

February 16-17, 2019

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 17: 5-8

First Corinthians 15:12-20

Luke 6:17-26

Many an office, credenza, waiting room, entrance room or corridor wall are covered with assorted photographs of prestigious people, many posed with the homeowner or office occupant, the pictures bespeaking the extensive 'connections' of the occupant. Perhaps highlighting, with surprised humility, the homeowner or occupant's SURPRISE at being in these people's company, the photos frequently convey a 'power' and a 'pride' of connections and associations with the movers and shakers of the world...of THIS world. Having concluded our introductions of Jesus, this weekend moves us closer to the WHOLE PURPOSE OF THE INCARNATION, the desire of Jesus that we see each other in the humble light of human dignity; the light by which Jesus is able to say, blessed are you weeping, blessed are you hungry, blessed are you poor, blessed are you insulted, blessed are you hated (the light by which many of us would see failure.) Living as we do within our American zeal for accomplishment and success, Jesus would not be readily welcomed in most corporate boardrooms or lobbying offices. Yet, why are we surprised, Jesus has always encouraged us to see our failures and disappointments as GRACED OPPORTUNITIES...opportunities to be successes in HIS eyes, regardless of what the world sees. So, in our daily lives, are we engrossed with proving and exalting ourselves in the eyes of the corporate, financial, business, carpool line or governmental world...or to be able to stand truthfully, if raggedly, brokenly, before Jesus?

As the remaining chocolates from Valentine's treats are consumed and the petals from red roses start to drop, welcome to our Santa Clara community for this celebration of community, prayer and Eucharist. For those of you who MISSED last week's Pledge commitment weekend for our 2019 Development Campaign, it is NOT TOO LATE for you to make your pledge to help us build our Permanent Church along with the Youth Ministry/Office structure. Our Good Friday Prayer Breakfast continues to grow in size, with 450 seats presently reserved...and it is only February!! Please do not delay or wait too long to reserve your spots. This weekend being a 3-day holiday event (remember when we had two holidays, one for Lincoln and one for Washington?) enjoy your February break...and please remember, you are loved. FKB