

Reflection Thursday Week 20 – 2021

Reflecting on Jesus' story, comparing heaven to a wedding feast, shows that everybody is welcome to heaven. To not go to heaven is a personal choice like those who were first invited to the wedding failing to go, for all sorts of lame reasons. The person who failed to wear a wedding garment was just insulting his host because the host provided wedding garments for anyone without one. Not to accept the offer of a garment freely available was an affront to the host as well as to the other wedding guests.

Rest assured, then, we do not earn a place in heaven by the way we live; our place in heaven is a free gift that only we can fill and we are provided with all the means necessary to arrive safely and be ready to enter fully into the celebration. We live our lives of service and charity in thanksgiving for all that Jesus has done for us and his continuing care for us. We also hope to be a light that will lead others to Christ so that they do not miss out on the generous gifts of life here and hereafter that Jesus offers to everyone without exception.

- *Joy is the serious business of Heaven.* C.S. Lewis
- *"We will never be disillusioned or lose our way if we are guided by God."*
- *Openness to God makes us open towards the marginalized of this world and gives us the courage to leave the confines of our own security and comfort to become bruised, hurting and dirty as we joyfully approach the suffering other in a spirit of solidarity."* Pope Francis