

LIVING FAITH

A RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 9, 2016

THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY—Jesus heals the ten lepers
Luke 17:11-19



ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S



On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him.

Keeping their distance, they called out, saying,

‘Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!’

When he saw them, he said to them, ‘Go and show yourselves to the priests.’

And as they went, they were made clean.

Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.

He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.

Then Jesus asked, ‘Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’

Then he said to him,

‘Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.’

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Have you ever noticed how often, in the Gospel stories, the writers (evangelists) mention that Jesus *saw* someone? How often do we rush from place to place, never really stopping to notice the people on the street, the expressions on their faces, the look in their eyes? We do this when we hurry down the street. We sometimes do it in our own houses. Sometimes in the hallways at school, or at work, we don’t really take notice of the people. But Jesus really sees people. And his way of seeing makes a difference. In today’s Gospel, Jesus is on the road, walking to Jerusalem. He had friends with him. He was busy. He had to be somewhere important. He saw these sick people. He stopped what he was doing and paid attention to them. They were healed. Maybe today, when you stop to take notice of someone, give them your time and attention, this might make all the difference. Practice looking at people with the gaze of Jesus, with compassion and care. This one act might make all the difference.

I AM THANKFUL FOR...

Think about people, events, situations and things for which you and your friends or family are grateful. On each leaf below, write one word or phrase.

Feel free to add more leaves!



am thankful for



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THE CHURCH TEACHES EUCHARIST MEANS “THANKSGIVING”

On Monday of this week, we celebrate THANKSGIVING in Canada. Thanksgiving is a special day on the calendar for Canadians. It is an attitude for Christians. We realize that everything is a gift from our gracious and generous, loving God. The only fitting response is to be grateful.

The word “Eucharist” means “thanksgiving,” In the liturgy, there are many points and ways in which we offer our thanks to God. Have you ever stopped to consider these?

- The *Gloria* is a song of praise in which we offer to God our thanks to God for taking away sin, and our adoration and praise.
- During the Liturgy of the Eucharist of the Mass, there is a constant, generous, mutual exchange between God and us. We thank God for the gifts that we are able to offer to be consecrated. Without God’s gift of “the fruit of the earth,” we could not offer back to God “the work of human hands,” the bread and wine that will become the Body and Blood of Christ.
- When the presider lifts up the gifts, we lift up our hearts as gifts to God, too. The words of the dialogue remind us that to give thanks to God is both “right and just.”•
- After the consecration, we are thankful for the presence of Christ in the consecrated host— Christ who is gift.
- And as we consume the gift of the Body and Blood of Christ, this also makes us increasingly a gift to God. What is consumed transforms us, and we become more and more Christ’s body.

This back-and-forth movement in the liturgy is the rhythm of our lives as well. Everything—air, water, soil, food, friends, family, talents and abilities— we have is a gift of our loving and generous God. How do we say “thank you?” We say “thank you” by giving to others from what we have. And God strengthens us to do this with loving hearts through the Eucharist.

From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

1358 We must therefore consider the Eucharist as:

- thanksgiving and praise to the *Father*;
- the sacrificial memorial of *Christ* and his Body;
- the presence of Christ by the power of his word and of his *Spirit*.

1359 The Eucharist, the sacrament of our salvation accomplished by Christ on the cross, is also a sacrifice of praise in thanksgiving for the work of creation. In the Eucharistic sacrifice the whole of creation loved by God is presented to the Father through the death and the Resurrection of Christ. Through Christ the Church can offer the sacrifice of praise in thanksgiving for all that God has made good, beautiful, and just in creation and in humanity.

1360 The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father, a blessing by which the Church expresses her gratitude to God for all his benefits, for all that he has accomplished through creation, redemption, and sanctification. Eucharist means first of all “thanksgiving.”

1361 The Eucharist is also the sacrifice of praise by which the Church sings the glory of God in the name of all creation. This sacrifice of praise is possible only through Christ: he unites the faithful to his person, to his praise, and to his intercession, so that the sacrifice of praise to the Father is offered *through* Christ and *with* him, to be accepted *in* him.



There are four locations for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in St. John's-Mount Pearl:

St. Peter's Food Bank:

747-3320

Mary Queen of the World Food Bank:

364-7140

Corpus Christi Food Bank:

364-4116

St. Teresa's Food Bank:

579-7201

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Can one person make a difference? Here's one man who did! A university student, Frederick Ozanam, founded the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Society in Parish in 1833. You can make a difference, too!

Mission

Jesus says, "For I was hungry and you gave me to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me, in prison and you came to visit me." The mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a response to the message of Our Lord in the Gospel.

Who We Are

As Vincentians, we are part of an international Catholic lay organisation of charity founded in 1833 in Paris by Frederic Ozanam. There are four conferences in the St. John's metro area which operate under the umbrella of the St. John's Particular Council. The Atlantic Regional Council oversees Vincentian Activities in the four Atlantic Provinces, and all conferences and councils are governed by the National Council of Canada.

Our Work

It is probably hard for many of us to believe but our economic prosperity has not benefitted everyone. The resulting reduction in vacancy rates, increase in property values, and rent has made finding decent and affordable accommodations challenging, if not impossible. Throw in rising utility rates and food prices, and it is easy to see why many of those we serve have been pushed further into the margins of society. Though we primarily operate as a food bank, our ministry has and continues to evolve. In addition to the works mentioned above, we intercede on behalf of and act as an advocate for our clients.

For more click here: <http://www.ssvp.ca/>

