

Thursday 24 October

Rom 6:19-23, Ps 1:1-4,6, Lk 12:49-53

From Baptised and Sent

This brings to mind another teaching of Jesus, which requires from his disciples a love greater than the love they have for their relatives. The reason is very simple: he is the source of love. It is he who teaches us to truly love, giving our lives for the people we love. Love motivated only by family ties is very fragile. On the other hand, when I become a follower of Jesus, I not only learn to truly love my own family, but I abandon all greed and hypocrisy, every selfishness and discrimination, opening my heart to universal fellowship, welcoming with sincere love people different from my own religion, ethnicity, culture, skin colour, social status – people who were previously foreigners to me. (p. 166)

From Pope Francis

Let us ask for the grace to hear the cry of all those tossed by the waves of life. The *cry of the poor*: it is the stifled cry of the unborn, of starving children, of young people more used to the explosion of bombs than happy shouts of the playground. It is the cry of the elderly, cast off and abandoned to themselves. The cry of the poor daily grows louder but is heard less and less. Every day that cry gets louder, but every day heard less, drowned out by the din of the rich few, who grow ever fewer and more rich. The cry of the poor finds a hearing with God. Yet I ask, does it with us? Do we have eyes to see, ears to hear, hands outstretched to offer help? Or do we keep repeating: “Come back tomorrow”? Jesus demands that we do something more to give to those who have nothing to give back, to love *gratuitously*. Let us look around in our own day. For all that we do, do we ever do anything completely for free, something for a person who cannot repay us?ⁱ

From the Good Samaritan Benedictine Story

*If any one cause may be considered the source of injustice in the world, the inordinate love of gain is the undoubtedly the cause.*ⁱⁱ

ⁱ http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2018/documents/papa-francesco_20181118_omelia-gionatamondiale-poveri.html

ⁱⁱ Archbishop John Bede Polding, 1861