



Reflection from Albertine Kangni-Soukpe

Albertine is a parishioner from Togo, West Africa. The following is her reflection:

The scripture readings for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time go over the plight of those who are sick, how they should deal with it, and how reaching out to God for help through prayer and other means will help them overcome their sickness.

The first reading (Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46) says that those who have leprosy or are sick should let people around them know that they are sick and should not hide that fact. My interpretation of this is that God is telling us not to put our comfort over the safety of those around us. This reading also makes me think of the 8th commandment; “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor”, or in other words do not lie, even if it comes at your expense.

The second reading (1st Corinthians 10:31—11:1) embodies both the idea of selflessness and praise. The line that holds the most meaning in the sense of selflessness is as follows: “not seeking my benefit but that of the many”. Secondly, praise through everything you do is how you truly become one with God; “Whether you eat, drink, or whatever you do, do everything in the glory of God,”.

In the Gospel (Mark 1:40-45) after a Leper came to Jesus and begged to be clean, Jesus granted his wish and told him to not tell anyone how he was clean, but the man didn’t listen and made the matter public knowledge.

My reflection of this gospel is that God wants us to be truthful with our neighbors even if it's at our expense. He wants everything we do in our day-to-day life to be for God's glory and if we praise Him all of our sicknesses will be healed.

Peace,
Albertine