

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
October 15, 2023

Gospel: (Matthew 22:1-10)

Jesus said: “*The Kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. ...The king then said to his servants, ‘The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find’.* The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, and the hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to meet the guests, he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment. The king said, ‘My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment? But he was reduced to silence. Then the king said to his attendants, ‘Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.’ Many are invited, but few are chosen.”

Reflection:

It is incredible that the invited guests could refuse to come to such a significant and lavish banquet! But we are invited to a feast even more lavish and we, too, can fail to see its significance and fail to prepare ourselves. Our everyday living is not inconsequential—even the little things we do are helping us put on our own wedding garment. Our continual conversions from sin prepare us for the feast of heaven. (Living Liturgy, p. 252)

Vincentian Meditation:

“In our calling, we are patterned more closely to Our Lord Jesus Christ, who, it would seem, made it his principal task to assist and care for the poor: “He sent me to preach good news to the poor.” If somebody asked Our Lord, “Why did you come on earth?” He would answer: “To assist the poor...” And so, are we not then the happiest of people to be part of the Mission for the very same reason that moved God to become one of us? —St. Vincent de Paul- (McKenna, Praying with Vincent, p. 54)

Discussion: (*Share your thoughts after a moment of silence*)

How have you come to realize that God has “called and chosen you” to serve the poor?

Closing Prayer:

“Called and chosen” as followers of Jesus, we stand with those struggling to embrace their dignity as children of God. For them we pray,

-God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For those who love without measure, yet feel unloved by others,

-God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For those who give to other, yet are deprived of basic needs.

-God of mercy, hear our prayer.

For those who strive for justice, yet endure persecution for their efforts.

- God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen



Many are called, but few are chosen.

Mt 22:14