

August 11-12, 2007
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wisdom 18:6-9 Hebrews 11:1-19 Luke 12:32-48

The deepest integrity is never seen, it is what is done when no one is looking. True private integrity gives natural rise to public integrity, whereas, one must discern whether apparent public acts of integrity are superficial or flow from a reserve of conscience. Thus, politicians who seemingly flip-flop on issues as elections draw near are rightfully questioned as to the depth of their commitments. Integrity is not necessarily doing or being what the crowd wants an individual to be...integrity is avoidance of self-deception and it's cousin, public-deception. Integrity is about wearing who we are both in public and private, what you see is what you get. How refreshing people of integrity are...and also how rare because we are a people who frequently determine our acceptance of others based on how similar their ideas are to ours...and if they differ...even if they have integrity...guess which one loses? In this weekend's Scriptures we hear Jesus encouraging his disciples to be vigilant in living their discipleship...especially when they are seemingly not in the physical presence of Jesus. The honest truth about this weekend's Scriptures is that they give lie to the notion to that simplistic that God's grace is free. Indeed, we who are here, reading this worship aid, participating at Mass, receiving Eucharist, have set ourselves up for high God's high expectations...and this week we hear that God does indeed have expectations of us. For our one hour, we can be the most pious of people, deeply devout and seemingly holy. But, what happens 'out there', in our homes, offices, schools, neighborhoods? It is there where the spiritual integrity we seemingly espouse here in Church is either proven to be true or discovered to be a superficial lie. Integrity is not about wanting to be good or making believe to be good, integrity is being comfortable in our own skin and providing an honest foundation upon which our efforts at discipleship of Jesus can be built. What are the differences between who you want people to think you are...and who you really are when no one is looking?

Thank you for joining with our Corpus Christi Community on this fine August weekend. Please note that we will honor the celebration of the Assumption of Mary with an 8:00 Mass on this Wednesday morning. The Bulletin has details about many other parish events drawing near, especially our 'Summer Sunday Social on the Lawn', a wonderful way to bring Summer to a close with live music, good food, classic cars and family and friends. Reservation forms are available on the Concierge Shelves. With the department stores all starting to sell school clothes and supplies...hold on to these precious weeks of Summer and remember, you are loved. FKB