

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 27 February 2022

Scriptures: Sirach 27:4-7; 1Corinthians: 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45

Homily: Fr. Ken

The message of the Gospel that we have just listened to is all about conversion, about change in our lives. It is not about the way we behave, or the way we talk to each other. What it is about is changing the very way we think. This is what humility is all about.

It means having an honest understanding and appreciation of who we really are, with our positive and affirmative attitudes and actions, as well as our shortcomings.

There is a banner hanging outside a Christian Church in the City which reads: "Watch your thoughts, they become your words...your actions...your habits...your character...your destiny".

That banner says it all. It clearly expresses the influence that our thoughts can have on our very selves.

Within our shared Christian faith, one of the most important aspects in our common celebration of the Eucharist is our common fellowship together. That is the one main reason every Sunday I congratulate everyone of you for showing up for our Mass, especially during these pandemic times.

That fellowship we see in the Gospel stories of Jesus sharing meals with other people. It upset the religious leaders of the time who were, in Jesus' view, overly hung up on what could be called respectability. Those Jewish leaders would gossip among themselves about Jesus and his behavior.

As Lent is about to begin on Ash Wednesday, we should all recall the very words we utter just before receiving Holy Communion: "Lord, I am not worthy".

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