

Deacon Tony's Homily
For the
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

There is a war going on that started with Cain and Abe.

It has been waging forever and will continue as long as there are people on earth. From the book of Wisdom, we see judgmental statements regarding people who are just and how obnoxious they are. So much so that they should be condemned to a shameful death. As Christians we are aware of someone who was unjustly condemned to a shameful death, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is not a wisdom from God but a false wisdom from the sin of envy.

We understand the difference between the two types of wisdom, and we choose God's wisdom, and only God's wisdom, because we belong to Christ and thankfully acknowledge Him as our savior.

James tells us in our second reading that if our wisdom includes selfish ambition and envy there is disorder which leads to foul practices. However, the **Wisdom from God is pure and innocent, peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits.**

Good fruits include seeing our faith in Jesus passed down to our children. Are we fulfilling our parental vows from our children's baptism?

James asks this question about the origins of the conflicts in our lives.

Is it not from our passions that make war within our members?

It is much better if our passion is for God.

What does Jesus say in our Gospel? He first describes His chaotic and brutal death from an unjust judgement. The Apostles did not understand because they were not ready to understand. They would have their turn to choose the wisdom to guide their lives.

They traveled to Capernaum (Peter's house) and He began to teach them once inside the house. There are other times when they retreated to a house, and it seems that Jesus chose these times to teach the Apostles with less distractions. It is kind of like when we come into God's house here at STM to learn God's lessons without distractions.

We ask for God's forgiveness, and we open our hearts to the scriptures and to the Blessed Sacrament that we share.

So, Jesus finds out that His Apostles are indulging in judging who will be greater in leading His followers when He is dead and gone. His lesson to them is to be like a child who is totally dependent on his parents. When we accept our parenthood from God. We are born into His family with all the care and concern for our well-being that is possible. We have chosen God's wisdom to guide our lives.

And always remember that all things are possible with God.