

November 8, 2009

32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

B

1 Kings 17: 10 – 16

Hebrews 9: 24 – 28

Mark 12: 38 – 44

This is the story of the poor widow of Zarephath who feeds the prophet Elijah. The widow had just a handful of meal and oil - and she thought this was she and her son's last meal. Elijah begins by asking for some water... and she gets it for him. Elijah then asks her to bake him a cake and to make his first, then to go and prepare their meal. Yet she had every good reason to protest and perhaps serve the child first. She did as the prophet asked with out question or delay - "for the Lord loves a cheerful giver" (2<sup>nd</sup> Cor 9: 7b).

Soon enough the jug of oil did not run dry or the jar of flour go empty. It multiplied in the spending - not the hoarding. The poor widow and her son ate for one year. Her faith was great and she trusted God and Elijah, too. The virtues of Catholic Social Justice will always try to provide - even when there appears to be nothing. It is the Spirit, which provides. The moral of the story is that God has a variety of ways to provide for God's people. Perhaps God as even provided for you!

201 words

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