

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 02-27-2022

“As the test of what the potter molds is in the furnace, so in tribulation is the test of the just.”

Perhaps the time has come for us to honestly assess how we did as individuals during this whole Covid-19 period. How did we handle ourselves during this time?

Were we paralyzed by fear or did we try our best to transcend the moment and live in faith? Or was it a little bit of both?

In other words, did we put too much of our trust in man and not enough in God? How would we rate ourselves?

I'm not here to rate anybody. Not even myself.

I'm just suggesting that we all spend a little time over the next few weeks and months, especially during this upcoming Lenten season, to really think about it and try to make an accurate assessment of how we responded to the crisis.

If we honestly do this we can learn a lot about ourselves – the good, the bad and even the ugly. We really need to know ourselves.

Otherwise our life might be characterized by the blind leading blind and we'll end up falling into a pit.

If we failed to put our trust in God by placing too much trust in human devices then it could be a sign of something much more deadly than a corona virus. A virus, after all, can only kill the body.

Maybe we have a splinter or even worse a wooden beam in our eye that needs to be removed so that we can live a more authentic Catholic life.

Authentic Catholicism forces us to examine our viewpoints. It forces us to decide who we are going to serve – God, man or the devil.

Any view that we hold that is contrary to traditional Catholicism, that obstinately blinds us to the truth, is a wooden beam in our eye that can lead us to hell.

I'm not going to name these contrary positions I suspect that, deep down, every Catholic here basically knows them.

The Church doesn't exist to coddle us nor to affirm us in our sin. On the contrary, she exists to guide us into all Truth so that we can go to Heaven after we die.

The Church will challenge us and even test us with many trials but she does so because she wants to make us holy.

Only saints ultimately go to heaven so she's attempting to purify us now so that we go there immediately after we die.

We are all called to be saints and there is nothing prideful about wanting to become one. It's God's will for us and it's our ticket to heaven but we must be willing to be tried in the crucible of authentic Church teaching.

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