

Yesterday we celebrated the Holy Trinity who calls us to share in the communion and the love of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. In order to respond to this invitation one has to make his/her heart ready. In the matter of union and love, all start with the Heart. Therefore, I invite you to meditate with me on a pure heart. Happy the pure in heart, says Jesus, they shall see God.

For all the times we failed to let our hearts be free from hatred and anger; for all the times it happened that we stirred up division and violent opposition which caused chaos and destroyed friendships and a harmonious life, we confess and say: Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison; Kyrie eleison.

Meditation on: Kings 17: 1-6; Matthew 5: 1-12

A pure heart

A pure heart is protected from evil. The psalmist prays to God and says: "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me" (Ps 51: 10).

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, God knew that in order to be in fellowship with Him we need his Spirit, which is the Spirit of love and communion. In fact, God poured his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that we have been given. God's Spirit teaches us how to live in communion and how to be happy.

They are happy those who are poor in spirit, says Jesus Christ, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. I would like us to understand a 'poor in spirit' here as a person who acknowledges his limits as a human being and is ready to be open to God in order to be enriched by his wisdom. Dear brothers and sisters, only a person who is conscious of his/her poverty before God can humble enough to let himself or herself be enriched by God.

Human poverty is manifest in the inclination of human beings to sin and evil; this inclination to sin and evil shows that people are in need of God's help. Hence, they are blessed and happy those who are ready to be fashioned by God; they are blessed because they will be gentle and merciful; they will be slow to anger like God. Remember the Lord our God said to Moses: "I, the LORD, am a God who is full of compassion and pity." Yahweh is a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in loving devotion and truth, maintaining loving devotion to a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin (Cf. Exodus 34: 6-7).

It follows that a pure heart is a heart that hungers and thirsts for what is right. A pure heart is a faithful and peaceful heart that proclaims love where there is hatred; a pure heart proclaims peace where there is war. Indeed, happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Dear brothers and sisters, we are not called to wait passively for the end of time in order to see God. God whom we shall see face to face at the end of time is omnipresent. The God of Jesus is an omnipresent God who can be seen in a child who needs your love; he can be seen in an old person who needs your care; he is a God who can be seen in any human person. God our Father whom we shall see in the end of our life on earth is a God present in your neighbour with whom you are called to build up the Kingdom of peace and love. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.

As children of God we are called to be like God who protects life. In the first reading, God protects the life of his servant Elijah. The word of the Lord came to Elijah, "Go away from here, go eastwards, and hide yourself in the wadi Cherith which lies east of Jordan. You can drink from the stream, and I have ordered the ravens to bring you food there". Like God, we need to use nature and what we possess in order to protect human life.

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As Children of God we should learn to be merciful and kind like God. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. It is the Lord who will guard us from evil and keep our bodies and souls safe. Yes, I believe in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Yes, a pure heart sees God in human beings and in the nature; a pure heart shall see God in his glory.