

Gospel
The 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year C Luke 17:11-19

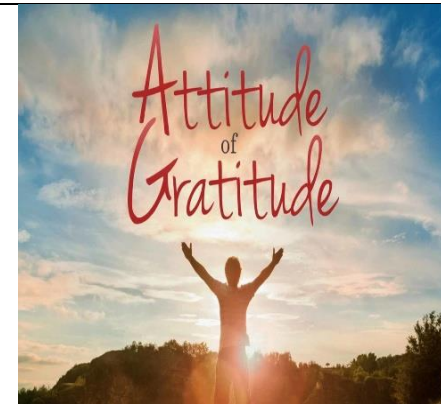
Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; **your faith has made you well.**"

The heart that knows how to say "Thank You" is a good heart. May we always say thank you to God and to one another. **Pope Francis**



Post-it Challenge:

Take a few minutes to think about the importance of saying thank you to each other and to God. Like the man who returned to Jesus, we should remember to thank God for the amazing things that we have been given in our lives.



- Why do we say thank you? What purpose does it serve? What is the consequence if we do not say thank you?
- When was the last time someone thanked you?
- How did it feel?
- Who was the last person you said 'thank you' to?
- How will you show thanks to God this week?
- How will your words and actions show gratitude?

Reflection

In this week's Gospel Luke tells us about ten people suffering from leprosy who were healed by Jesus, but only one of them came back to say 'thank you'. Many people with this illness lose all of their fingers and toes because of the disease. It's very painful. People with leprosy couldn't get too close to others for fear of spreading the illness. They were total outcasts from society.



Once again the Gospel tells us about the importance of faith. The man who returned to praise and thank God is a Samaritan. In the Jewish circles in which Jesus lived, Samaritans were looked down upon because of the differences between the two communities.

Another lesson for us in this Gospel has to do with salvation. All 10 of the lepers were given the gift of healing, but in his gratitude to God for this gift, the Samaritan found salvation. Our salvation is found in recognizing the gifts we have been given and using them wisely as well as knowing when to be grateful and who to say 'thank you' to.

This is not just a lesson about what the other nine lepers should have done. It is also a lesson for how we are to live our lives every day. Our lives are a gift from God, and the time that we have been given on this earth belongs to God. We are stewards, or caretakers, of that time.



Let us pray:

Gracious God, in the busy-ness of my day, I sometimes forget to stop to thank you for all that is good and all that is beautiful.

*Thank you for the loved ones in my life,
 For the many ways in which I am cared for
 and supported.
 Thank you for giving me the ability to serve
 and give to others.
 Thank you for the rich tapestry of colours in
 creation and for the beauty of the seasons.
 Let me always show gratitude to you and to
 those around me. Amen*