

June 9-10, 2018

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 3:9-15

Second Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-35

Among the many conversations between Deacon-Elect Michael and myself have been reflections on the cultural differences between Asian, Anglo and Hispanic Catholics. Underscoring some of the differences has been the preeminence of FAMILY within the Asian and Hispanic cultures in the passing on of faith and in the daily living of their lives; whereas the Anglo community VALUES family BUT many of our personal choices and decisions are not made with a clear emphasis on how the choice or decision will impact the larger family. Speaking from an Anglo perspective (rather arrogantly setting myself up to represent ALL Anglos...gulp) our Hispanic and Asian brothers and sisters have an ingrained and automatic expectation that the FAMILY will be considered first and foremost in all decision-making. For example, within the Asian/Hispanic cultures, personal pursuits and achievements are not seen as solitary accomplishments but in the light by which they elevate and impact the entire family. This weekend, Jesus rocks the boat of his contemporaries when he distances himself from the genetic relationships by which families of his era were defined. He openly invites people to become his FAMILY by embracing his words and actions...to the dismay of his blood relatives who were saying 'he is out of his mind'! Regardless of our ethnic backgrounds, many of us have woven ourselves within a 'family' of people with whom we feel safe. This 'family' may or may not include blood relatives but probably is a web of assorted individuals upon whom we rely for our social and personal sense of belonging. How do these 'family' structures enhance or restrict our discipleship of Jesus? Are there things we will do or not do because of how our 'families' will view us? If our 'families' threaten to exclude us from BELONGING, how easy would it be to embrace a NEW family? These are the things of which Jesus is implying in this weekend's Gospel: in order to be his disciple we must be willing to depart from our OLD groupings and in order to accept his teachings we must be willing to shed the inhibitions/restrictions imposed upon us by those with whom we once belonged.

June continues to unfold before us, thank you for sharing this weekend with our Santa Clara community. A reminder of Father's Day approaching next weekend, envelopes by which to enroll your own dads, living or deceased, in the special June Masses are available at the exits. Your attention is directed as well to the SIGN-UP FORMS for our La Cena - VILLAGE SUMMER SUPPERS, which are woven into the back pages of the Bulletin as well as on the table beneath the Hall poster. Lastly, Deacon-Elect Michael, along with Deacon-Elect Daniel Seo, will be ordained to the Diaconate in two weeks, June 23rd, at 10am at St. Columban's Church in Garden Grove. You are invited to come and share their joy...and learn/witness how someone becomes ordained. Please take a Bulletin with you for other news of upcoming events and remember, you are loved. FKB