

Homily

Tuesday of the 4th week in OT

February 1, 2022

Do you trust me?

Those of you who know me may have mixed feelings about this question. Some of you may trust me in small matters, but not those bigger issues. Those of you who don't know me would be foolish to blindly trust me. Even if you consider my ordination or the fact that Fr. Jason trusted me to preach today, you wouldn't have any reason to trust me without some experience where I could prove my trustworthiness.

Trust is earned. Trust is developed. It is based on our ability to be true to our word and follow through on our promises. It takes time to build trust. It requires effective communication skills. And even if you trust me, I may let you down. I'm not perfect; just ask my wife.

The people surrounding Jesus in today's Gospel trusted Jesus. They had faith. Jesus had been true to his Word. He had followed through on His promises.

But even then, their faith, their trust in Jesus wasn't perfect.

Jairus, the synagogue official, trusted Jesus to heal his little girl, to save her from dying. And when she died before Jesus could get there, they ridiculed Him; they were skeptical. Their faith was lacking. And when Jesus did heal the child, they were astounded.

How is your faith? How is your trust in the Lord?

The woman afflicted with hemorrhages had faith; she trusted she would be healed if only she touched the garment of Jesus. When she did, she was healed. But when Jesus sought her out, she was afraid. Her faith, her trust in Jesus wasn't perfect; she approached Jesus in fear and trembled. Then she experienced the compassion and love of Jesus as He told her that her faith had cured her.

How is your faith? How is your trust in the Lord?

Every day, we experience challenges in our busy lives; we confront difficult situations and encounter tough choices. Do we come to the Lord? Do we trust in our Savior? We come to Mass to be encouraged by His Word and nourished by His Body & Blood. But do we trust Him?

Jesus gives us everything we need to survive this world and get to our heavenly reward. Do we follow His commands? Do we trust Him?

Jesus tells us to love Him and each other. Do we consider this in everything we say and do? Do we trust Him?

The response to today's psalm, "Listen, Lord, and answer me," gives us a clue. When we pray, we are laying our needs and desires at the feet of our Lord. He wants us to depend on Him; when we do, He will take care of us. He will bring us home.