

October 27-28, 2007

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 35:12-18

Second Timothy 4:6-18

Luke 18:9-14

Not long ago a photo appeared in our local papers. It was taken during one of the recent uprisings in the country of Lebanon and showed the devastation of a Beirut neighborhood. Prominent in the photo is a modern high-end convertible filled with perfectly styled high-end young adults drinking and touring the devastation from the comfort of their car. A bit crass to say the least. Following the Tsunami in Indonesia several years ago, another photo appeared showing a returned tourist lounging on the beach...with a dead body impaled on tree branches not 100 feet away! Hello! How blind can one be? The Gospel of Luke has Jesus contemptuously speaking of those who feel so secure in their own goodness while looking down their noses at those they disdain. While we can delude ourselves and others, frequently we forget there is no deluding God...whose gaze pierces the heavens and sees what no man sees. This being the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time...and knowing that Ordinary Time has a total of 34 weeks...it means that the end of another liturgical year is fast approaching...another precious year has come and gone. With our honoring of Saints and Souls this weekend we also acknowledge that we are a part of something much bigger than ourselves. We are not the inventors of our faith; we are simply the present-day stewards. Countless others have gone before us who helped to develop our beliefs and understandings of God. They have died and now rest with God and their passage, and our remembering them this week, highlights the preciousness of time. The temptation to pull apart and blind ourselves to what we do not want to see can be strong. Yet, the responsibility of discipleship is for us to remove the dead from the trees before lounging on the beach, to help rebuild before touring, to not remove ourselves but immerse ourselves. The Saints and Souls we honor and commemorate this week did not run from the nitty gritty of life, indeed, it is precisely because of their perseverance in the daily trenches that we acknowledge them as models of faith. How will those who follow us remember us? What will be our legacy of faith?

Thank you for joining with our Corpus Christi Community on this final weekend of October. If you would like to enroll your beloved dead in our special series of Masses on All Souls Day and the early weeks of November, the envelopes are available on the Concierge Shelves. Please take a Bulletin for info on Mass times for All Saints and All Souls as well as information about other upcoming parish happenings. Remember, DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NEXT WEEKEND....set your clocks BACK one hour NEXT Saturday night. In your tricking and treating, be safe, have fun...and while you scare the bejeebers out of each other, remember, you are loved. Happy Halloween! FKB