

The Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 16, 2022

“His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you do it”

In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost , Amen!

During the past few days, we have been rejoicing in the manifestation of the love and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Gentiles-to people like you and I! The Feast of Epiphany is a reassurance to the whole world that the plans and purposes of God extend to all of the men and women of our world, and that none of us are beyond the reach of the love of our Father in Heaven.

In today’s Gospel we see displayed the Almighty power of the Son of God even in the midst of a most commonplace event- a wedding! Here our Blessed Lord, at the bidding of His dear and Blessed Mother, turns what was an occasion of lack and sorrow into an opportunity to display the power of God over lack, and fear! This was a testimony to the reign of the Kingdom of God in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ. But as we read this glorious account, we must surely seek to gain at least a partial understanding about what this means for us, living today, and seeking to be faithful to our Christian Vocation.

The Key to this I think is found in the words that the Blessed Virgin addressed to the servants at the wedding-“do whatever he tells you.” Surely these words from the mouth of the Blessed Virgin form the very foundation of our life in Christ! The Lord Jesus Christ descended to this world and assumed our flesh and nature, not to be admired at a distance, not to be seen as yet one more good and pious religious teacher, not to be given mere lip service, but to be the heart of all that we hold dear and of value. Christ is to be the one under whose blessed and merciful hand we give ourselves completely and utterly! We remember that we are to be wholly His, wholly given to following in blessed humility the way of His heart of Mercy and Love!

Down through the long ages of Christian history, untold numbers of humble Christian folk have testified to the wonder and joy that comes from simply doing the will of Christ according to the light that we have. None of us is called to be an expert, none of us are required to fully understand the will and purposes of God, but all of us are called to blessed obedience and faith! Each of us can and must seek to bring every part of our lives under the life giving influence of the Holy Ghost. All of us should seek from our Lord a true and heartfelt longing to have our inner spiritual senses awakened so that we might behold the inner presence of the Lord Jesus reigning within our souls as Lord and Saviour.

So here in today’s Gospel we see the promise of our Lord to change us, just as surely as He was able to change water into wine. We can experience the miracle of having our poor hearts remade

into the image of Divine Love as we act in simple obedience and love to the one who has claimed us as His own.

It is a wonderful thing for us to realize that we can be changed, that even when we may feel that we are too set in the ways of the world, that our hearts are too full of the world's idea of truth, love, and goodness-we must not despair-rather we must seek humbly at the Saviour's feet for His priceless gift of a new heart-a heart that is centred on the inner realities of life, that desires to give itself wholly in the service of Christ our Lord.

Friends, a new changed heart brings a new way of living-it will show itself in a greater willingness to love and to give oneself in the loving and humble service of others- it will mean a desire to bear willingly with the burdens of others-it will bring a gentle spirit that draws its life from the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and that seeks to bless others with the compassion and mercy of Christ! In other words dear friends, this change of heart and life that flows from the heart of Christ, will turn our world upside down! Isn't the world waiting for the testimony of changed hearts? Haven't we wondered what walking steadfastly in the way of Christ might look like in our own situations and circumstances?

Today let each one of us cast away fear and doubt, and take our Blessed Lord Jesus at His word. Let us all follow the counsel of Mary and decide today to follow Christ's will and purpose for us.

If we do this-if from this day forward our lives become living reflections of the goodness and mercy of Christ- then we will bring such joy to the Heart of our Heavenly Father, and we will find our hearts inflamed with the Divine fire of the Holy Ghost.

Imagine what blessings would be ours if our lives and attitudes reflected the gracious heart of Jesus- what graces would be ours as we determine to do as Christ directs us and step out in faith and trusting obedience to the Holy will of God.

The Lord Jesus used the Wedding at Cana of Galilee to manifest His power as the Eternal Son of God, come to this earth for our Salvation and the Salvation of all who are willing to come to Him. He came to change us-to draw our hearts from the Kingdom of darkness and death to the blessed land of Eternal Life. He is waiting to lovingly receive all who will allow Him to change them! To receive all who will cast off the things of this fallen world, and make room in their hearts for the new life in Christ. A life that displays the beauties of Holiness and that bears the eternal fruit of true righteousness and Charity. May we leave here today with a firm and unshaken desire to live for Him, and for His Kingdom! May we gladly give ourselves to Him with confidence in His good will toward us, and in His promise to one day take us to himself in the Blessedness of Eternity! God grant that this might be so for each of us today and always!

Glory be to God for All Things Amen