

Homily – Vigil of the Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Deaf Ministry – October 19, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters; let us consider our response to the Psalm: “Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.” This profound prayer for God’s mercy is a declaration of faith. We trust that God sees us, knows us, and walks with us, especially in our weakness.

In the first reading, from the Book of Isaiah, we encounter the image of the Suffering Servant. This servant embodies what it means to offer one’s life for the good of others. Jesus, as the ultimate Servant, willingly endured suffering, not for His own gain, but to free all of humanity from sin. His suffering was a path of liberation. Through His sacrifice, we are invited to experience God’s infinite mercy. He shows us that true greatness is not found in power or status, but in serving others, especially those in need.

The message of service takes on special meaning at this celebration with you. Jesus invites each of us, regardless of our abilities, to be a light in the world. Everyone who serves shows how God’s mercy flows through acts of compassion and care.

In the Gospel, Jesus reminds His disciples that to follow Him means to serve others. The path to true fulfillment comes not from seeking glory, but from giving our lives for one another, just as Jesus gave His life for us.

Pope Francis invites us to *“ask ourselves: do I know how to recognize the face of Jesus in the smallest? Do I take care of my neighbor, serving generously? And do I thank those who take care of me?”*

Let us trust that Our Lady of Guadalupe will help us embrace the call to serve others with humility, confident that in this way we are following in the footsteps of the Suffering Servant, who leads us all to life, freedom, and glory.