

June 30-July 1, 2018
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
USA 242nd Independence Day Celebration

Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24

Second Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

The people were **OPEN** to whatever Jesus could do. In today's Gospel we have two situations: #1) The woman with the hemorrhages who seeks to TOUCH Jesus anonymously and #2) The parents of the dead child who allowed Jesus into their home and allowed him to touch their dead daughter. In regards to #1, the Scriptures say that lots of people were bumping into Jesus, 'pressing upon him', yet there is no mention of anyone else being cured of ANYTHING.... no small cuts mending, no bruises disappearing, no headaches resolving, no arthritic pain subsiding, nada: BECAUSE the vast majority of the people did not come to Jesus with INTENTIONALITY and BELIEF that he could do something. No expectation, no results. In #2, the parents had HOPED that Jesus could cure their sick girl but they did not presume to ask his intervention when she had died...nonetheless, they were OPEN to Jesus and whatever he could offer them. Two seemingly impossible situations alleviated by the presence of Jesus...one intentional...the other out of desperation/resignation....but both example of the power of Jesus to restore the fullness of life and correct what is broken. In our present era, there is much that is out of whack and the temptation to abandon hope and become cynical is strong. It is easy to believe in the power of grace when things are going well, it is harder to look more closely and TRUST that grace is at work when things are slow to heal or reluctant to spring to life. Yet, sometimes the mere INTIONALITY of giving things prayerfully to Jesus is powerful in itself...and then the patience to await whatever grace by which Jesus will touch the things to which we have directed him....but always remembering that Jesus may not change reality but he may TOUCH US to help us see and experience things differently.

THANK YOU for joining with our Santa Clara community as we segue into July and anticipate our 242nd National Day of Independence. **We are accepting a SECOND SPECIAL COLLECTION at the conclusion of Mass this weekend, the UNIVERSAL CHURCH Collection**, which combines the older Peter's Pence and Catholic Relief Services collections into one. Your generosity in helping the BIGGER Church be compassionate and having the resources to help people in distress is appreciated and invited. Next weekend our St. Vincent de Paul Ministry will be distributing BACKPACKS with the hope you will fill them with school supplies for the children of our Sister Parish-Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our first **LA CENA** is fast approaching....**July 21st**....make sure you have made your reservations, forms are available on the table in Church or on the website. Have a GRAND 4th of July and until we see you again next weekend, please remember that you are loved. FKB