

## INTRODUCTION

The amazing truth of our Catholic faith, that is, our belief in the Holy Trinity, makes our faith in God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit stronger, profound and complete. The loving relationship between the three Divine persons, having us as the center of their love, always seek to make a connection in our day to day living. We always see and witness every day the love of the Father, caring for us and providing for all that we need. The teachings of Jesus, our teacher and master, always never fail to guide and teach us the way to live our life. The Holy Spirit, the helper and counselor, likewise, never fail to enlighten and counsel us during the most desperate moments of our life. It is but essential that we deepen our knowledge and faith on these three divine persons and how we can collaborate more and more with them in our day to day living and existence.

Last week, we knew more about God being the Father who cares for us, who provides for us and whose love becomes our stronghold and fortress. This week, we are invited to get to know more Jesus, the Son of God, the greatest proof of God's love for all. Our objective for this week is to fix our eyes in Jesus, the Son of the Father and to learn from him how to be a child of God.

Jn 17:24-26 "Father! You have given them to me, and I want them to be with me where I am, so that they may see my glory, the glory you gave me; for you loved me before the world was made. Righteous Father! The world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you sent me. I made you

known to them, and I will continue to do so, in order that the love you have for me may be in them, and so that I also may be in them." Jesus gives all of His life for us to follow and imitate. He made the way for us to likewise reflect and ponder how we should live our life. In Him we move and exist. It is the will of the Father that we should look at the life and love of His Son, for us to be guided to the way of our own salvation and to be able to live the perfect life that he wants us to live.

VD C21: To be Jesus, is in effect, the supreme ideal that, in all justice, we present for all people in our preachings and apostolate. Such was the purpose of God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who chose us in Him before the creation of the world to become the image of his Son. In communion with Jesus, given up for all of us, we are to transmit solely the Life-Love of Christ, without adulteration or watering down, making Jesus' words reality. "Anyone who listens to you, listens to me", "Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me." Our perfect model and teacher is Christ. For to live is to Christ for other people as well. This we should know that this is the will of the Father for all of us.

## MONDAY

### **God calls us to be like His Son Jesus**

"We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose. Those whom God had already chosen he also set apart to become like his Son, so that the Son would be the first among many believers. And so those whom God set apart, he called; and

those he called, he put right with himself, and he shared his glory with them."

**(Romans 8:28-30)**

*Every day, to whose voices do we listen? Do we always hear the voice of the noisy world around us or do we take time to listen to the tiny voice of God calling us to be like Jesus, His Son?*

*Do we set a time to know more Jesus in prayer so we can follow and love Him with all our hearts? We are already chosen by God to be like His Son. He wants us to be truly happy and contented in life, thus, He wants us to be put right with our ways of living to that of his Son.*

## TUESDAY

### **Jesus' heart goes out with pity to the people who need him most**

Jesus heard them and answered, "People who are well do not need a doctor, but only those who are sick. Go and find out what is meant by the scripture that says: "It is kindness that I want, not animal sacrifices. I have not come to call respectable people, but outcasts."

**(Matthew 9:9-13)**

*Let us pause for a moment to feel the presence of Jesus who seeks to enter into the innermost part of our being, begging us to open our hearts to him and heal whatever it is that doesn't make us feel well. Plenty of us seem healthy and happy in the outside appearance, but in the innermost of our being we don't feel good and satisfied. All the time we are restless.*

*Let it be known to us, that Jesus presents himself to all of us now. His heart is always moved with pity for us sinners and*

*outcasts. All of us are sinners and outcasts in the eyes of God. No one is ever perfect. Thus, we need always Jesus who is our constant healer and doctor.*

*Just as Jesus know that we are not perfect, let us not also judge other people by their mistakes and failures. They are loved by Jesus just as equally as we are loved by Him.*

## WEDNESDAY

### **Jesus teaches about the greatest treasure**

Jesus looked straight at him with love and said, "You need only one thing. Go and sell all you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have riches in heaven; then come and follow me." When the man heard this, gloom spread over his face, and he went away sad, because he was very rich." **(Mk 10:21-22)**

