



XXI Sunday of OT August 25'24 - Cycle B



WORD OF ETERNAL LIFE



SETTING

Today is an opportune day to meet with you to enjoy the presence that spills into life, around me, in what I look at, touch, feel, breathe and love. Walking with you is opening myself to the encounter in everything I discover and dream. Make a path, from the full freedom of those who want to be like You. Being last, being small and aspiring to continue being simple, a possibility for those who need and want to find you. Keep going despite the stops, the falls and also the explicit and hidden opportunities at every moment. May your word be my word and your look, mine. I want to continue with you.

SONG . Lord, to whom will we go - CRISTÓBAL FONES, SJ

<https://youtu.be/llrO6pIXJm8?si=kpT46T-WxVd82xeP>

GOSPEL – John 6, 60 – 69

"Many of his disciples, when they heard him, said, 'This language is harsh. Who can listen to it?' But Jesus knowing in his heart that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them: "Does this scandalize you? And when will you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?... "It is the spirit that gives life, not the flesh; It is of no use. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. "But there are some among you who do not believe." Because Jesus knew from the beginning who those who did not believe were and who it was who was going to betray him. And he said: "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father grants it to him." From then on many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. Jesus then said to the Twelve: "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life, and we believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

To reflect on today's text (*Marie-Noëlle THABUT*)

Joshua 24, 1-2a. 15-17. 18b. At first, his name was not Joshua, but Hoshea: his first name meant "he saves", the second, Joshua, is more precise since it means: "It is the LORD who saves." Today, precisely we see Joshua here, in his role as savior: Joshua ensures the unity of all the people around their God. And he puts himself at the head of the people, thus giving an example: "I and mine want to serve the LORD."

Psalm 33 (34), 2-3, 16-17, 20-21, 22-23. We have already sung this psalm two Sundays in a row, and here we have it again with other verses. Last week, we stumbled upon the problem of suffering. The psalmist affirmed: «Saints of the LORD, worship him; Those who love him lack nothing...he who seeks the LORD will not lack any good thing." Today, the psalmist insists again: «The LORD looks at the righteous, listens carefully to their cries...the LORD always delivers them. Watch over each of his bones: not one will be broken.

Ephesians 5, 21 – 32. Could Paul go further? Yes, precisely, once again, this letter announces something new: because the mystery of the union between God and humanity is realized, we know it from now on, in Jesus Christ; and the union between Christ and the Church is not only an image, but a germ. The novelty is based on two points: first, your human loves, so beautiful but so difficult, cannot be realized except in union with Jesus Christ; second, here then is a great vocation for the human couple: to reflect the love of Christ for his Church, which is inscribed in the love of God for all humanity.

In **John 6:60-69**, we contemplate the end of the discourse on the bread of life. The time of decision has arrived. That's right, in the same way that those who entered the Promised Land, following Joshua (first reading) and had to choose once and for all, the God they wanted to serve, those who listened to Jesus are forced to decide. Because what Jesus says is hard to hear, but should we reject what he says? This is what can be called a real question. Here is the paradox of Faith: the words of Jesus are humanly incomprehensible and yet they make us live. It is therefore necessary that we follow the path of the Apostles: live by those words, let them feed us, let them enter us without seeking how to explain them. This attitude contains a true lesson: we do not have to look for the explanation of the Eucharist in books. It is better to participate in it and let Christ lead us in his mystery of life. It is clear that, throughout the gospel of John, this important question is reconsidered: **to believe or not to believe** . If Jesus is truly the one sent by the Father, not accepting, with admiration and gratitude, this gift that God gives us is crazy. And that is the question posed to Jesus' listeners: «The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are those who do not believe in them. Obviously, the response will be different: some of his disciples will stop following him (v.66). On the contrary, in the name of the Twelve, Peter will give the answer of Faith. Jesus has posed the "trustworthy" question: "Do you want to leave too?" Curious vocabulary: some "left" and Pedro says: "Who could we go to?" **Once again it is clear that Faith is not baggage, but a path. A path on which you have to let yourself be guided.** «No one can come to me, says Jesus, if this is not given to him by the Father».

Tips for prayer

- Going from a superficial look to a deep one, what does the text tell you?
- Sometimes we passively listen to the readings, what creative action do they invite you to?
- What do you feel called to deliver?



AMBIENT MUSIC. EINAUDI - Bella Notte

<https://youtu.be/T8r-jbb7XHE?si=agH7aTm6CXIMCi7M>

LOOK FOR YOUR FOOTPRINTS

It's a longing I feel.
Search for you, find
your footprints
Discover that life
it's you.
The people, each creature,
the circumstances,
daily.
The words, the gestures,
the color, the beauty,
the rhythm, each one,
what unites us,
what separates us.
each thing is part
altogether.
Scrutinize the elements,
analyze the whys,
get back on the road.
Move on or
come back, everything is.
Everything is part of the whole.
Lord, who will we go to,
If you are our life.
We are fragile, clay,
You are our Everything.

Search you and find you
and continue forward.
Appreciating life,
what we are and have,
welcoming to each one,
from what it is and
encourage him as much as he
can become.
Heeding every regret
and look up,
and the hands, find you.
Betting on everyone
those who feel
small and walk
with them.
Opening your house,
your heart, the moment.
Imagine yourself
in everything
and explain things
real that facilitate
the way of the people,
May they increase
our faith,
which is path.

SINGING. SON BY FOUR - Who We Will Go To

<https://youtu.be/EzfilcKLPiQ?si=PiRYDRpRrON23dbO>

Son By Four- What You Have Started (Official Video)

https://youtu.be/PMDboH1PW1c?si=tdi_o2aq_ydxJg7x



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