

Lk 14:1, 7-14

August 31, 2025

Invite the uninvited

There are those who invite and those who invite in reciprocation. It is noble to invite others to join your celebration. It is graceful to acknowledge and return the favor.

Jesus is inviting us to more; invite those who cannot invite us back. Jesus is expecting more than nobility; He is waiting to see shades of divinity in our treating one another.

It is beyond inviting to a fine dinner. Do not stop at serving food. He is inviting us to serve love, mercy, care, and forgiveness to one another. Many of our recipients may not be in a position to reciprocate them. Serve them, serve them generously. You may find many in need of your love, care, and forgiveness at home and in your neighborhood. They may not serve you back, serve them anyway, serve them generously. Jesus is waiting to serve you even more generously. Because noble is too small a word to define Jesus, He is divine and is waiting to serve you the finest dishes of divine love and divine graces.

Today we have our mission appeal Sunday. When we open our wallets to help a mission far from us, we are serving a dinner to someone who may not invite us back. But Jesus is waiting for our response.

Remember, we are enjoying the fruits of someone else's labor.

United by faith, we, the Catholics, have been transforming the world for the past 20 centuries by serving without expecting anything back. The separations imposed by distance, languages, borders, and cultures were rendered irrelevant by Jesus; it is a miracle that has been unfolding for centuries. When Jesus unites us, nothing can separate us.