



August 8, 2010 Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

“Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master’s return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.” Luke 12: 35-36

Dear Friends;

“God of endless ages,
Time is too slow for those who wait,
Too swift for those who fear,
Too long for those who grieve,
Too short for those who rejoice,
But for those who love, time is not.”

So begins a prayer for the blessing of calendars by Fr. Edward Hayes (we use at the beginning of each New Year). It reminds us of the preciousness of time but even more so the preciousness of eternity. With Love we cross the barriers of time and space and even now experience heaven.

Today’s Gospel reminds us that we are in an in between time—the time between Jesus first appearance and his return in glory. This is a time when we are called to live in faith. Franciscan, Fr. Richard Rohr describes faith as learning how to live in the in between. He says that *“faith is so rare and religion so common because no one wants to live between first and second base. Faith is the in-between space where you’re not sure you’ll make it to second base. You’ve let go of one thing and haven’t yet latched onto another. Most of us choose the security of first base.”*

Faith is not about having all the answers, rules for everything or the perfect social structures. Faith is to trust that Jesus is indeed the master whose return we await. He will not disappoint us. In our Gospel passage from Luke disciples are called to actively await the Master’s return. Rather than watch the clock we are called to be about the Master’s work.

Our work is the work of the Gospel—the work of love. In the time between we are called to be a bridge of love that connects us to each other where we discern the face of the coming Christ. Learning to love as did Jesus prepares us for his coming. That is what our weekly Eucharist helps us to accomplish. Caring for the community, the poor and the weak is one of the best ways that we can prepare for the return of Jesus.

Just a reminder that next Sunday we will be asking you to tell us what you think in our Gallup Membership Engagement Survey. We want to hear from everyone. Together let us discern where the Spirit of God is calling our parish.

Peace,

Fr. Ron