



Homily for  
THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
27/28 August, 2016

---

**Deacon Jim's homily follows....**

(Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29...Psalm 68...Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a...Luke 14:1, 7-14)

We don't need to sound like a prophet  
or be able to preach like Paul  
or able to work wonders like Peter.

We simply need to:

“Do what we can, with what we have, where we are at...  
and an important solid foundation for doing this is HUMILITY.

I attended an ecumenical Christian meeting at a local motel. Arriving I took a seat at a table in the back of the room. The gentleman chairing the meeting was a Catholic. Shortly after I arrived this gentleman got up, stepped off the stage, and made his way to where I was and invited me to come and sit on the stage with the rest of them. Sharing with him I was O.K sitting at this table he insisted I come up and sit on the stage. I relented and went forward and sat on the stage. As I was traveling home after the meeting this Gospel for today dawned on me.

- I did not sit in the back in order to be invited forward.
- I sat in the back because I was comfortable sitting in the back.
- I sat in the back because I know I am simply one of those gathered there.
- I sat in the back because I know I am not better than anyone in that room.

**Words from today's readings:**

**Reading 1...“Humble yourself”**

**Gospel... “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,  
but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.**

**Reading 2...“We have approached the heavenly Jerusalem.”  
(we are a part of something)**

**HUMILITY**

“Gosh...shucks...woe is me...I'm not that good...I can't do much...

I don't have any gifts...I'm not important...I'm not of much value...

I can't make much of a difference.

-this is not humility.

-this is self-depreciation.

-this is false humility.

-True humility is:

-living the truth that each and every one of us is needy.

-living the truth that each of us is of value.

-living the truth that each of us has purpose.

-True humility:

-open us to self-knowledge...to knowing ourselves.

-opens us to receiving.

-enables us to identify with the needs of others...

especially the needs of the poor and hurting.

-impels us to not seek to be served...but impels us to serve.

-inspires us to seek out ways to serve.

-moves us to the Works of Mercy.

-enables us to be faithful servants and fruitful stewards.

-enables us to see others as Jesus sees them.

-enables us to see Jesus in others.

-is when we recognize the abilities God has given us

and use them to serve others

-is when we are respectful of others.

-is when we put the needs of others before our own.

-is when we do not draw attention to ourselves but instead edify others.

-with true humility...recognizing our need...recognizing we are all poor...

recognizing that our need is met in Jesus...

what we sang in our psalm response makes sense...

“God in your goodness you have made a home for the poor.”

-that home for the poor...that home for us...is the Church.

-that home includes the Church in purgatory.

-that home includes the Church in heaven.

-that home includes the Church on earth...each other.

-in this Church for the poor, we receive wisdom...power...courage.

-through Jesus in the Eucharist from this altar.

-through the support we have from one another...

“we got each other's back”

We don't need to sound like a prophet

or be able to preach like Paul

or able to work wonders like Peter.

We simply need to:

“Do what we can, with what we have, where we are at...”

and an important solid foundation for doing this is HUMILITY.