

## Homily 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C 2022

*"When the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?"* Not only is this question a challenge it could also be taken as an insult. Wouldn't we reply, I have faith and there are others, many others, who also have faith! The prayer that Abraham offered, just like our prayer, is inspired by faith. Of course, we will have faith when our prayers are answered in the way we hope they will. It is less easy to have faith when our prayers are not answered and one challenge or difficulty is then followed by more trauma or catastrophe. Although it was just a few hours for the apostles and disciples, when Jesus was treated so brutally and inhumanely, being put to death on the cross, they believed all the promises Jesus made about salvation, about peace, about love and mercy seem to have disappeared. But, even if any sense of hope had been dashed, it was still there because only faith could open them to belief in the resurrection. It could be argued that unless we have seriously faced and experienced a sense of hopelessness and despair, we will not discover the true power of the faith gifted to us in Baptism.

It is often the simple statements and explanations that teach us the most. The old catechism taught that *'Prayer is the raising of the mind and heart to God.'* Nothing is mentioned about using words although they help us reflect on the intention behind our prayer. Even the thought of not being able to pray or constantly being distracted in prayer **IS PRAYER!** When we sense the goodness or specialness of a person which we often call holiness, that too is prayer. Holiness is attributed to all those who speak to us of God in whose image we are made. In fact, our desire to pray better, to be more caring, more charitable, more compassionate, more patient is because God wants the very best for us making us want to be the best that we can be.

**Your journey into God** Macrina Wiederkehr

For your prayer  
your journey into God,  
may you be given a small storm  
a little hurricane  
named after you, persistent enough  
to get your attention  
violent enough  
to give you to new depths  
strong enough  
To shake you to the roots  
majestic enough to remind you of your origin:  
made of the earth  
yet steeped in eternity  
frail human dust  
yet soaked with infinity.  
The renaissance being celebrated

...Open my eyes to the moments of resurrection that surround me every day. There is always something rising, opening to new life, budding and blossoming, forgiving and transforming. Teach me to live awake that I may recognize the renaissance being celebrated in my midst at every moment. Make me a disciple of joy. Amen.

**What did the classmate say when asked why they kept walking next to the same person at school?** "I was told I'm supposed to walk by Faith!"

**Have faith in what you can achieve...** Take Beethoven as an example, he was deaf and everyone just told him that he won't be a great musician... But he just didn't listen