

Gospel October 31, 2021. Cycle B
Sunday 31st Week Ordinary Time



A LOVE THAT TRANSLATED INTO ITS OWN LIFE



AS COMPASSIONATE MERCY

SETTING

May the encounter with you Lord transform me and may my intelligence, my attitudes, my heart be directed in fraternal solidarity towards the other. My concerns, my needs find in this space, a place of peace and strength so that with you and as a challenge may I face and channel. That I do not beat around the bush, opting for You, supposes the passage from ideas to concretions.

Lord guide my heart towards my neighbour, and that, from my life, enlightened by yours, I get closer to everyone, especially those who need it most.

SONG. Today Lord I Come Before You - Cristóbal Fones SJ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ggdiTeQhq0>

GOSPEL - Mark 12, 28b-34

“At that time, one of the lawyers approached Jesus and asked him: What is the first of all the commandments? Jesus replied: The first is: Listen, Israel: The Lord, our God, is the only Lord, and you will love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is: You will love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these. The scribe said to him: Very well, Master; You are right to say that He is unique and that there is no other besides Him, and to love Him with all your heart, with all your intelligence and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices . And Jesus, seeing that he had answered him sensibly, said to him: You are not far from the Kingdom of God. And nobody else dared to ask her questions.”

LET US DEEPEN THE TEXT

The scribe who addresses Jesus does not come with ill will, on the contrary, his question is classic, apparently a topic of conversation. If all the details of Jewish law are taken into account, six hundred and thirteen commandments are counted which caused the problems of choice in importance to inevitably arise. Hence the question: "What is the first of the commandments? As always, Jesus responds by referring to Scripture itself and, like a good scribe, knows how to relate the texts to each other. Here, Jesus quotes two extremely well-known commandments: “The first: Listen Israel, the LORD OUR God is the only LORD. You shall love the LORD YOUR God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your spirit and with all your strength. And the second: You will love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these two. "

They are two commandments to love and Jesus, for the moment, adds absolutely nothing to them.

But, is it possible to command in love? In the momentum, but in fidelity, yes, and that is a question here: making love a law, supposes relativizing all other laws: henceforth, the law, whatever it may be, is at the service of God's love. The law cannot replace it.

As for the second commandment, quoted by Jesus, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself," it appears in the book of Leviticus, in what is called " the Law of Holiness " that begins with these words: " Be holy, for I am holy, I am the LORD

your God”(Lev 19: 2). Which means clearly that, long before Jesus Christ, in the idea of Israel, the two loves, God and neighbour, were only one. The tables of the Law translated the same requirement since the commandments that concern the relationship with God, closely precede the commandments that concern the neighbour. Our scribe is visibly on this line of thought.

Jesus concludes with a formula of encouragement, like a "beatitude": "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." At this point, it is interesting to understand that **the habitual preaching of Jesus is not a teaching of the type: "it is necessary to do or you must do ..."**

But, ultimately, what does Jesus bring back? Wasn't everything in the Law? Yes, everything was germinating in the Law, but Jesus comes to make the last stage of Revelation a reality: first, he comes to enlarge the notion of neighbour to infinity. Jesus has just given the scribe the most beautiful definition of the Kingdom: The Kingdom is where love is king, God's love nourishes love for others.

CLUES FOR PRAYER

1. What does loving yourself mean in your life?
2. How can you explain love to others like yourself, in your daily life?
3. This gospel calls you to....

YOU ARE NOT FAR FROM THE KINGDOM OF GOD _____

AMBIENTAL MUSIC. Flight Ishwish - Remember

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vI-BLD-mA8>

WITH ALL YOUR HEART

Loving God is also love siblings;
otherwise it does not fit.
There are no reasons not
to love your neighbour.
This is the novelty of the Gospel of Jesus,
this is the invitation to live, with all love.
In us, with the greatest care, in detail ...
It's the inauguration
of the culture of love.
Love without measure, always,
with everyone and to everyone.
Our God wants

to be loved in the brothers.
We cannot love God
and not love the brother.
What is seen, what is touched,
what is palpable and felt ...
There, you have to specify
the words, sometimes too much
lost in the clouds.
How do we teach and interpret?
Combine with the law, freedom,
fidelity and commitment.
It was Jesus' choice.
The art of a life fully committed
with the Father, with man.
Stop empty words,
and let the works be
that extend, communicate,
make transparent life received.
In the Other begins
the search for God.
The Other is the way to make visible
The love of God.
The Other is the meeting point
with God in history.
The Other is the criterion of credibility.
Let's land on earth, the Others,
with concrete gestures of love.
The gesture that makes the Kingdom possible
of the Samaritans.

SONG. EVEN IN THE STORM, CRISTOBAL FONES -FERNANDO LEIVA
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B7_h7tJNbGQ



Sisters of Charity of Santa Ana. Zaragoza

C / Madre Ràfols, 13 - 50.004 - ZARAGOZA (Spain)

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