

Wednesday 9 October

Jon 4:1-11, Ps 86:3-6,9-10, Lk 11:1-4

From Baptised and Sent

Prayer is always an experience of relationship with God, an encounter with Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit. The Our Father, as a summary of the Gospel, offers us the fundamental criteria for this encounter and the mission that flows from it. The grace to turn to God as Father enables us to live as sisters and brothers. (p. 112)

From Pope Francis

The Church is catholic because she is *universal*, she is spread abroad through every part of the world and she proclaims the Gospel to every man and to every woman. The Church is not a group of elite; she does not only concern the few. The Church has no limits; she is sent to the totality of people, to the totality of the human race...The Church is catholic, because she is the “home of harmony” where *unity and diversity* know how to merge in order to become a great source of wealth. Let us think about the image of a symphony, which implies accord, harmony, various instruments playing together.ⁱ

From the Good Samaritan Benedictine Story

Not being a musically inclined person, I am always humbled by God’s graces imparted to me through singing with the Monastery Schola... The miracle of harmony, though, is what gives me pause most often. Many of the music pieces we sing are in three-part harmony. When we begin practicing a new hymn, it is often difficult to hear the beauty of the overall piece because of the work involved in learning my own part. I often have trouble appreciating the sound of my own voice and how it contributes to the harmonious sound of the Schola. Discerning a religious vocation can be a lot like learning the harmony part in a musical piece. Sometimes discerning women wonder, “Will my individual experiences and gifts harmonise with the Community, or will I sound like a sour note? Will my own voice be drowned out in the Community’s identity?”ⁱⁱ

ⁱ General Audience, St. Peter’s Square, Wednesday, October 9, 2013

ⁱⁱ <http://www.duluthbenedictines.org/connect/blog/sister-ann-marie-wainright-harmony-and-the-benedictine-life/>