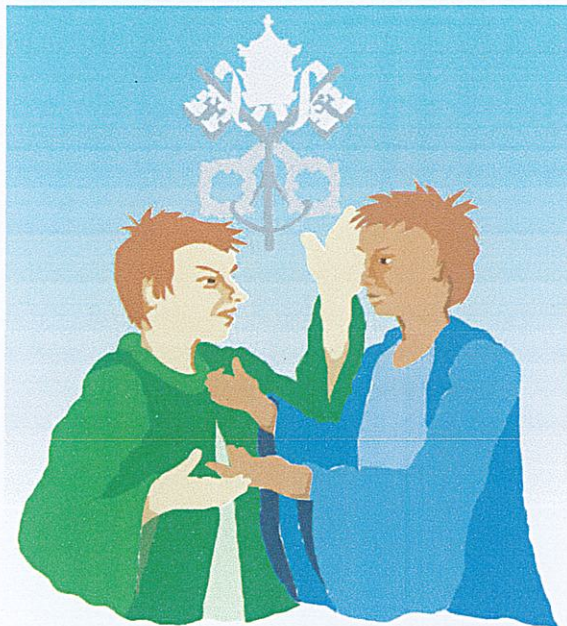


Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



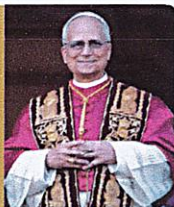
community. It is true that responding to the call to follow Christ is a personal choice, but once I make that choice, I am called to be a member of the Church, the people of God. That is why any disunity within the community must be addressed, and access to the Father is granted to those who are in agreement. The Church as a building is made of bricks but the Church as the mystical Body of Christ is there where two or three are gathered in the name of Jesus. That is why it is possible to speak of the “domestic Church” wherever parents and children are united

in the midst of the most severe restrictions and persecutions. Just as a piece of the eucharist contains the fullness of Christ so too the universal Church is present wherever two or three Christians are united in the name of Jesus. In this passage from the gospel of Matthew Jesus promises to be present when his disciples come together in his name. And in case we are in danger of giving a too “spiritual” interpretation of this presence, let us remember that above all Jesus is encountered in the loving words and deeds of those who are united in his name.



The gospel reading for this Sunday clearly illustrates that Christian faith and practice is centred on the in Christ, which means the readiness to love one another as he loved us. It is also why the Church can survive in

POPE LEO XIV THE HOLY SEE APOSTOLIC EXHORTATIONS



THE CRY OF THE POOR

10. In this sense, it can be said that the commitment to the poor and to removing the social and structural causes of poverty has gained importance in recent decades, but it remains insufficient. This is also the case because our societies often favor criteria for orienting life and politics that are marked by numerous inequalities. As a result, the old forms of poverty that we have become aware of and are trying to combat are being joined by new ones, sometimes more subtle and dangerous. From this point of view, it is to be welcomed that the United Nations has made the eradication of poverty one of its Millennium Goals.

Saint Alphonsus de Liguori Uniformity With God's Will

Mortification, meditation, receiving Holy Communion, acts of fraternal charity are all certainly pleasing to God—but only when they are in accordance with his will.... If we would completely rejoice the heart of God, let us strive in all things to conform ourselves to his divine will. Let us not only strive to conform ourselves, but also to unite ourselves to whatever dispositions God makes of us. Conformity signifies that we join our wills to the will of God. Uniformity means more—it means that we make one will of God's will and ours, so that we will only what God wills; that God's will alone, is our will. This is the summit of perfection and to it we should always aspire; this should be the goal of all our works, desires, meditations and prayers. To this end we should always invoke the aid of our holy patrons, our guardian angels, and above all, of our mother Mary, the most perfect of all the saints because she most perfectly embraced the divine will.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Ps 118: 137, 124

**You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.**

COLLECT

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Thus says the Lord: 'So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**PSALM**

Psalm 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R.7c, 8a

**R. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'**

Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise.

O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Romans 13:8-10

Brothers and sisters: Owe no one anything, except to love each other. For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet', and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL**

Alleluia, alleluia.

2 Corinthians 5:19

**God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself,
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.**

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

- R.** O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace,
graciously grant that through this offering,
we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,
R. we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

R. COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 41: 2-3

**Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant that your faithful, O Lord,
whom you nourish and endow with life
through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament,
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.