advocate. Amen.

Gospel Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village. As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."



Homily

Today in the Gospel you heard what sounded like “tough talk” from Jesus. There was also some tough talk from James and John. This was a business trip and Jesus is very much to-the-point in this Gospel.

Jesus and his disciples are on the way to Jerusalem, and traveling in the region known at the time as Samaria. In biblical history Samaria was the Kingdom of Israel and was mostly the northern part of modern day Israel. To the south was the Kingdom of Judea, except for the Mediterranean coastal area which was part of the Philistine States. Geography and borders changed many times through the years.

I mention geography because I wanted to note that the Samaritan (or Samaritan) village that Jesus and the disciples were passing through would not have been completely friendly and hospitable. There were two types of Jews during this period of time. The Samaritans and the Judeans. Each group believed that their own religious practice was superior to the other.

The majority of the village rejects Jesus. There was some “attitude” in the air and described in the Gospel with only the words “they would not welcome him.”

James and John get aggressive and ask Jesus, “Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?” Jesus rebukes them... This is not his ministry at all. Jesus teaches non-violence. So, they simply walk on to the next village.

At some point they meet a man who says, “I will follow you wherever you go.” Jesus replies with words about foxes having dens and birds having nests, and the Son of Man has nowhere to rest.

What is all of that? “Son of Man” is one of several descriptors Jesus uses to refer to himself. To clarify that term, it means the embodiment of all humans. Since Jesus will be sacrificed for all of mankind, the inference is that he is the offspring of all humans.

So, the man had said, “I will follow you wherever you go.” Jesus seemed to be warning the man; that walking with Jesus will be a demanding lifestyle. It would be a commitment that offers no security or riches or worldly benefits.

The Gospel infers that there were several people who offered to be disciples. Jesus is tougher on the next man. Very directly he says, “follow me.” This is an invitation to be a disciple; to do God’s work.

The man said “Lord, let me go first and bury my father.” But he answered him, “Let the dead bury their dead.”

That may sound abrupt but the meaning was that “the dead” who will bury the father are the man’s relatives that don’t see the light. They are (figuratively) considered dead. Let them take care of that since you are alive and will commit to this ministry.

To the man who said, “I will follow you Lord, but first let me say farewell to my family at home,” Jesus gave him a terse reply too, “No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God.”

In other words it will serve you better to put your sinful past behind you. Seek God’s forgiveness for your sins and move into a life of serving the Lord.

Jesus does not want temporary employees or seasonal workers. He wants his disciples for a full-time job; all or nothing.

These are the words of Jesus on this day in not so nicely put parables. Half-hearts are simply not acceptable.

There is much wisdom in these words, even if you think them perhaps too much to the point.

point 1 - put aside anger and violence as ways to solve problems. Accept Christ’s reminder that to “call fire down from heaven” is not the Christian way to deal with difficult people. Let go of unworthy behavior and trust the promises of God to guide you.

point 2 - Jesus may sound a bit curt with potential followers but what he meant was that walking with Jesus starts right now, and nothing is more important.

He is saying... I need you - - - now .

If your life does not include working for and with Jesus outside your home, then you can do the work in your home, in your church and most of all, in your heart.

Jesus said, “Go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” and that means embracing a life of unconditional love and forgiveness.



Evangelio Lucas 9:51-62

Y sucedió que cuando se cumplían los días de su ascensión, Él, con determinación, afirmó su rostro para ir a Jerusalén. Y envió mensajeros delante de Él; y ellos fueron y entraron en una aldea de los samaritanos para hacerle preparativos. Pero no le recibieron, porque sabían que había determinado ir a Jerusalén. Al ver esto, sus discípulos Jacobo y Juan, dijeron: Señor, ¿quieres que mandemos que descienda fuego del cielo y los consuma? Pero Él, volviéndose, los reprendió, y dijo: Vosotros no sabéis de qué espíritu sois, porque el Hijo del Hombre no ha venido para destruir las almas de los hombres, sino para salvarlas. Y se fueron a otra aldea. Y mientras ellos iban por el camino, uno le dijo: Te seguiré adondequiera que vayas. Y Jesús le dijo: Las zorras tienen madrigueras y las aves del cielo nidos, pero el Hijo del Hombre no tiene dónde recostar la cabeza. A otro dijo: Sígueme. Pero él dijo: Señor, permíteme que vaya primero a enterrar a mi padre. Mas Él le dijo: Deja que los muertos entierren a sus muertos; pero tú, ve y anuncia por todas partes el reino de Dios. También otro dijo: Te seguiré, Señor; pero primero permíteme despedirme de los de mi casa. Pero Jesús le dijo: Nadie, que después de poner la mano en el arado mira atrás, es apto para el reino de Dios.



