

POPE FRANCISANGELUSSaint Peter's Square

Sunday, 5 July 2020 Multimedia

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good morning!

This Sunday's Gospel reading (cf. *Mt* 11:25-30) is divided into three parts: first of all, Jesus raises a prayer of blessing and thanksgiving to the Father because he revealed the mystery of the Kingdom of Heaven to the poor and to the simple; then he reveals the intimate and unique relationship between himself and the Father; and finally he invites us to go to him and to follow him to find solace.

In the first place, Jesus praises the Father because he has kept the secrets of his Kingdom, of his truth, hidden "from the wise and understanding" (v. 25). He calls them so with a veil of irony because they presume to be wise, understanding, and therefore, very often, have a closed heart. True wisdom also comes from the heart. It is not only a matter of understanding ideas: true wisdom also enters the heart. And if you know many things but have a closed heart, you are not wise. Jesus tells them that his Father's mysteries are revealed to the "little ones", to those who confidently open themselves to his Word of salvation, who open their heart to the Word of salvation, who feel the need for him and await everything from him. The heart that is open and trustful towards the Lord.

Then, Jesus explains that he has received everything from the Father, and calls him "my Father", to affirm the unique nature of his relationship with him. Indeed, only between the Son and the Father is there total reciprocity: each one knows the other, each one lives in the other. But this unique communion is like a flower that blossoms to freely reveal its beauty and its goodness. And here then is Jesus' invitation: "Come to me…" (v. 28). He wishes to give what he receives from the Father. He wants to give us Truth, and Jesus' Truth is always free: it is a gift, it is the Holy Spirit, the Truth.

Just as the Father has a preference for the "little ones", Jesus also addresses those "who labour and are heavy laden". Indeed, he places himself among them, because he is "gentle and lowly in

heart" (v. 29): this is how he describes himself. It is the same in the first and third Beatitudes, that of the humble and poor in spirit, and that of the meek (cf. *Mt* 5:35): the meekness of Jesus. In this way Jesus, "meek and humble", is not a model for the resigned, nor is he simply a victim, but rather he is the Man who lives this condition "from the heart" in full transparency to the love of the Father, that is, to the Holy Spirit. He is the model of the "poor in spirit" and of all the other "blesseds" of the Gospel, who carry out God's will and bear witness to his Kingdom.

And then, Jesus says that if we go to him, we will find rest. The "rest" that Christ offers to the weary and oppressed is not merely psychological solace or donated charity, but the joy of the poor who are evangelized and are builders of the new humanity: this is solace. Joy. The joy that Jesus gives us. It is unique. It is the joy that he himself has. It is a message for all of us, for all people of good will, which Jesus still conveys today in the world that exalts those who become rich and powerful... But how often do we say, "Ah, I would like to be like him, or like her, who is rich, has a lot of power, lacks nothing...". The world exalts those who are rich and powerful, no matter by what means, and at times tramples upon the human being and his or her dignity. And we see this every day, the poor trampled underfoot... And it is a message for the Church, called to live works of mercy and to evangelize the poor, to be meek and humble. This is how the Lord wants his Church, that is, us, to be.

May, the humblest and highest of creatures, implore from God *wisdom of heart* for us, so that we may discern his signs in our lives and be participants in those mysteries which, hidden from the proud, are revealed to the humble.

After the Angelus, the Holy Father continued:

Dear brothers and sisters.

this week the United Nations Security Council adopted a Resolution which organizes some measures to deal with the devastating consequences of the Covid-19 virus, particularly for areas that are already theatres of war. It is a commendable request for a global and immediate ceasefire, which would allow the peace and security necessary to provide the humanitarian assistance so urgently needed. I hope that this decision will be implemented effectively and promptly for the good of the many people who are suffering. May this Security Council Resolution become a courageous first step towards a peaceful future.

I warmly greet all of you, people of Rome and pilgrims from various countries. I greet the Poles in particular: welcome! And I bless the large pilgrimage of the Radio Maria family to the Shrine of Częstochowa, which will take place next Saturday, during the centenary of the birth of Saint John Paul ii, whose motto was "I am all yours, Mary". A blessing to that pilgrimage.

And I wish everyone a happy Sunday. Please, do not forget to pray for me. Enjoy your lunch. *Arrivederci*!

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