

27th Sunday Ordinary Time - Year C

- I came home late on Thursday and my son was watching the debate
- I sat and watched for awhile and they were going back and forth
 - Talking about Afghanistan & Iraq
 - Bin Laden and N. Korea and nuclear proliferation
 - Then I talked to my father – VERO BEACH Hurricane
 - Damage destruction and loss
 - One crisis after another
 - I walked away – Why Oh Lord?
- Then I picked up Habakkuk
 - How long will I call for help
 - I cry violence and NOTHING
 - In midst of crisis – Habakkuk pleads:
 - Judah is spiritually & morally corrupt – & Nothing
 - Do you ever pray – and feel there's nobody there?
 - Sometimes that happens
 - Sometimes God's response is no response. VALID
 - Habakkuk teaches us a lesson about prayer and faith.
 - God says "Write this down – clearly – so that all can read it readily
 - This vision will come in time, if it delays, wait for it :
 - "The rash has no integrity, but the just, BECAUSE OF FAITH, shall live."
 - We live in crisis – we have violence all around us – shootings, war, "violent" poverty
 - We also have our own private crisis' of life:
Divorce layoffs lump death of loved one
Put your own crisis in there – it's life
 - Today's readings say GOD IS HERE – Have faith
 - Now **that's easy to say**, but in midst of the battle
it's hard to have faith unless faith has become a lifestyle
- Faulkner – person dying
 - In midst of tears – Radiated Peace
 - This family – lifetime in relationship with God
 - Family prayer, acts of charity (common), living convictions
 - It's easy to have faith – because they were people of faith
- We come to Church - We ask God to help us
- We ask God to help us raise our kids, to be good people, people of faith.
- We ask God for faith to confront the difficulties of life

Faith that emerges from struggle with doubt, rests on a firmer foundation than blind acceptance

It's the challenges of life that become opportunities - to put our trust in God & live our faith