

livingtheword

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Hearing and Living the Sunday Readings

Reading I

[Is 62:1-5](#)

For Zion's sake I will not be silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her vindication shines forth like the dawn
and her victory like a burning torch.

Nations shall behold your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
you shall be called by a new name
pronounced by the mouth of the LORD.
You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of
the LORD, a royal diadem held by your God.
No more shall people call you "Forsaken,"
or your land "Desolate,"
but you shall be called "My Delight,"
and your land "Espoused."
For the LORD delights in you
and makes your land his spouse.

As a young man marries a virgin,
your Builder shall marry you;
and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride
so shall your God rejoice in you.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10](#)

Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations.

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all you lands.
Sing to the LORD; bless his name.

Announce his salvation, day after day.
Tell his glory among the nations;
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

Give to the LORD, you families of nations,
give to the LORD glory and praise;
give to the LORD the glory due his name!

Worship the LORD in holy attire.
Tremble before him, all the earth;
Say among the nations: The LORD is king.
He governs the peoples with equity.

Reading II

[1 Cor 12:4-11](#)

Brothers and sisters:

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but
the same Spirit; there are different forms of
service but the same Lord; there are different
workings but the same God who produces all
of them in everyone.

To each individual the manifestation of the
Spirit is given for some benefit.

To one is given through the Spirit the
expression of wisdom;

to another, the expression of knowledge
according to the

same Spirit;

to another, faith by the same Spirit;

to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit;

to another, mighty deeds;

to another, prophecy;

to another, discernment of spirits;

to another, varieties of tongues;

to another, interpretation of tongues.

But one and the same Spirit produces all of
these, distributing them individually to each
person as he wishes.

Gospel

[Jn 2:1-11](#)

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water."

So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from — although the servers who had drawn the water knew —, the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

Reflection Questions

- What word, phrase or idea struck you in the readings? (circle or underline them)
- What do you think God is trying to say to you personally through these words?
- Isaiah is writing in hope knowing God will bring Israel back from exile and bring about a complete restoration. This is summarised in God giving Israel a new name. From 'Forsaken' to 'My Delight'. What thoughts and feelings are stirred up in you if you knew this message was God speaking personally to you? Do you need to move from self condemning thoughts to rejoicing thoughts? Imagine God wanting to dance and rejoice with you as if in a marriage dance. What are your feelings.....
- St Paul is concerned about people in the Corinthian community who consider only Christians who have the gift of tongues have great spiritual powers. Self righteous people have hurt others in the community. St Paul wants to heal the community and remind people there are many gifts - (and he places tongues last!). What gifts have you noticed within you? What gifts would you like to pray for and offer at the Church's service?
- Mary encouraged her son Jesus into ministry. But Jesus reminds 'this woman' his 'hour' is something deeply personal and between him and the Father. Have you reached a point in life when your 'hour' is near to commit to a public witness of your faith, to ministry, single life, marriage, religious life, priesthood? Will you listen to the Father?
- 'They have no wine' is a reflection on the water jars which were used for purification. The striving for cleanliness, to be 'clean' and not 'unclean'. It was strict. It was hard work being in right relations with God. There was no joy - no wine. Water is replaced with wine which is replaced with Christ's blood on the cross. In Christ's blood are we 'clean'.
- The Jewish people had a prophecy that when the Messiah came there would be an abundance of great wine. Jesus' first public 'sign' is to give \$15,000 of the best wine at the wedding. What does this reveal? Do you 'believe'?
- What is one action that you will do to 'livetheword' this week?