

My Dear Parishioners,

Greetings to you and Praised be Jesus Christ! Having celebrated 7 weeks of Easter and the major Sunday Solemnities that followed, today we are back to wearing the green of Ordinary Time. We'll be wearing it now until Advent which begins in November. Ordinary Time is a 34 week season that can serve as a great reminder to us of God's Life, our walk with Him and the nature of that walk.

So a few pointers about those things:

- 1) It seems to me that as humans we celebrate well, that is to say we know how to party. On any given calendar, we find birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, vacations, dates/times that are different from the norm. Such dates dot our calendars and thank God for that. We need such things and the Church provides with Seasons, Feast Days and Memorials. All of which is good, we need things to look forward to.
- 2) With that said, if life is a mere jumping from one event to the next, one party to the next, than very often that is a problem. We need to be comfortable with the ordinary and this is often difficult. It requires a learning or wisdom. It requires a great deal of acceptance and patience with the day-to-day.

This is where the Ordinary Time of the Church can help us a lot. Consider the following points:

- 1) Most of our Lord's life was spent in the Ordinary. In fact, only 3 years of it are recorded in the Scripture. The other 30 years were spent hidden, we don't know what they consisted of. Simply that he lived the life of a son a child, teenager, young adult, --- in Nazareth. And that alone is extraordinary. Think about it. God hidden, humble, quiet for 30 years in Nazareth.
- 2) The above fact makes the Ordinary Extraordinary. There was never a time when Jesus was not God. So all his activity from his time in the womb, to his time leaving home at 30 years old and everything in between became extraordinary, even sacred. Jesus in his divinity elevates humanity and human activity. So everything in life is sacred, even the ordinary.

The above facts are important to consider and a word that can help direct our thoughts, actions and time in living the Ordinary well is <u>"NOURISHED"</u>. Ask yourself the question, "Am I nourished?", "How nourished am I?", "Am I receiving the graces, strength and love of God in my daily life?", "Or are those graces and love of God, not being received?", "Do I need to make some changes in my life in order to receive them.?" "What might those changes be?"

We know on a human level the serious disease of bulimia. It's an improper relationship with food which flows from a disordered relationship with self and others. It uses food not for nourishment but in a harmful, disordered way so much so that the body does not receive properly. Christians run the risk of "Spiritual Bulimia" in our walk with God. In this Year 2 of the Eucharistic Revival: Pray on the reflection and word: Nourishment. Allow the Eucharist to nourish you in the ordinary ways.

Peace, Father Rogers

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