

10th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cycle C

June 5, 2016

Fr. Larry Richards

Good Morning, how are you?

“Blessed”

Today this Lord Jesus in the gospel, there's three things that happen here. First He notices the woman who had just lost her son. Second, He is moved by it and then third, He does something about it. And so the first thing, and this is with all of us, in all of us there is this darkness, there's death, there is this weeping, there is this sadness and God is always watching and notices everything about our lives. Sometimes we think nobody hears us, other people think that the only time God watches them is when they sin. You know, we are very aware that God knows our sinfulness, right? He knows everything you've ever done and you go oh, oh, oh! And you get kind of like oh I don't want God to be watching me 'cause you think you're always sinning. But He's not only there when you sin; He's there when you're weeping. He's there when you're sad; He's there when you're lonely. He's there when you're empty; He's there when you have no hope. He's there when you're in the darkest part you've ever been. He's there and He notices. And not only does He notice from afar, He enters in, and He says with that woman today in the gospel that He was moved with pity. And it's more than a pity, you know we hear, I even hate to use the word pity, I wouldn't have used that word to translate, but it's like a condensation, you know, like oh ya, I pity you.

That isn't what this is at all. It's a compassion. It's being with this person in her sadness. Experiencing what she experiences; and this Christ who is God who lives inside of each of us, experiences what we experience. He knows what you're going through, He knows your sadness, He knows your joy, He knows your sin, He knows your holiness, He knows it, and He always is concerned about it. And to think that everything that I think, everything that I feel, Jesus is concerned about. That's a great thing when you think about it. That He's concerned about everything that I am going through. He is a God who's up there looking down at you like, huh, 'poor thing', He's a God who lives inside of you that feels what you feel, He's there and He knows. And it's interesting when He says to the woman today; He says “Don't weep”. Are you kidding me? Can you imagine, you just lost

your son and I come up to you and say, "Hey, don't weep". Thanks, Father! Let's find somewhere else I can go now. But the reality is, He knew He was going to bring life and so He was so touched by her hurt, He says "You don't have to be afraid, you don't have to weep, I got this". And He did.

The God of the Universe did. And so when Jesus comes to us and He says sometimes that we're, you know, what is He saying this to me for? Why are you telling me to have hope in my darkness? Why are you telling me in the midst of when I have lost somebody I love to not worry? Because God says, "I have the last word". "I will bring life out of your darkness." And then when He touches that man and He brings Him back to life, not often, most of the time, Jesus doesn't do this for us, when we lose somebody we love, they're gone. But they're not, they live forever. And Jesus is looking at us and telling us, "you don't have to worry, that forever and ever and ever and ever and ever, I bring life to that person, that I got this". And so when you and I can be in the midst of all of our darkness, all of our lost hope, all of our sadness and Jesus can come to us and be with us and say, "I got this, I got this, I'm going to bring life out of it".

But the only way we will ever get that is when we know that this world isn't home. Again this week I was in Denver, had a fine time, very fast, up and down, but one time we were in the car and someone was talking to me about tragedy, and we all have tragedy in our hearts and in our lives, right? We have all experienced tragedy. And tragedy is always the darkest part of our lives unless we look at it with the eyes of faith. That when we look at things from this prospective only, from this world, things stink, right? You know you can get crazy about who the next president might be, "Oh my gosh, what's happening?" You can get crazy over these things or again you can remember that Jesus wins, no matter what, Jesus wins and that we got to make sure that we are looking at Jesus and not all the garbage. We got to make sure that Jesus says, "I got this, I'm going to win, but you're going to have to trust me" because sometimes the way He wins isn't in this world, right? It's in the forever world.

And again if the only thing this is, is for our time on this earth, then we should just forget about it now. But this is only the first sentence of eternity, our time on earth. That ultimately, you know that poor kid that Christ rose from the dead today, you know he died again. He died. You know again, I often have said, he must have been awful excited, you know most people just have to go through it

once and he had to go through it twice. Thank You Jesus! But the reality is that this world isn't home. We're just passing through and Jesus promises not happiness on this earth, but the eternal happiness and so we have to keep focused on Jesus, no matter what. He notices everything you're going through, He cares about you and everything that you feel and He got it, He will bring life out of it. We got to trust Him. You got it? Get it? Gonna do it? May each of you know His love today and forever, Amen.