

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 16, 2025

Gospel: (Luke 6:17,20-26)

Jesus raising his eyes toward his disciples said: *“Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven. For their ancestors treated the prophets in the same way. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will grieve and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way.”*

Reflection:

The blessing is Jesus who stands on level ground with the poor, hungry, weeping outcasts. Jesus is an epiphany of God’s presence among all those who had been excluded. The gospel also indicates the decisiveness of choice: blessing or woe. There are two paths in life one can follow, and either one is with Jesus or against Jesus. The lure is to be consoled *now*, have our fill *now*, laugh *now*, be respected *now*. Jesus is showing another way: our condition now doesn’t matter so long as we trust and hope in the Lord *now*. Blessedness isn’t a matter of social status, satisfaction, possessions, respect, etc; it is a matter of keeping our own eyes glued on Jesus. (Living Liturgy, p.58)

Vincentian Meditation:

The heart of Jesus’ preaching is the Beatitudes. They speak of basic attitudes of being and dispositions in life. Vincentians are Beatitude people; they opt for the Beatitudes that confront them with decisive choices concerning earthly goods. The Beatitudes purify their hearts in order to teach them to love God above all things. Vincentians understand Pope John Paul II’s words: *“The Beatitudes are a call to action.”* (US Manual of the SSVDP, p.20)

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

Which Beatitude speaks most to your heart?

Closing Prayer:

For the grace to know the grace of being poor and hungry,

-O God, teach us the Beatitudes.

For the grace to know the grace of weeping and laughter,

-O God, teach us the Beatitudes.

For the grace to choose blessing and not woe,

-O God, teach us the Beatitudes.

For the grace to be true Vincentians,

-O God, teach us the Beatitudes.

Amen



*“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.”*

Lk 6:20