Homilía

Hoy en el Evangelio escuchaste lo que sonó como "hablar duro" de Jesús. También hubo algunas conversaciones difíciles de James y John. Este fue un viaje de negocios y Jesús está muy al grano en este Evangelio.

Jesús y sus discípulos se dirigen a Jerusalén y viajan a la región conocida en ese momento como Samaria. En la historia bíblica, Samaria era el Reino de Israel y era principalmente la parte norte del Israel moderno. Al sur se encontraba el Reino de Judea, a excepción de la zona costera mediterránea que formaba parte de los Estados filisteos. La geografía y las fronteras cambiaron muchas veces a través de los años.

Menciono geografía porque quería señalar que la aldea samaritana (o samaritana) por la que Jesús y los discípulos estaban pasando no habría sido completamente amigable y hospitalaria. Había dos tipos de judíos durante este período de tiempo. Los samaritanos y los judíos. Cada grupo creía que su propia práctica religiosa era superior a la otra.

La mayoría de la aldea rechaza a Jesús. Había cierta "actitud" en el aire y descrita en el Evangelio con solo las palabras "no le darían la bienvenida".

James y John se ponen agresivos y le preguntan a Jesús: "Señor, ¿quieres que invoquemos fuego del cielo para consumirlos?" Jesús los reprende ... Este no es su ministerio en absoluto. Jesús enseña no violencia. Entonces, simplemente caminan hacia el próximo pueblo.

En algún momento se encuentran con un hombre que dice: "Te seguiré donde sea que vayas". Jesús responde con palabras sobre los zorros que tienen guaridas y las aves que tienen nidos, y el Hijo del Hombre no tiene dónde descansar. ¿Qué es todo eso? "Hijo del hombre" es uno de varios descriptores que Jesús usa para referirse a sí mismo. Para aclarar ese término, significa la encarnación de todos los humanos. Dado que Jesús será sacrificado por toda la humanidad, la inferencia es que él es la descendencia de todos los humanos.

Entonces, el hombre había dicho: "Te seguiré donde sea que vayas". Jesús parecía estar advirtiendo al hombre; que caminar con Jesús será un estilo de vida exigente. Sería un compromiso que no ofrece seguridad ni riquezas ni beneficios mundanos.

El Evangelio infiere que hubo varias personas que se ofrecieron a ser discípulos. Jesús es más duro con el próximo hombre. Muy directamente dice: "sígueme". Esta es una invitación a ser discípulo; hacer la obra de Dios



El hombre dijo: "Señor, déjame ir primero y enterrar a mi padre". Pero él le respondió: "Que los muertos entierren a sus muertos".

Eso puede sonar abrupto, pero el significado era que "los muertos" que enterrarán al padre son los familiares del hombre que no ven la luz. Son (figurativamente) considerados muertos. Deja que se encarguen de eso ya que estás vivo y te comprometerás con este ministerio.

Al hombre que dijo: "Te seguiré Señor, pero primero déjame decirle adiós a mi familia en casa", Jesús también le dio una respuesta breve: "Nadie que ponga una mano en el arado y mire lo que quedó atrás es apto para el reino de Dios".

En otras palabras, te servirá mejor dejar atrás tu pasado pecaminoso. Busque el perdón de Dios por sus pecados y muévase a una vida de servicio al Señor.

Jesús no quiere empleados temporales o trabajadores temporales. Quiere a sus discípulos para un trabajo a tiempo completo; todo o nada.

Estas son las palabras de Jesús en este día en parábolas no tan bien puestas. Los medios corazones simplemente no son aceptables.

Hay mucha sabiduría en estas palabras, incluso si las piensas demasiado al punto.

punto 1: dejar de lado la ira y la violencia como formas de resolver problemas. Acepte el recordatorio de Cristo de que "invocar fuego del cielo" no es la forma cristiana de tratar con personas difíciles. Deja de lado el comportamiento indigno y confía en las promesas de Dios para guiarte.

punto 2: Jesús puede sonar un poco brusco con los seguidores potenciales, pero lo que quiso decir es que caminar con Jesús comienza en este momento, y nada es más importante.

Él está diciendo ... te necesito - - - ahora.

Si su vida no incluye trabajar para y con Jesús fuera de su hogar, entonces puede hacer el trabajo en su hogar, en su iglesia y, sobre todo, en su corazón.

Jesús dijo: "Ve y proclama el reino de Dios". y eso significa abrazar una vida de amor incondicional y perdón.

