



Reflection from Fr. Mike Roach

The Scripture readings this weekend tell of three ways to follow Jesus. Psalm 33 speaks to us of MERCY, Pope Francis' constant theme. The Response to Psalm 33 reminds us, 'Lord, let your mercy be on us as we place our trust in you.'

The Letter to the Hebrews reminds us 'We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but one who was tempted in every way that we are, but never sinned'. Christ's compassion for our fragilities gives us hope for redemption.

Jesus reminds the disciples, James and John, who want an important role in God's Kingdom, 'Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest; whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all. The Son of Man has not come to be served, but to serve'.

How many ways are we called to serve others? In our society now, with the economic and racial divisions, anger and unrest over the vaccine mandates and intense political divisions, there is much to separate us. As people of faith, we listen to these readings and try to be of service to others. The most important service is to recognize others for being tremendously valued children of God.

May St. James be a bearer of Hope. May we hold onto the words of Pope Francis, calling us to mercy, leading us to justice and helping us live out God's Love.

*~ Peace,
Fr. Mike*