

Reflection Saturday Week 15 – 2021

Today, to take on any role of responsibility we would expect to receive some kind of formation for the task. There are different kinds of leadership. In his Gospel Matthew speaks about Jesus' leadership being that of a servant. Sounds simple but is extremely hard to live. Matthew suggests Jesus' leadership did not exist in what he said or did but in who he was - a servant of the Father, a servant of God. As such, Jesus allowed his Father to work in him and through him. It was Jesus' presence that inspired, that drew people to want to be with him, to follow him, to go on mission for him. It is one of the reasons why we believe in the real presence of Jesus in the eucharist - a presence we receive into ourselves - a presence that we share with others wherever we go. It is a gentle presence that does not treat others as lacking in wisdom, understanding or knowledge, but respects and dignifies their faith as Jesus did.

A leader must be:

Strong enough to be weak

Successful enough to fail

Busy enough to make time

Wise enough to say "I don't know"

Serious enough to laugh

Rich enough to be poor

Right enough to say "I'm wrong"

Compassionate enough to discipline

Mature enough to be childlike

Important enough to be last

Planned enough to be spontaneous

Controlled enough to be flexible

Free enough to endure captivity

Knowledgeable enough to ask questions

Loving enough to be angry

Great enough to be anonymous

Responsible enough to play

Assured enough to be rejected

Victorious enough to lose

Industrious enough to relax

Leading enough to serve!

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more; you are a leader! (*John Quincy Adams*)