

Homily

Wednesday of the Second Week in OT

January 19, 2022

Violence is not the answer! It is never okay to solve our personal problems with violence! I just want to stress that up front. Violence is bad. Violence is wrong. Got it? Okay.

Now, with that said, who likes to watch a movie or tv show with a good fight scene? I'm a fan of the Rocky movies and comic book shows like Arrow and Daredevil. I also like karate and kung fu shows like Cobra Kai and Enter the Dragon. They have some great fight scenes. They are fun because of the action, mostly because it shows the fight between good and evil. The good guy doesn't always win at first, but always comes out on top in the end.

But as I said before: violence is not the answer.

Today we hear the famous story of David and Goliath. It's famous not only because it's a good bible story, but it is a great underdog story of the little guy taking on and defeating the big guy. We often use the phrase "David and Goliath" to describe just that – the underdog taking on the overwhelming.

But as we listen to the rest of the story, we hear more about how David approaches this fight and why. Yes, this is the little guy going against the big guy. But it's much more than that. David was anointed. David was selected by God who told Samuel to anoint David. David was the youngest of eight boys. None of his brothers were chosen, only David.

We are all chosen, each one of us. By our baptism we have become members of the Body of Christ, a family of brothers and sisters, adopted by God our Father.

David proved himself brave as he served his father in the pastures tending sheep and fighting off wild animals. And David proved himself skilled as he served Saul. But most of all, David was a faithful servant of God; he loved our Lord.

We prove ourselves everyday as we choose right over wrong, good over bad, God over evil.

David heard what Goliath was saying about Israel, the insults against God, our God. David was loyal to God. David saw Goliath as an animal like the animals that attacked the sheep he protected in the field. And he heard of the reward for the one who would defeat this warrior. Whoever kills Goliath will marry the king's daughter, become very wealthy and be declared exempt from taxes. If he lost to Goliath, all of Israel would become slaves. Staying alive and these rewards were very motivating.

What is our reward? We store up treasures in heaven when we do good works. We make Jesus and all the angels and saints smile when we are good. That is a choice we make every day. So, we remember to make good choices that make God and all of heaven smile.