

A Coffee with Alessio



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

In the Second Reading this Sunday, Saint Paul writes the following in his letter to the Romans:

“How rich are the depths of God –
how deep his wisdom and knowledge –
and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods!”

Yes, God’s wisdom is far beyond our understanding. His hand is at work even in the darkest of situations. Now, I hear some of you saying - ‘God is Light, in Him there is no darkness’. Yes, exactly, because if I look back over my life at those rather painful experiences I endured and I thought where on earth is the Lord when I need Him, He was quietly and gently working behind the scenes, guiding me away from the disaster I found myself in to a better outcome. That didn’t make the pain any more bearable, but it serves as a reminder that when we think God doesn’t have a clue about what He is doing, He is right on the money.

In the Gospel this Sunday we hear Jesus say to Peter: “You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it.” Yes, Saint Peter may have seemed the most unlikely choice as the first pope, but Jesus saw something in him that most people wouldn’t. That is, He saw that with some guidance Peter was capable of leading. Again God’s wisdom at work.

We tend to view situations from a human perspective and form a limited view. With God in the picture, things are a completely different story.

As for music suggestions this Sunday, there are three hymns that fit the Second Reading perfectly:

-The Hound of Heaven (How Rich are the depths of God)- AOV2 #79 CWB #795, CWBII #505, GA #81

- You are near AOV1 #112, and
O God, You search me and you know me AOV2 #31, CWBII #572,

As for the Gospel Reading this Sunday, 'Lord, You give the great commission' (CWBII #308, GA #313) or 'The Church's One Foundation' (CWBII #614) summarize the Gospel text perfectly.

As for a coffee and cake this week, it's back to the Sherbert Café in Maylands. I mentioned that café in a column a couple of weeks ago. This week's special is their Turkish Orange cake, which is a cake made with orange and almond meal and fresh passionfruit icing – absolutely delicious! Yes, the passionfruit seeds on top of that cake serve as a reminder to us that not everything in life will be smooth sailing, but with trust in God, He will guide us to where we need to be.

Till next week – enjoy your coffee and cake!

Mr Alessio Loiacono
Music Field Officer

Friday 21 August 2020