

September 30-October 1, 2017

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 18:25-28

Philippians 2:1-5

Matthew 21:28-32

'Their (my) heart was in the right place.' 'They (I) meant well.' 'They probably forgot.' 'I ran out of time.' 'I'm always late, that's just the way I am.'
'They (I) had good intentions!'

Excuses, excuses, excuses. Ultimately excuses are our pronouncements exonerating ourselves or someone else for some failure of which we/they are aware...but only slightly aware. Excuses are not apologies or recognition of wrong-doing, they are efforts to minimize, diminish or completely dismiss whatever offense has been done. In this weekend's Gospel we have a parable in which one son SAYS he will do the right thing...but does not do it...and then we have the other son who SAYS the wrong thing...but ends up doing the right thing in the end. What counts in this parable is who actually follows through with what THE FATHER WANTS DONE. Within this weekend's Gospel is a veiled reminder that we each have a PURPOSE for which we were created, a purpose that helps to further what God the Father desires. This requires humility on our parts to recognize that it is NOT just our lives to be lived, but lives to be lived so as to accomplish what God wants/needs from us. Participating with Mass is a great start....but usually God wants us to do something with our lives outside of Mass: in our home life, our work-a-day world, our social interactions, our charitable/benevolent outreaches. As it has mentioned many times in assorted homilies, it is easy to be FAITHFUL during Mass...it is a far harder thing to keep God as THE priority outside of these walls. How have our choices given honor to God? How have the patterns of each day leant themselves to being a disciple of Jesus? **Excuses, excuses, excuses.** Translated into today's terms....there are lots of people who say they are faithful Catholic-Christians but never do what God the Father really asks....and there are a lot of people who are not even Catholic or Christian who are doing precisely what God has requested. Anybody come to mind?

Autumn now one week older, thank you for celebrating this Mass with our Santa Clara Community. Make sure to obtain your reservation for our **Savor the Night-Parish Party coming up in TWO WEEKS on Saturday, October 14th** Reservations are available outside under the arbor. Also, ***please note that the 5pm Mass on October 14th will occur at St. Francis School in Glynn Center (and there are NO confessions that day.)*** Please accept a Bulletin on your way home for other news of parish happenings...and with the arrival of another new month, please remember that you are loved. FKB