

Ow Parish COMMUNITY

July 26, 2020

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12

Rom 8:28-30

Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Wising Up

There are various kinds of wisdom: the kind you get by watching carefully to discover how something works, or by learning from a mistake; the wisdom in taking advice from someone and not making the mistake he made; the political, social, or religious wisdom learned by those who work in these vocations. There is also wisdom that is just beyond our reach, the kind that is found only in God.

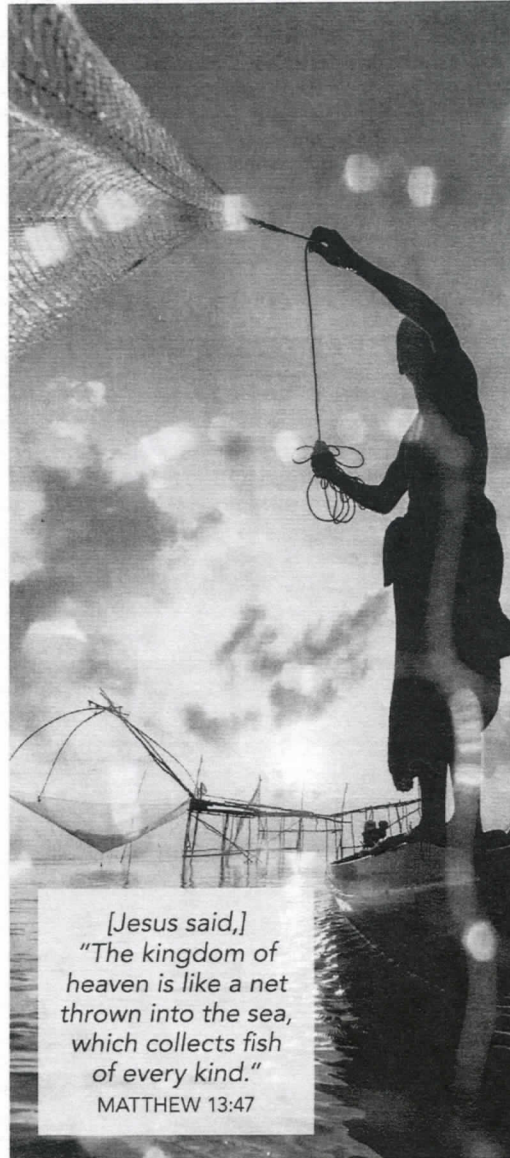
This Sunday's readings discuss various kinds of wisdom. King Solomon asks for "a listening heart" (1 Kings 3:9), the knowledge needed to rule his people wisely. He is told he can ask for anything: long life, riches, security from his enemies, all blessings that would certainly benefit him. Instead he asks for something to benefit his people. It seems he is wise enough to know he needs such wisdom. The psalm response praises the law, the religious tradition that provides instruction for living a life of holiness and thus reaping the rewards of such a life.

The parable in the Gospel describes various life situations in which decisions have to be made. In the first two instances, a question is posed: What is the kingdom of heaven worth to you? What are you willing to give up in order to attain it? The third depicts fishing with a net, a very strenuous task. A question here might be: Are you willing to work hard at this? Are you discerning in separating good actions from bad? It takes real wisdom to answer such questions.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- * Do you recognize the true value of our religious tradition? How do you show that?
- * Who are the wise people in your life? How did they get their wisdom?



[Jesus said,]
"The kingdom of
heaven is like a net
thrown into the sea,
which collects fish
of every kind."
MATTHEW 13:47

Dear Padre,

Should we send our child to a Catholic school? Luckily, we can afford it. But what are the advantages?

In a Catholic school your child will be exposed to faith development and to religious, moral, and disciplinary values that some public schools can't impart. This is in addition to a high-quality general education. A 2019 study by the National Center for Education Statistics shows that the all-important math and reading assessments for Catholic school fourth- and eighth-graders surpassed those of their public school cohorts.

A well-run Catholic school can offer your child an educational experience and life formation based on the message, values, and principles of Jesus Christ. These are the preeminent reasons to choose a Catholic school. You want your child to hear the story of Jesus, to know and admire him, to grow up as one of his devoted friends and disciples.

Children need to see the message of Jesus lived out enthusiastically by their parents, teachers, and the adult faith community, of which the school is a part. Catholic schools will teach a value system clearly rooted in Jesus' gospel message. The children will discover that God's creation is good, to

be respected and cared for. The children will sense and appreciate their own intrinsic worth as human beings and the dignity of everyone. They will develop sensitivity to the poor and less fortunate. In short, children need the faith formation that a Catholic school offers.

—Fr. Joseph Morin, CSsR
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CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE/REGINA A. BERNETT

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

How nice it is to feel that our school, or the places where we gather, are a second home....School then ends up being one big family. A family where, together with our mothers and fathers, our grandparents, our teachers and friends, we learn to help one another, to share our good qualities, to give the best of ourselves.

—OUR LADY QUEEN OF ANGELS SCHOOL, HARLEM, NY,
 SEPTEMBER 25, 2015



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Calendar

Monday

JULY 27
 Weekday
 Jer 13:1-11
 Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday

JULY 28
 Weekday
 Jer 14:17-22
 Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday

JULY 29
 St. Martha
 Jer 15:10, 16-21
 Jn 11:19-27
 or Lk 10:38-42

Thursday

JULY 30
 Weekday
 Jer 18:1-6
 Mt 13:47-53

Friday

JULY 31
 St. Ignatius of Loyola,
 Priest
 Jer 26:1-9
 Mt 13:54-58

Saturday

AUGUST 1
 St. Alphonsus Liguori,
 Bishop and Doctor
 of the Church
 Jer 26:11-16, 24
 Mt 14:1-12

Sunday

AUGUST 2
 Eighteenth Sunday
 in Ordinary Time
 Is 55:1-3
 Rom 8:35, 37-39
 Mt 14:13-21

