

Reflection Monday Week 7 – 2022

Mark certainly had no fear of casting Jesus in a very human light. Jesus is peeved at the people and even more peeved at his disciples; filled with frustration at their lack of faith. Yet he does not leave them and he heals the sick boy. Jesus then uses the opportunity to show his followers the importance of prayer and the inability to overcome difficult challenges without the help and power of God. James reinforces the call to reach out and care for others, even our enemies, echoing what Jesus said in the Gospel yesterday. Being companionate and caring, working for the good of others including the ungrateful and the dismissive, is positive because it helps build up and strengthen society, making it easier for people to live together. Focusing only on ourselves, being envious, jealous, self-seeking, bitter, only creates division in society and hurts everyone including yourself. It is destructive. James, in his wisdom, recognises that some do good for their own ambition, for what others will think of them and for promotion.

- *“Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God’s kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile.”* **Mother Teresa**
- *“Love and charity are service, helping others, serving others. There are many people who spend their lives in this way, in the service of others... When you forget yourself and think of others, this is love! And, with the washing of the feet, the Lord teaches us to be servants, and above all, servants as He was a servant to us, for every one of us.”* **Pope Francis**
- *“When you dig another out of their troubles, you find a place to bury your own.”* **Unknown**
- *You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”* **John Bunyan**