

July 9, 2017

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Taste and see the goodness of the Lord!**

Zechariah 9:9-10

Psalms 145:1-2; 8-14

Romans 8:9; 11-13

Matthew 11:25-30

In the first reading Zechariah rejoices because he understands the chariots will be banished and peace proclaimed. It is the Lord who has dominion from sea to sea and the power to bring about great change even dissipating the ways of war.

The psalmist extols, blesses, and praises God for he sees the great kindness and mercy given to the people. The Lord lifts up those who are falling and raises those who are bowed down. God's kingdom is for all ages and endures for all generations.

In the second reading Paul explains that we are in the spirit since the Spirit of God dwells in us and gives us life. Anyone who doesn't have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Christ. We are to put to death all evil deeds and the One that raised Jesus will also raise us.

In the Gospel Jesus prays and praises the Father who has hidden knowledge from the learned but revealed it to the merest children. Jesus invites the weary and the burdened to come to him and be refreshed in gentleness and humility and find rest for their souls.

The Father knows the Son,  
The Son knows the Father,  
The Holy Spirit knows us better than we know ourselves.

Zechariah knows God is the One of peace who will banish the elements of war and violence. The psalmist knows how kind, gracious, and compassionate is the Lord who lifts up those who fall, who raises those who are weighted down with difficulties. Paul remembers that we are in the Spirit that dwells in us in order to give us true life. In the Gospel Jesus remembers us when we are weary and burdened and offers spiritual refreshment in the Eucharist and in the words of scripture; both are powerful in spirit and in life. Receive the Eucharist humbly and listen to the Scriptures attentively.



**Do this in remembrance of me!** To do something in memory of someone means we have some familiarity with the person. We have come to know Jesus from our parents, religious education, our prayer life, attending church, and perhaps even from friends. For most older Catholics one important element was most likely missing: the Bible, which probably played a minimal role in their understanding of Jesus. The Second Vatican Council took seriously the words of St. Jerome: "Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ." If we are to remember Christ at the Eucharist, we must first know Christ; and in order to know Christ we must also know the Scriptures.



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