

LIVING FAITH

FEBRUARY 12, 2017
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S

Matthew 5:17-37

For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

Unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven...



REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

"Haven't I done enough? What more do they want?" Do these words sound familiar to you? When you hear today's Gospel, imagine yourself saying to Jesus, "Haven't I done enough?" And, in your heart, hear the voice of Jesus saying to you... "Always go the extra mile. Always err on the side of being generous." For Jesus, it is never enough to follow the letter of the law; it is important to look for the heart. It is in the heart that Jesus dwells. Followers of Jesus must ask themselves the questions: "Can I ever be *too* loving? Is it possible to be *too* just? Am I *too* kind? Can I be *too* compassionate? Might I be *too* merciful here? Am I being *too* hopeful?" And in your heart, hear Jesus answer, "My beloved, it is not possible to be too loving, too just, too merciful, too kind, too compassionate, too hopeful. For it is I who am Love. I am Justice for the oppressed. I am Kind. I am Gentle. I am Mercy. I am Compassion. I am your Hope."

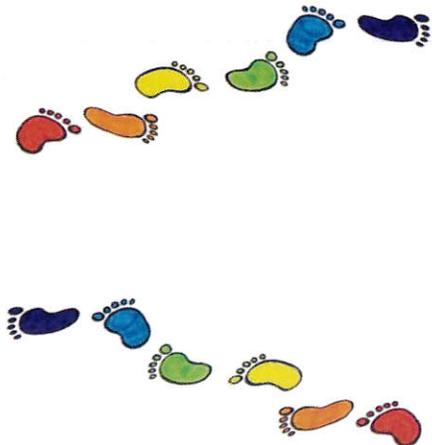
Today, Jesus tells us to go the extra mile. Do the extra chore. Do another loving action. So long as you do it for another, especially the least among us, you do it for Him.

Visit www.rcsj.org

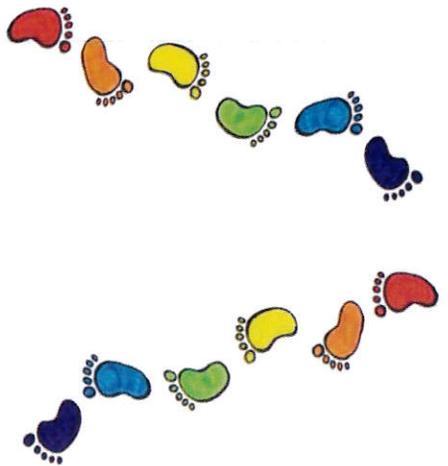
GOING THE EXTRA MILE

How can you practice “going the extra mile” this week?
 Think about some of the situations that ordinarily come up through the week,
 and see if you can plan to go the extra mile...

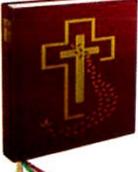
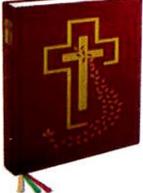
SITUATION	HOW I CAN GO THE EXTRA MILE ON THIS ONE	HOW IT WORKED OUT



do more than belong
 — PARTICIPATE —
do more than care
 — HELP —
do more than believe
 — PRACTICE —
do more than be fair
 — BE KIND —
do more than forgive
 — FORGET —
do more than dream
 — WORK —
(William Arthur Ward)



YOU ASKED... The LITURGY OF THE WORD at Mass

	<p>FIRST READING</p> <p>The First Reading is taken from the Old Testament, except during Easter Season, when the reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles.</p>
	<p>PSALM</p> <p>This is from the Book of Psalms in the Old Testament, and is usually sung, with the Assembly joining in a refrain and a cantor singing the verses.</p>
	<p>SECOND READING</p> <p>The Second Reading is taken from the New Testaments, usually from one of the Letters of Paul or one of the other letters, or from the Book of Revelation.</p>
	<p>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION</p> <p>The Assembly praises Christ's presence in the Word. This is sung; if it is not sung, it is omitted. The verses comes from Scripture and the refrain is usually "Alleluia," except in Lent, when "Alleluia" is not sung. Then, the refrain is usually another acclamation of praise.</p>
	<p>GOSPEL</p> <p>There is a three-year cycle of readings: Year A—Matthew's Gospel Year B—Mark's Gospel Year C—Luke's Gospel In Easter Season, John's Gospel is proclaimed</p>
	<p>HOMILY</p> <p>The Homily is a commentary on the Scriptural readings for the day, making links to the everyday lives of the listeners.</p>
	<p>APOSTLES' CREED</p> <p>Sometimes referred to as "the baptismal Symbol" of the Roman Catholic Church, through the Apostles' Creed we profess our faith and thus renew our Baptismal commitment.</p>
	<p>GENERAL INTERCESSIONS</p> <p>The intercessions are short prayers of petition. After each petition, the Assembly responds by saying, "Lord, hear our prayer" or similar words.</p>

Meeting Needs In the Community



The Gathering Place is committed to finding new and creative ways to meet the needs of people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless, to promote equality and to provide nourishment for those seeking respite from poverty and isolation. Plans for broadening the programs and services include:

Weekly breakfast program

Providing space and opportunity for an Identification Clinic for guests (many people are transient and don't have adequate identification or a place to store their documents)

Establishing a message center for guests who have no fixed address

Developing an Emergency Preparedness kit

Facilitating access to a warming centre in times of power loss

Providing structured programs in health and wellness, literacy and computer skills

Extension of hours of operation to accommodate the needs of guests and use as a Warming Centre

With the support of the City of St. John's, the Gathering Place will serve as a Community Warming Centre and be available to all citizens of St. John's during extended power outages. The auxiliary power generating system will heat 23,000 square feet of program space and operate the full kitchen as required.

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