

## Homily 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Year A 2020

Wisdom would argue that rather than the destination it is the path we take, the journey itself, that matters. When we look back on our lives, the real substance of our accomplishments lies in the road we took to achieve them. In other words, we were moulded into the people we are not by the destination but by the journey. Our callused feet or hands, our backs made strong from carrying the weight of our travels, our eyes open with the fresh delight of experiences lived is what shapes us. Through this shaping and moulding by life's experiences our wisdom slowly developed, the more so once we recognised God's presence throughout! One of the most exciting discoveries of St Augustine of Hippo was to see that God had been present throughout the whole of his life and that he had been shaped and moulded by God even during his early life when he had rejected Christianity. The true gift of Wisdom is to see God's presence - a presence that is full of love, life and energy, that radiates joy and goodness. To truly enjoy heaven, to fully rejoice in God's presence, life offers us the best preparation. The lamps in Jesus story could represent life. Those who place no value in their lamps, their lives, would have been unable to welcome the bridegroom because they would not have recognised him!! Those who brought extra oil, however, are those who welcome each new day with expectation and with a desire to respond as best they can to whatever befalls them. The foolish believe they have all that they need, all the answers to life, that nothing is going to phase them and they miss out on the treasures that come to them in abundance each day. Let me share a secret with you. Do not worry that the Lord comes at a time least expected - that is true. The secret is that the Lord comes to you every day, many, many times. Because of this, you will recognise him when he comes! So, yes, stay awake or you will miss out on all the riches of each day that help shape and nurture your wisdom! **Laura Woodley Osman**

The fear of the Lord is where wisdom starts. Above all else please guard your hearts  
For out of your heart flows the issues of life. It matters how you spend your time.  
There is a path that leads to life. A narrow way that only few find.  
Meditate on God's word in the day and the night; you'll know blessings of every kind.  
Like a tree planted by water,  
shall you be son or daughter.  
You'll bear fruit in season, you'll prosper,  
like a tree planted by water.

### **Foolishness . . . .**

- The two teenagers were arrested for disorderly conduct. The police sergeant told them they were entitled to a phone call. Sometime later a man entered the station and asked for them by name.  
The sergeant said, "I suppose you're the lawyer?"  
"Nope," the chap replied. "I'm just here to deliver their pizza."