



CRUMBS OF FAITH

Matthew 15:25-27

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Joseph Parish,

This Sunday, God surprises us with how wide His house is.

Isaiah says it clearly: "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." Not just for Israel, but for every foreigner who holds fast to the Lord. Saint Paul, writing to the Romans, is in awe of the same mystery — that God's mercy has now been poured out upon the Gentiles, upon us.

And then Jesus shows us what that looks like in the flesh.

He enters the pagan region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman — an outsider, unclean in the eyes of Israel — cries out for her tormented daughter. At first Jesus is silent. Then He says something that shocks us: "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs."

She does not leave offended. She answers with a faith that disarms Him: "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters."

She doesn't demand the whole feast. She says, one crumb of Your mercy is enough.

And Jesus is moved. "O woman, great is your faith!"

How often do we think we need to have perfect lives, perfect prayers to be heard? This mother teaches us that humble, stubborn persistence is what God loves. She reminds us that no one is outside the reach of His mercy.

This week, what "crumb" do you need to beg for? Bring it to Him. He hears every cry.

Have a blessed week!

Fr. Rafal Ligenza,
Pastor

