

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

As we prepare to celebrate the season of Lent, the passage from St Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Letter to the Corinthians calls us to reflect on how do we approach our spiritual lives; do our thoughts, words and action show we are "imitators of Christ;" do our thoughts, words and actions show we have an attitude desiring to "do everything for the glory of God;" in other words, do we desire to show gratitude, thankfulness, to the Trinity as a response to Their sacrificial love by our thoughts, words, and deeds?

More importantly, what do our thoughts, words and actions tell us about our spiritual orientation, on what drives our actions. Are we motivated out of indifference because we see the Ten Commandments and the Church's teachings as obligations imposed by the Trinity? Or are we motivated out of a response to the Trinity's love; out of a desire to be docile to the Trinity's truth and will, as our response to the Trinity's ultimate act of sacrificial love; out of a desire to grow in our ability to more fully love the Trinity, as expressed by the Ten Commandments and the Church's teachings?

For us to have a more spiritually rewarding Lent, we need to spend some time to determine what prevents us from being motivated by a desire to grow in our ability to love sacrificially; to grow in our desire and ability to more fully love the Trinity as expressed by the Ten Commandments and the Church's teachings. We need to pray for the graces to strengthen the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, and Counsel so we can determine what we need to work on this Lent, in order to grow in our ability to love the Trinity sacrificially. We also need to spend some time praying for the graces to strengthen the Cardinal virtues of Prudence, Fortitude, Justice and Temperance, so we can have the ability to make the right decisions in order to grow in our ability to love the Trinity sacrificially; to grow in our ability to be more docile to the Trinity's will and truth as expressed by the Ten Commandments and the Church's teachings; as our response to the Trinity's ultimate act of sacrificial love; Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Right after the homily, will we pray for the Trinity's graces to strengthen the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Cardinal virtues so we can grow in our ability to hear and follow the Trinity's will and truth, as defined by the 10 Commandments and the Church's teachings?

While we are waiting to receive our Lord & Savior at communion, we should spend a moment or two, asking the Trinity for the graces we need, so as to strengthen the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the Cardinal virtues; so we can weed out those secular cultural influences which allow sin to reign in our hearts, thereby helping us to be more docile to the Trinity's will and truth, as expressed by the 10 Commandments and the Church's teachings?

During the quiet meditation time which we have right after communion, we need to spend that time praising the Trinity, and, also asking the Trinity for the graces we need, so as to strengthen the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the Cardinal virtues; thereby helping us to reject those secular cultural ideas, which lead us to sin, in order to grow in our ability more freely love the Trinity as They love us.

After the Mass, and during the week, we need to make time to ask the Trinity for the graces we require, so as to strengthen the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Cardinal virtues; in order to reject those secular cultural values which prevent us from growing in our ability to be more docile to the Trinity's will and truth, as expressed by the 10 Commandments and the Church's teaching; as our response to the Trinity's ultimate gift; our redemption, bought by Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection.

We also need to make use of the sacrament of Confession, so as to receive the graces we require, to further strengthen the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Cardinal virtues; so as to continue to develop the ability to reject those secular cultural ideas which strengthen the vices in us, especially sloth, which prevents us from growing in our ability more freely love the Trinity as They love us.

Before we continue on with the Mass, let us ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit now, and especially when we consume our Lord in the Eucharist; so we can be open to the Trinity's graces; so as to strengthen the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the Cardinal virtues; in order to become more intimate, loving, adopted family members, of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thereby helping us to have a spiritually rewarding Lent through our freely desiring and becoming more docile and obedient adopted members of the Trinity's family.