

31st Sunday Ordinary Time - Year A

Practice what you preach

- All week long I have been working with our Marriage Prep team and 6 engaged couples
 - One of the exercises was for them to separate and write a love letter
 - When my son got married several years ago – they also did this
 - AND they had to write a letter to their parents
 - So we get this letter out of the blue
 - Its emotional, made my wife cry
 - In it Matthew told us how much our example loving one another meant
- Now today's readings aren't about marriage
 - Malachi condemns the Levitical priesthood for not being faithful
 - Jesus condemns the Pharisee and Sadducees for being hypocritical
 - In our time we've seen more than enough scandal in the priesthood
- I told you about Marriage Prep because
- We ended the Marriage Prep program yesterday at the 4:30 mass yesterday
 - Fr. Tighe made a point that tied these readings about priesthood & my son's letter
 - He acknowledged the problems in the priesthood, & the scandal of the Bishops
 - He also pointed out that at Baptism ALL OF US are anointed Priest, Prophet, King.
 - ALL OF US share in the priesthood
 - ALL OF US are Church – Priest & Laity together are Church
 - Deacon, Priest, Bishop, Pope, Laity TOGETHER are the People of God – CHURCH
 - We all share in the responsibility Jesus lays on the Pharisee
 - Practice what we preach
 - All of us here are in positions where how we live influences others
 - At home - Parents Husbands Wives – our kids are watching
 - At work - Managers – our employees are working
 - At school – Teachers – your students are watching
 - Our example says much more than what we say
 - Remember Cat in the cradle – “I want to be like him”
 - Our children, our neighbors, our employees, our friends should all be saying that about us –
 - Because we're living our faith.
 - Do they?