

SCC REFLECTION: 8th Sunday Year C. Lk. Fr Donal McIlraith

The Sermon on the Plain



Text: Luke 6:39-45

[39] He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit?

[40] A disciple is not above his teacher, but every one when he is fully taught will be like his teacher.

[41] Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?

[42] Or how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

[43] "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit;

[44] for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.

[45] The good man out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil man out of his evil treasure produces evil; for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Reflection:

1. As disciples, people who follow Jesus, we must take care of our inner, our interior life. We must not be blind, we need to be good teachers with good hearts.
2. When we put the first two together we see that a teacher must be, as St Paul says in Rom 2:19, "a guide to the blind, a light to those in darkness."
3. As regards the specks or splinters, we are being told by Jesus that we must put our own house in order before we can help others.
4. It is from a person of good character that good deeds come. If someone has the divine love in their heart with patience, they will love their neighbor, and, as Jesus, demands, love their enemy also. It is out of a good heart or character that good deeds come. People will judge whether we are good or bad by what we do not what we say.

Next Wed is Ash Wed and so the following Sunday is the First Sun of Lent.

Scripture, Temptation in the Desert: Luke 4:1-13.

Luke:4

- [1] And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit
- [2] for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing in those days; and when they were ended, he was hungry.
- [3] The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."
- [4] And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'"
- [5] And the devil took him up, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time,
- [6] and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory; for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will.
- [7] If you, then, will worship me, it shall all be yours."
- [8] And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God,
- and him only shall you serve.'"
- [9] And he took him to Jerusalem, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here;
- [10] for it is written, 'He will give his angels charge of you, to guard you,'
- [11] and 'On their hands they will bear you up,

lest you strike your foot against a stone."

[12] And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'"

[13] And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time