

Sunday 27 October

Sir 35:15b-17,20-22a, Ps 34:2-3,17-19,23, 2 Tm 4:6-8,16-18, Lk 18:9-14

From Baptised and Sent

We do not approach God in the Temple in order to celebrate and contemplate ourselves in a self-referential pose, looking down at others from above. We stand before God for an encounter of love, and to meet others in him. In this sense, prayer is contemplation of the Lord, a celebration of the wonders that his grace works every day in the bosom of human frailty, and of his indefatigable mercy that lifts up those who have fallen and who want to get up again. (p. 178)

From Pope Francis

True joy comes from a profound harmony between persons, something which we all feel in our hearts and which makes us experience the beauty of togetherness, of mutual support along life's journey. But the basis of this feeling of deep joy is the presence of God, the presence of God in the family and his love, which is welcoming, merciful, and respectful towards all. And above all, a love which is patient: patience is a virtue of God and God teaches us how to cultivate it in family life, how to be patient, and lovingly so, with each other. To be patient among ourselves. A patient love. God alone knows how to create harmony from differences. But if God's love is lacking, the family loses its harmony, self-centredness prevails and joy fades. But the family which experiences the joy of faith communicates it naturally. That family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world, it is the leaven of society as a whole.ⁱ

From the Good Samaritan Benedictine Story

*If the world looks down on them, you do not... take them by the hand as a wayward child and, if they have been accustomed to look down, teach them to look up... teach them the principles of a new life, to respect themselves.*ⁱⁱ

ⁱ Mass, Homily of the Holy Father, St. Peter's Square, Sunday, October 27, 2013

ⁱⁱ Margaret Walsh, *The Good Sams*, p. 164