

Sunday, October 18, 2009

29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Isaiah 53: 10 – 11

Hebrews 4: 14 – 16

Mark 10: 35 – 45

The Old Testament prophets testified about two great themes: the sufferings of Christ and the glory that would follow. Nowhere in the Old Testament are these truths so plainly and fully prophesized than in Isaiah Ch 53. Today's OT reading begins with humiliation and ends with exaltation & triumph, even while Christ bore the sins of humanity (vs. 10 & 11). This is the resurrection theme from Easter and we need to remember it often.

The Letter from the Hebrews 4: 14 -16 points to our own triumph; "that we should approach the throne to receive mercy and grace for timely help" (v. 16). Some might not consider this much of a personal triumph nor acknowledge the need. With prayer and Eucharist we become aware that kindness and truth; justice and peace shall embrace (Psalm 85: 11). In all our actions the goal is to put on love. Without this love... the mercy from Christ that leads us to ask for help so that we can put on love- may not last. Thus we are back where we started. With only one month until Advent... the question is "What are you waiting for?"

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