

## TENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

June 9, 2024

### Gospel: (Mark 3: 20-35)

His mother and his brothers arrived. Standing outside they sent word to him and called him. A crowd seated around him told him, "Your mother and your brothers and your sisters are outside asking for you." But he said to them in reply, "Who are my mother and my brothers: And looking around at those seated in the circle he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

### Reflection:

To "do the will of God" demands interior detachment as we search to discern what God is asking of us. It means that our mind cannot be already made up so that we are trying to change God's mind and everybody else's. We must be willing to give up control, to step out of our preconceived plans, and to stand in the freedom of accepting a "yes" or a "no". And so we are called to answer the following questions in simplicity and honesty: Am I willing to let go of my prejudices? Am I willing to step outside my preconceived plan? Am I willing to give up control?

### Vincenzian Meditation:

Vincenzian Discernment is a prayerful process through which, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we can come to discover the difference between what is our will and what is the will of God. For St. Vincent, it was important that every decision he made conformed to what he believed to be the will of God. The will of God was indeed his North Star. The prayerful discovery of the will of God in the spirit of Vincent is simple and radical, it demands faith and trust, and it is rooted in honesty and openness to the Spirit in prayer. Discernment is not a democratic voting process- or a decision making process of the head. It demands that we take the journey from our head to our heart—to a listening heart that is rooted in prayer. St. Vincent knew that discernment demands our mind and our heart. For it is true, that it is only when we have critical minds and listening hearts, that the Spirit can lead us from the contract of decision making, to the covenant of discernment. And there is a radical difference between a contract, which is rooted in the head, and a covenant, which is rooted in the heart. (Fr. Hugh O'Donnell, CM)

### Discussion: (*Share your thoughts on the readings after a moment of silence*)

**In our Conference how do we prayerfully discern the will of God?**

### Closing Prayer:

Jesus, give us the grace of discernment in the spirit of St. Vincent,  
**so that we can be willing to give up control and step out of our preconceived plans.**

Jesus, give us the grace to take the journey from our head to our heart,  
**so that we will have critical minds and listening hearts.**  
**Amen**

