

28th Week of Ordinary Time

Clearly today the church wants us to hear about the importance of giving Thanks

When I was little I used to hate it when someone would give a gift or do something nice and my mother would say "What do you say?"

I knew what to say

I was going to say it

But because she said that I resented having to say it

There is a difference in saying Thank You because you HAVE TO and saying it because you meant it and you were really thankful

One Christmas, for example, my daughter in law gave me a new bathrobe.

Now I already had two bathrobes

But over the years I had gotten wider, but they didn't

Now my daughter in law didn't know this

She's in NY and never saw many other bathrobes

So I open the gift (and in my head) O great another bathrobe

Then I saw the tag – XXL – and in my excitement I say:

"A bathrobe that fits!"

I stood up and put it on, wrapped it around me and smiled.

I didn't have to say Thank You, the enthusiasm I showed was enough

My daughter in law had a huge smile knowing how thankful I was.

I think that's what it was like for the Samaritan leper

Ten lepers ask for Jesus' help

He doesn't heal them – He tells them to go show themselves to the priest

As the ten walk away, this guy notices that sore on his hand is gone

Then the one on his wrist, his arm, his foot, his leg HE REALIZES

He looks back at Jesus, looks ahead at the 9 still walking, then

He runs back to Jesus – His enthusiasm is much greater than mine

He falls at Jesus' feet thanking Him

Now the other 9 are still going to show themselves to the priest

(There is a difference in being healed and being made clean)

In Lev - Lepers who were healed were to show themselves to the priest

SHAVE, EXAMINE – EXAMINE AGAIN – THEN

Sacrificial blood anoints big toe, thumb, and earlobe

That wherever you go, whatever you do, what you hear

Give glory to God

Jesus tells this leper (Your faith has saved you)

Remember last Sunday – faith the size of a mustard seed can move that tree

By faith the leper was saved

By faith WE are saved, By faith OUR sin is forgiven, By faith God is with us

Wherever we go, Whatever we do, hearing WOG we too give thanks to GOD