

BULLETIN REFLECTION by Father Rody
MAY 15 2022...5TH SUN EASTER YR-C...JN 13, 31-35

31 When he had left, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him.

Wish to connect this verse with that of Paul’s...

1 Cor. 12, 26 If [one] part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy.

Son of Man (God as Person) is glorified.

God (God as Nature-with three Persons) is glorified in him (Son of Man).

Now Paul is trying to elaborate such by saying; the pains/joys of one member of the group is also the pains/joys of the whole group.

Let us try to reflect on that...

Sense of ownership should always be through and through. We cannot say, ‘you are a member of the family because you do great but if you do bad I won’t recognize you...I will disown you.’ How many times did we hear, “Get out of my sight...get out from this house.’? Just like in the sacrament of matrimony-husband & wife said, ‘in sickness and in health, through thick and thin, until death do us part.’ That’s a concrete sense of ownership. During the Good Friday of the Son, the Father never left Him. Now on the Son’s Easter Sunday, He shares it with the Father. Thus God (one Nature with three Persons) enjoys the bliss of Easter Sunday.

Sense of responsibility...as an individual member of a community (government, family, school, church) each one of us should be extra careful in living out what each community asks us to do. Good deed is a generic term thus we bring it down for a better understanding;

Good deed-government-→pay tax, obey traffic lights etc.

Good deed-family-→help parents do the dishes etc.

Good deed-school-→read your books, do your assignments etc.

Good deed-church-→attend mass on Sunday and holy days of obligation etc.

It is in those good deeds that we bring glory to the self and to the whole community.

5th Sunday of Easter by Father Dave

Judas has just betrayed Jesus. Jesus knows this, but the other Apostles think that Judas went to purchase items for the Feast. You and I know what follows. Jesus' response is to talk about the glorification that is to come. This glorification will be realized in His death on the cross and ultimately His Resurrection. Through all this God will be glorified in Christ. And Jesus wants to prepare His disciples for that reality and to command them to love one another.

Jesus says: "I give you a new commandment: love one another, as I have loved you, so you also should love one another." A famous line, a well-known scriptural line, even people who are not active in the "institutional Church" would be familiar with this quote. But is it new? Not really, because loving God and loving each other is part of Jewish tradition. All one needs to do is to look at the books of Leviticus (19: 18 ff) and (Deuteronomy (6:4 ff) – and we learn of the great law of love to God and to neighbor. So what might be going on here?

Loving those, getting along with those, caring for those with whom we get along is the easy part. Loving the rest of the world is the challenge. Through Jesus' Passion and death, we learn how, even with our enemies, we are still called to live in love. Jesus exhibits this "par excellence" as He goes through it all – the spitting, the heckling, the scourging, the mocking – all of it without complaint, or as Isaiah says: "like a silent lamb He was led to the slaughter." And even from the cross Jesus prays, "Father forgive them." That forgiveness for which Jesus was praying extends to our current time and to the end of time as He is forgiving us for the times when we transgressed by not being faithful to our Baptismal call, by not reflecting the Light of Christ that we received at our Baptism, by not being a light that extends encouragement, hope, care, forgiveness, peace and justice.

Yes, Jesus is giving to us, and showing us by His example that true Love is more than love for those who agree with us, who do not question us. Love is to be extended even to those who hate us and ridicule us. When we reflect on Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, we learn what true Christian Love entails. "Love is patient, Love is kind, it is not jealous, ... it bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails."

Such a love is a distinguishing mark of the followers of Jesus. In Antioch, the followers of Jesus were called Christians for the first time because of the love they had for one another, even their enemies.

Jesus makes plain His call to the disciples. "Let Me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you are to love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are My disciples – when they see the love you have for each other". Jesus is being bold and clear. Can we accept His challenge?

Let us Pray for the Conversion of the World & for Peace

Saints & Celebrations for this week –

May 15 – St Isidore the Farmer – St Isidore was born at Madrid, Spain in 1010 to a poor family. At an early age, he was employed by John de Vergas, a wealthy landowner, as a farm laborer to work on his estate outside Madrid. His wife, Maria Torribia, is also venerated as a saint known as St Maria de la Cabeza. After the birth of their son, who died at a young age, they dedicated their lives to God. Besides his work, Isidore was devoted to prayer and to the Church. He would wake up early every day and go to church. After Mass he would commune with God, the saints, and his guardian angel, as he worked with his plow in the fields. Though a poor man, he found it possible to share much of his own resources with the needy. According to those who knew him, he worked miracles to feed the hungry. He also loved animals and provided grain for them in winter and times of drought. His simple life was filled with a sense of God, and after his death on May 15, 1130, many miracles were attributed to his intercession. He is the patron of farmers. *Lord, we ask that You bless our work and make fruitful the things we do. AMEN.*



