

Christ Our Hope Catholic Church

Faith In Laity Corner



Monday, November 13, 2017

32nd Sunday Ordinary Times

Readings: Ws. 6:12-16; Mt. 25: 1-13

Words To The Wise !

Welcome to the 32nd Sunday in Ordinal Times, we reflect today on the word ‘wisdom.’ On reflecting, years ago I thought one of the hallmarks of being ‘wise’ was to be of a certain age. Well, that has been knocked out of my head completely, there are far too many people of ‘age’ appearing to have been forgotten by God, when he was distributing, a ‘wee’ bit of this now precious commodity. This week’s 1st Reading is from the- Book of Wisdom! Therefore, we can state that God in His all knowing Wisdom, gave us a Biblical book to guide us *mere* mortals. I can conclude, that very few of us are reading any guide rules from this treasured book. A nice surprise is that in the BIBLE -Wisdom is in the persona of a woman!!! Wise we are!!

“Resplendent and unfading is Wisdom” (Ws. 6:12)

Yes, those who have been granted this sense of wisdom, never appear to age, they can be found within any stage of life and everyone surrounds them to seek advice. *Who is the ‘wise’ person in your family? Who speaks wisdom and truth among your friends?* You can’t name two.... Not good, not good....!!

*“She is readily perceived by those who love her,
and found by those who seek her.” (Ws. 6:12)*

So ‘wisdom’ does not just drop from the sky, but people who are ‘wise’ see the need to seek

and know the value of wisdom. True wisdom is attracted to those who are wise.... *Mmmmm.*
(*May we say those who are unwise, are attracted to others who*)

Interesting thoughts.

“She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.” (Ws. 6:13)

The wise seek the advice and counsel of other Wisdom seekers. (*Birds of a feather...*)

“Seeking those worthy of her.” (Ws. 6:16)

Those who receive wisdom are open to words from the wise, and are able to quiet their busyness and listen as wisdom is infused within. Wisdom tends to elude those who are constant talkers, liars, manipulators and deceivers. Wisdom means humility to accept criticism, purposeful correction and the willingness to be open to change. Wisdom arrives in unexpected vehicles... the child, the teen, young adult, the lonely, the poor, the homeless, the dying. How often have we missed the whispers of wisdom, because we fail to listen to those who are prudent? How often do we err, when our focus is always on those who seek self, publicity, the headlines, or the gossip columns?

Our society, appears to focus mostly on sensationalism, the ‘short lived’ headline news, and every form of electronic distraction. Far too few, focus on issues that affect the health, prejudices and emotions of our society, our communities, our churches or our nation. So, if we spend almost no time on issues at hand, to discuss awareness of our global environment, world poverty, consequences of war and displacement of people; it would cause shock, or make such persons- boring and even dismissal by most. Yet, there is where wisdom lies, not with an inward display of self, but an outward focus on the needs of others.

*“Graciously appears to them on the way,
and goes to meet them with full attention.” (Ws. 6:16)*

Be mindful that those with loud boastful tongue-clamour, prove over time to lack insight, compassion and any regard for wisdom.... Remember Wisdom will *stop in her tracks* and refuse to go out of her way to meet them.

The Gospel readings of Matthew, points to wisely preparing for what will come. As we have to concede, we know neither the hour nor the moment, when 'the bridegroom' will arrive. Surrounding yourself with those of wisdom, will watchfully help you prepare and become apart of the preparation for those times. Those without wisdom are busy 'fixing' self, while locking out others; forgetting that after storing up the barns with grain, goods and gold; the Lord, came that night for their souls.... A few words to the wise.....

Weekly there are so many issues around us in dire need for our prayers. Let us remember those who are going to die and those injured in the just heard earthquake in Iraq. We pray that our love for life is more important than, or right to gun ownership, that anti-abortion leaders also pray for the return of wisdom and integrity in our American politics.

Faith in Laity Corner is a weekly review of Sunday's readings written by
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