

Tuesday 15 October

Rom 1:16-25, Ps 19:2-5, Lk 11:37-41

Memorial of Saint Teresa of Jesus

From Baptised and Sent

Traditions, practices, and customs, when they are imposed and observed in an inflexible way, move away from their secondary and instrumental finality to educate our weak and impressionable hearts to do good and to love. But they can become real barriers of separation and opposition. Only the recovery of conversion to loving dialogue with Christ, who is not afraid of overcoming barriers, sterile precepts, and empty traditions, can generate life and new relationships of communion, within which even the law and its precepts can help us live well and in a manner ordered to the newness of salvation. (p. 131)

From Pope Francis

The man who invited Jesus to dine with him was scandalised that he did not wash his hands, yet just as Paul did not mince words when speaking of idolatry, so Jesus does not mince words with hypocrites: “You Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of extortion and wickedness. It could not be clearer! You are greedy and wicked. You fools!” What does Jesus counsel? Give for alms those things which are within; and behold, everything will be clean for you. This is the way of the Lord: to adore God, to love God above everything and to love one's neighbour as oneself. It is so simple and yet so difficult. It is only possible with grace. Let us ask, then, for this grace.ⁱ

From the Good Samaritan Benedictine Story

As regards the celebration of the Mystery, this can only take place when the vessel is steady, sailing with the wind on the lee beam. To prevent scruples, whenever you doubt whether you can without difficulty celebrate, in all cases of doubt decide you will not celebrate...ⁱⁱ

ⁱ Morning meditation in the Chapel of the *Domus Sanctae Marthae*. “Love of God and neighbour conquers idolatry and hypocrisy,” Tuesday, October 15, 2013

ⁱⁱ C. F. Fowler, *At Sea with Bishop John Bede Polding*, p349