OCTOBER 31, 2020 Saturday of 30th Week in OT Luke 14: 1, 7-11

"ALWAYS BE HUMBLE."

After we resume masses in our parish, our dedicated and efficient staff are doing seating arrangement everyday. They do this decently and not thinking who will be in the most important and be seated at the first pews or the least seated in the last pews. Some people like to be seated in front and some like to be seated at the back. Our gospel gives us a lesson of humility. Jesus said: "For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."¹

"What is true humility and why should we make it a characteristic mark of our life and action? True humility is not feeling bad about yourself, or having a low opinion of yourself, or thinking of yourself as inferior to others. True humility frees us from preoccupation with ourselves, whereas a low self-opinion tends to focus our attention on ourselves. Humility is truth in self-understanding and truth in action. Viewing ourselves truthfully, with sober judgment, means seeing ourselves the way God sees us (Psalm 139:1-4). A humble person makes a realistic assessment of himself or herself without illusion or pretense to be something he or she is not. The humble regard themselves neither smaller nor larger than they truly are. True humility frees us to be our true selves and to avoid despair and pride. A humble person does not have to wear a mask or put on a facade in order to look good to others, especially to those who are not really familiar with that person. The humble are not swayed by accidentals, such as fame, reputation, success, or failure."²

¹ Luke 14: 11 NRSV Catholic Bible Press, USA

² www.dailyscripture.net

So, Jesus is telling us today that we want to be great in the Kingdom of God, we must put ourselves at the disposal of others, use our gifts, resources and wealth in serving the well-being of others and must no have interest in titles, dignity or status that the world gives. We focus on what God will give us in the next life, that is, to be with Him in His kingdom which is enough for us. Whatever the earth gives are temporary but in God everything are eternal and permanent. Don't aspire reward here on earth but in heaven. My brothers and sisters, even if other people don't see your good works, God sees, and He will reward you. The reward that you will receive is better, bigger and will not fade or lost. So, don't stop and postpone good works everyday. There's a lot of people need you – serve, love, comfort and pray for them especially those who are affected by this pandemic.

Let us look on the Blessed Virgin Mary, she humbled herself, gave all for God, and now in heaven assumed body and soul, the Queen of heaven and earth. My brothers and sisters, heaven will be the reward for those who follow the will of the Lord and be at the disposal of others by serving them with humility and love. Let us ask the intercession of Mary that we may always be humble and not look for prestige and honor here on earth and focus on things that are eternal.