

Deacon Tony's Homily for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary time -
November 15th, 2015

The book of Daniel falls into three sections: stories where Daniel and his three companions are heroes, revelations told by Daniel and more short stories.

I like the stories where Daniel and his three friends are the heroes, like when Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown into the fiery furnace for not bowing down to the golden statue of Nebuchadnezzar. That is one of my favorites.

Unfortunately, today's reading is from Daniel's revelation section, where he is predicting the future. This coupled with Jesus describing His second coming and I am certainly not enjoying this Sunday's readings. It's like Jesus telling us of the warning signs of the judgment day. It's like we should be watching for the signs, rather than watching our own behavior. We have all heard preachers pointing to signs of the end times. They are so certain that it is coming soon.

Well I know that I will be facing my Maker at the end of my life and that seems like it will be soon. A person's lifetime seems very short once you get to be 65 years old.

“BUT OF THAT DAY OR HOUR, NO ONE KNOWS.

IT IS NOT UP TO US TO KNOW!!!

So what does Jesus want us to know and know better and better each day?

We need to be committed to help bring the Kingdom of God a little closer for ourselves and others to see it clearer. We need to bring it into a sharper focus.

If we do one act of kindness a week, we can bring God's Kingdom to a clearer focus for those we serve as well ourselves. **LET THAT BE OUR GOAL RATHER THEN GET CAUGHT UP IN THINGS THAT WE CANNOT CONTROL.**

If we concentrate on what will come in the future, we will miss opportunities to make God's kingdom a better place for all. Let's not have our lives be filled with missed opportunities to be Christ to others.