

Sunday, September 28, 2008
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Ezekiel 18: 25 – 28
Philippians 2: 1 – 11
Matthew 21: 28 - 32

The 2nd reading from Philippians 2: 1 -11 is about conforming ourselves to Christ. We do this by showing mercy and compassion; and being humble to others even when they are not kind to us. This is about love as expressed by the Greek word “Agape” and is defined as having regard, charity and empathy for everyone. It is the same type of love God and Jesus have for each other and for all creation. If we are to have the benefit of Jesus’ death, then we must work to resemble his life.

This was not self evident in the Garden of Eden nor today. Human nature is downright primitive as pride and passion sets the tone for unchanging man. Christ came as an example of humility in taking the form of a slave and divesting himself of all glory. Even his death on a cross was painful, humiliating and shameful death. Yet, God exalted Jesus and will exalt us. As we confess our sins at the beginning of Mass, our prayer is to own up to “what we have failed to do”... which for some... is a failure to love.

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