

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

Dear Sisters and Brothers of St. Joseph Parish,

This Sunday, God invites us to a feast.

Isaiah paints the picture first: On the mountain of the Lord, God will provide a feast of rich food and choice wines. He will wipe away the tears from all faces and destroy death forever. That is the image we need - heaven is not a boring waiting room, it is a wedding banquet.

But in the Gospel, Jesus shows us the strange response. The King invites guests to his son's wedding and they refuse. One has a farm to look after, another has business to do. They are too busy for joy. So the King sends his servants to the crossroads to invite everyone - good and bad alike.

The invitation is wide open. That is the Good News. God does not only invite the perfect. He invites you and me, with our messy history.

Yet there is a catch at the end. One man comes in without a wedding garment. He wanted the food, but not the transformation. He wanted to come as he was and stay as he was.

The garment is the conversion. St. Paul says in the second reading, "I can do all things in him who strengthens me." The garment is faith, charity, mercy - putting on Christ.

God has prepared the table. He has already paid the price. The invitation has been sent to your name.

The only question left is: will we come, and will we come dressed for the occasion?

Come to the feast this week.



Have a Blessed Week!

Fr. Rafal Ligenza.
Pastor