

Homily 29th Sunday Year A 2020

It must have been very frustrating for the Scribes and Pharisees because Jesus never answered their questions directly. In his wisdom, however, Jesus used their questions to teach us. The Church instructs us to support our local government and our country as long as it does not break our moral code or go against our faith in any way. In loving our neighbour, we would be in the forefront of helping create a more harmonious, caring and loving society. Today Jesus reminds us that the image in which we are made, as opposed that found on money, is the image of God. Giving back to God means living the way of Jesus in the very best way possible. Here is some help to do this:

The good you find in others, is in you too. The faults you find in others, are your faults as well. After all, to recognize something you must know it. The possibilities you see in others, are possible for you as well. The beauty you see around you, is your beauty. The world around you is a reflection, a mirror showing you the person you are. To change your world, you must change yourself. To blame and complain will only make matters worse. Whatever you care about, is your responsibility. What you see in others, shows you yourself. See the best in others, and you will be your best. Give to others, and you give to yourself. Appreciate beauty, and you will be beautiful. Admire creativity, and you will be creative. Love, and you will be loved. Seek to understand, and you will be understood. Listen, and your voice will be heard. Teach, and you will learn.

A true story:

While at nursing school, our professor gave us a quiz. Being a conscientious student, I breezed through the questions, until I read the last one:

"What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?"

Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark haired and in her 50's, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count towards our quiz grade.

"Absolutely," said the professor.

"In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say 'hello'."

I've never forgotten that lesson. . . I also learned that her name was Dorothy.

Long term memory . . .

A family walks into a bar. Inside, the youngest child sees a Native American sitting under a sign stating "**World's longest memory**". The child walks up to the sign and decides to test it out. The child asks, "*What did you have for breakfast 30 years ago?*" The Native American says, "**eggs.**" The child says that the native could have just made that up and leaves.

Many years later, the child returns with his own family and sees the same native at the bar. Walking up to the man, he asks, "**How?**" The Native replies, "**scrambled.**"