

## **Deacon Tony's July 9th Homily for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Deeper mystery of salvation hidden from the wise and understanding, from the scribes and Pharisees, but revealed to babes –

to fishermen and tax collectors, and to us who Jesus called to be his disciples. Despite his many miracles, the wise and learned of this world –

the scribes and the Pharisees – rejected him.

“No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him” (Matthew 11:27).

Christ would redeem all who put their faith in him, because he would suffer their punishment for their sins for those who believe in him.

Those who put their faith in Christ and accept him as their sinner have their sins paid for by his death on the cross.

### **Finding the balance**

So if you found last week's readings rather demanding, they need to be balanced against the passages into today's Mass. It would be wrong to come down too much on either side. The Gospel still calls for total giving of self, not as the

denial of that self, but as the only way to find one's true self. At the same time, our God is a God of infinite patience and compassion as we stumble along in our efforts to unite ourselves fully with him.

The theme of today's readings is very much one of peace and consolation. The First Reading from the prophet Zechariah speaks of a king entering Jerusalem riding on a young donkey. The scene is one of humility but also of peace. He rides on a placid donkey rather than on a prancing war horse. This is confirmed later in the words:

When we have a crisis of faith is when we have to make a decision; a decision to be **selfish or selfless**. Do we take on Our Lord's burden for people with all of His grace?

### **Jesus' CRISIS OF FAITH**

*Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me...*

But then, at the end of his prayer, he prayed:

*Nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will. (Matt 26:39)*

From that moment on and for the rest of his Passion experience he reveals **nothing but quiet dignity and strength**. There was a change in Him.

So just as Jesus became equally yoked with the Father, He was able fulfill the promise that His Father had made at the beginning of time. Jesus calls, us in the Gospel, to be equally

yoked with Him as we continue the work of evangelization among our generation. Not only are we called to work alongside God, but we are also called to be equally yoked to one another. The example of working together as a husband and wife or a parent and child has a practical side to it. If two oxen are yoked together equally the yoke will not rub and cause one or the other oxen to suffer.

We see how Jesus handled his burden and He calls us to do the same and bend to the will of God.

What are some of the burdens that are heavy on your hearts? Jesus reveals God the Father to all who trust in Him.

**I must turn to Jesus with every concern in my life as I walk the road of evangelism with him and my family.**