

The Living Word

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

28 August 2022

First Reading Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.

The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is,
he accepts the homage of the humble.
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,
since an evil growth has taken root in him.
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v.11

(R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,
they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. (R.)
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. (R.)
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you;

learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 14:1, 7-14

All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Hearing Our Lord's command: 'Invite the poor, the crippled, to the feast,' how do we respond as citizens of a nation which, in comparative global terms, is having a great feast? Jesus demands that we go well beyond an immigration policy which favours skilled and entrepreneurial people. They more than 'repay our courtesy' in terms of economic activity and social stability.

The majority of the poor and the crippled live in the subsistence villages, the refugee camps, and the squalor of the megacities of the Third World.

Heaven embossed invitations must be extended to such as those so that they may join in our national feast. Only then can we become the sort of people who, in the great Feast of Heaven, can join with those poor who are certain to be there.

We could pause for a moment to pray to put today's Gospel into effect so that we might hear Our Lord: 'Friend, join in the Feast. Be close to me.'

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Gregory the Great was born in Rome in 540 AD. He used his own money to establish monasteries in Rome and Sicily, and eventually became a monk himself at the age of 35. In 590 AD, he became the first monk to be elected pope and the first pope to take the name Gregory. He was known as a great statesman and is accounted the fourth of the great Latin doctors of the church. His influence on church music gave rise to plainsong becoming known as Gregorian chant. Gregory the Great was the father of the medieval papacy, and he was instrumental in helping Western Europe rise from the ashes of the fallen Roman Empire. He referred to himself as "the servant of the servants of God", a term which the popes have used ever since.

Use the words below to complete these sentences.

- When you are invited to be a _____, go and sit in the _____ place.
- If you put yourself _____ others, you will be put down.
- When you are _____ to a wedding feast, don't sit in the _____ place.
- If you _____ yourself, you will be honored.
- When you give a _____, invite the _____, crippled, the lame and the _____. They _____ pay you back.

CANNOT	GUEST
HUMBLE	INVITED
BEST	BLIND
ABOVE	FEAST
WEDDING	WORST
	POOR

Wordsearch

Try to find these words:



- banquet
- blind
- dinner
- embarrassed
- friends
- guest
- invited
- lame
- neighbours
- Pharisee
- poor
- rich

X	G	Z	J	Q	V	S	I	P	Y	E	P	P	R	P
S	O	A	I	X	L	N	D	G	D	I	H	J	O	R
R	D	S	B	G	V	X	A	G	A	A	Z	O	O	R
M	O	I	B	I	D	Z	U	T	R	G	R	P	P	E
E	N	P	T	F	Z	E	B	I	C	L	T	W	N	N
J	M	E	H	A	S	I	S	A	A	U	Z	R	N	N
N	D	B	I	T	S	E	M	M	N	A	J	S	Q	I
D	S	D	A	G	E	M	E	D	H	Q	O	D	J	D
B	T	A	R	R	H	A	N	J	L	R	U	N	O	O
L	H	Q	G	J	R	B	S	K	R	A	W	E	A	J
I	S	P	D	W	Q	A	O	A	K	L	W	I	T	Y
N	I	T	A	R	J	R	S	U	G	H	X	R	S	Q
D	N	O	X	F	P	I	M	S	R	O	A	F	T	O
R	V	E	B	K	K	C	X	K	E	S	N	I	L	B
H	J	W	I	E	N	H	M	X	Q	D	G	D	S	X