

Homily – Tuesday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Donor Appreciation Mass

The Christian life is not, by itself, a guarantee that we will never be subjected to setbacks, difficulties or even misfortunes. But when our fears and desires become inflated, we seek the things of this world for their own sake and not as a blessing from God. Then we become self-centered and begin trying to satisfy our infinite desires with an infinite series of finite goods. We are constantly challenged to renounce the worldly mentality and adopt God's own mentality.

It was undoubtedly painful for Jesus to see that – despite their privileged situation – his disciples still lacked understanding as all the others who followed him. They were still unable to understand who Jesus really is. So they could not understand what He meant by the word 'leaven.' The Jews used yeast as a symbol of hypocrisy, expiration or corruption.

Our calling is for our life journey and our every day to become a participation of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection – made present here and now at Mass – so that with Him we become leaven for his the new creation. Any good that we do is already a participation in God's own work and the fruit of an inspiration of the Holy Spirit. He is the author of "all good giving and every perfect gift is from above..." (Jas). In other words, all good things come from God and every blessing is a call to bless others.

Our desires can be truly fulfilled by God alone. When we are aware that God is the source and fulfillment of our lives, we

ourselves become a blessing, His blessing. And he infinitely continues to fill our lives with meaning.

History and even every day have their “ups” and “downs”, but life has never been easy. Through faith, God offers a sense of peace and even joy through hardships and difficulties. If we live from faith, we are happy because we experience God’s fidelity and perceive the various gifts that he offers us every day, including the meaning of life. We are called to assume our own frailty, while taking responsibility for our actions and becoming responsible for one another. The only way this is possible is trusting in God’s mercy. Only trust can allow us to live faithfully in the present, when we have not yet been given the necessary perspective to understand God’s perfect plan. We are called to open our hearts to interpret the signs of the times. God never leaves us.

You are a blessing for the Church and the Lord is able to multiply the gifts that you offer back to Him through his People. Despite all our shortcomings, the Holy Spirit truly governs the Church by inspiring each one of us to bless others as God blesses us. Thank you!

May Our Lady of Guadalupe continue to intercede for us, so that we keep nothing for ourselves, but rather participate in the mission of her Son to be the Father’s blessing for all his creatures.