

+CAN A MOTHER FORGET HER INFANT

8th Sunday Ord. A, 2017

Our first reading from Isaiah sets the tone for today, reminding us of God's continual love for us. Even if a mother should forget her child, God will never forget us. Our gospel is telling us the same in so many ways.

The birds of the air do not sow or reap or gather into barns but our heavenly Father feeds them. Worrying about our life span will not add one moment to it. We get anxious about what we wear but if we watch the way the wild flowers grow, we see that even Solomon in all his splendor was not clothed like one of these. Our heavenly father knows of all our needs so we must seek first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness and all other things will be given us besides.

Jesus is not saying we don't have work to do to support our families or community life here at Gethsemani but that we must not let ourselves become preoccupied with this to where we neglect what is really important for our lives whether in family or community. Jesus does not want us to overlook our love for one another, those daily acts of caring for wife or children, or my being attentive to the needs of my brothers in community. We have been baptized into a divine life, a life that lets Christ reign in everything we do, where human persons are far more important than possessions or the false security that comes from accumulating wealth.

The advertising industry is constantly telling us that having things, dressing a certain way, having the best of food and drink will give us happiness. As Christians we know better. Happiness comes from caring for one another, from what motivates our hearts at St Paul said in our second reading. When we let the love of Christ move all that we do and say, our hearts are filled with joy for then we become living and life-giving members of his Church. All those around us, see what's moving our hearts and give glory to God.

This is why we gather at a Sunday Eucharist, that we might let the bread and wine brought to this altar, symbols of our very own lives, become the Body and Blood of the risen Christ, become his loving and life-giving presence in our world today.