

Reflection Thursday Week 28 – 2021

The religious leaders of Israel felt threatened by Jesus possibly because they were unable to master him in debate and always came away looking foolish. In the end, they used his words against him to bring him to the death penalty. This is a warning not to use scripture to prove a point but as a reservoir of wisdom that helps open us to the truth. However good our explanations and presentations, ultimately it is the Spirit who dwells within us that leads us to the truth also within us. Being made in the image of God means that we are blessed with many gifts and many truths. We do not use all our gifts and we do not discover all the truths within. The religious leaders gave the impression that they were the ones who knew and understood the truth and only them. This is why Jesus said to them that they prevent others from reaching their inner truths. The preachers and teachers of today have to be wary of being the same kind of teachers.

Pope Francis has called us to begin a journey of **synodality**. *“The path of synodality (journeying together) is what God expects of the Church of the third millennium.” This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church’s “renewal” proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to **live communion**, to **achieve participation**, to **open Herself to mission**. Our “journeying together” is what most effectively enacts and manifests the nature of the Church as the **pilgrim and missionary People of God**. This requires listening to the Holy Spirit, who like the wind “blows where it wills”. We must remain open to the surprises that the Spirit will certainly prepare for us along the way!*

*Marvellous, isn't it? Everywhere you go on the internet you need a password. I used **Beef Stew** for my password. The message came back **NOT STROGANOFF!!***