*Who is your greatest treasure? What do you value most in this life? Is it relationships or belongings? Is it generosity or good fame and fortune? Jesus teaches us to way things and to prioritize things in life according to its value in the eyes of God.*

*Jesus, our teacher and master, teaches us to be witty and smart. He doesn't want us to be caught in the false promises of the world. Instead, Jesus wants us to live a truly happy, meaningful and fruitful life when we learn to value what is most precious in life. What we should value most in life is LOVE. Love for God and love for others is what gives our life more meaning.*

## **THURSDAY**

### **Jesus teaches about humility**

Jesus answered him, “You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later.” Peter declared, “Never at any time will you wash my feet!” “If I do not wash your feet,” Jesus answered, “you will no longer be my disciple. (John 13:7-8)

*Jesus, our teacher and master, teaches us a lot of values and attitudes. One of the great values he taught us is the value of humility. The greatest sin of man is to think highly of him, making a false notion that he or she is greater than the other. Jesus is telling us not to waste our time to compare ourselves with others because most of the time by doing so, we only always come out frustrated and unhappy. Because, when we compare with others, there we find people with situations better and worse than ourselves. Instead, Jesus teaches us to focus our energy on becoming a servant of all rather than the one to be served.*

*Do we take pride when we serve others? Do we feel bad about it? Do we get tired of doing so? What motivates you to continue to be of service to God? What motivates you to become like Jesus in the practice of humility to be of service to the word, to be able to evangelize even when it seems difficult?*

## **FRIDAY**

### **Jesus teaches us about faith and trust in Him**

“Master,” Simon answered, “we worked hard all night long and caught nothing. But if you say so, I will let down the nets.” They let them down and caught

such a large number of fish that the nets were about to break. So they motioned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They came and filled both boats so full of fish that the boats were about to sink. When Simon Peter saw what had happened, he fell on his knees before Jesus and said, “Go away from me, Lord! I am a sinful man!” (Luke 5:5-8)

*Sometimes, it may seem difficult and impossible the teachings of Jesus. We say to ourselves, “How could this be Lord”. We always look up to our frailties and weaknesses in front of the important calling of the master. We always have excuses. We always say, ok Lord, it feels good to follow you, but can I do it some other time when I am already ready. We have the habit of procrastinating the practice to love. We have all the excuses not to be able to forgive and be humble. We always seem to busy ourselves with our own business and not minding the predicament and situations of others. It’s because, at the back of our minds, we have doubts to follow Jesus. We have doubts if we could invite to prayer the closest neighbor, relative and officemate we’ve been wanting to invite for so long a time.*

*Today, Jesus teaches us to increase our faith and trust in Him. We should always practice the attitude of Simon Peter when he said “But if you say so, I will let down the nets.” If the master says so, we must learn to follow him. If Jesus says so, we must not doubt his ways.*

*How do you think you can increase your faith and trust in Jesus? How much of yourself are you willing to give up for Jesus sake?*

## **SATURDAY**

### **For by the blood of Christ we are set free. Let us keep our eyes on Jesus**

“Because of his love God had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his children – this was his pleasure and purpose. Let us praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son. For by the blood of Christ, we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God, which he gave to us in such large measure.” (Ephesians 1:4-8)

“As for us, we have this large crowd of witnesses around us. So then, let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly, and let us run with determination the race that lies before us. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end. He did not give up because of the cross! On the contrary, because of the joy that was waiting for him, he thought nothing of the disgrace of dying on the cross, and he is now seated at the right side of God’s throne.” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

## **SUNDAY**

### **25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st reading: **Amos 8:4-7**

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8**

2nd reading: **1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 2:1-8**

Gospel: **Luke 16:1-13**

# Verbum Dei

## **GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER**

**“Father!  
You have  
given them  
to me, and  
I want them  
to be with  
me where  
I am”**  
*(c.f. Jn 17:24-26)*

**The Unity in the Verbum Dei Family  
in Jesus the Son of God**

**Sept. 16-22, 2013**

### **Objective of the Week:**

To be able to fix our eyes in Jesus the Son of God our Father and to learn from Him how to be a child of God.