

### 31st Sunday Ordinary Time - Year B

- Jesus is asked what was the greatest commandment by a Scribe
- Let me tell you what a Scribe did
  - A Scribe transcribed the law – no Xerox, no MSWord, longhand
  - All day, with all the laws, letter by letter by letter
  - Since it was the Law of God – it had to be perfect – any error, its scrap
  - Hundreds and hundred of laws, letter by letter, scroll after scroll
- He comes to Jesus “What is the greatest commandment”
  - JC responds by quoting DT – the first reading
    - Love God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength
    - Then JC does something radical
    - JC also adds a line from Lev “Love your neighbor as yourself”
- When we think of the commandments we think ‘Thou shalt not’
  - All of our laws are about what we should NOT do
    - Don’t lie, don’t steal, don’t cheat, don’t ...
    - Jesus answers with no ‘Thou shall not’ but with ‘Thou shall’...
  - You should “Love God and Love those made in HIS image”
    - WE ARE ALL MADE IN IMAGE & LIKENESS OF GOD
    - When we love others, we’re loving people who are unique reflections of the presence of God
  - People would ask Mother Theresa why she cared for the poor
    - How can you love God and not care for His image
    - God doesn’t expect us all to move to Calcutta
    - God does expect us to reverence His presence in each other
  - God knows our hearts & God loves us
    - He doesn’t want us bogged down in a quagmire of laws
    - But He does expect us to obey the 1 law of loving Him
    - & by loving those made in His image – we love Him