

JUNE 22, 2020  
Monday of the 12<sup>th</sup> Week in OT  
Matthew 7: 1-5

“DO NOT JUDGE”

How do we see other's fault and sins? Do we immediately condemn and judge others because of what we 'see in them'? Are we fond of gossiping and telling others' fault? Pope Francis reminded us about judging others and gossiping: “The Lord wants to teach us not to go criticizing others, not to look at the defects of others: look first at yours, your faults. We are specialists at finding the bad things of others, without seeing our own faults which often leads to gossip and speaking badly about others. It sows discord, enmity, and evil. This is why Jesus says: ‘Before speaking badly of others, take a mirror and look at yourself; look at your faults and be ashamed of having them.’”<sup>1</sup>

My brothers and sisters, our gospel is telling us avoid judging others or destroying others' reputation by gossiping. Let us promise one another to tell the person what we observe and notice in a non-judgmental fashion. Always give them an opportunity to explain and express themselves. By that the person will be grateful to us because we are helping them to see their own fault that they are unaware of. Let us remember before we make any judgement or assessment of others, we need to be sure that we are unbiased and not doing it to pin them down. Destroying others through gossiping is really so much more fun but it helps no one. Let us always remember Jesus' words: “Do not judge, so that you may not be judged.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [www.catholicnewsagency.com](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com)

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 7: 1 NRSV Catholic Bible Press