

October 17, 2018

Readings: no. 469, p. 1667 or no. 660, p. 1857 1st Reading: Galatians 5.18-25 Gospel: Luke  
11.42-46

Jesus again condemns ~~the~~ superficial, religiosity, a well-known trait, common to scholars of Law. So well versed in high religious rubrics, yet how sadly they neglect the spiritual dimensions of being human. They get another of Jesus', "woe downs", are called hypocrites and likened to unmarked graves over which people might walk. Very powerful language to the Jewish intellect who regarded any contact with a grave, a severe defilement. Jesus always sees right through people's glitz and straight into our hearts.

On his way to a brutal death, St Ignatius of Antioch, successor of Peter, had this to say. "My love of this life has been crucified. I no longer take pleasure in perishable food. I want only God's bread which is the flesh of Jesus Christ. And for drink I crave his blood which is love that cannot perish." St Paul's words to the Galatian community, heard this evening, could not have been far from his heart. If we live in the Spirit, Let us also follow the Spirit.

Truly, the Body and Blood we share, is the very same, Ignatius desired so deeply. And yes, Christ continues to gather and send us forth, guided by the wisdom of the Spirit. However versed we may be in matters of the Law, mean very little until we allow the Eucharistic presence of Jesus to govern our lives. There's little benefit, in having a brain full of knowledge, if from our hearts, flow no love. We remain unresolved, until we permit Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to remove, repair and reconnect our intelligence to our hearts.

Amen