

Homily
Feast of Sts. Marcellinus, priest and Peter, exorcist
June 2, 2023

Jesus wants to be one with us, craves to be one with us. Can you imagine that kind of craving? What do we crave so much that we want to become one with? Do we crave our wives that much, our husbands? Do we crave our children that much? Do we crave our favorite team that much? That favorite sandwich or meal? Do we crave that time on the golf course or on the lake with a beer and fishing pole? What do we crave that much?

I find it difficult to imagine that level of craving. Then again, I'm only human, a finite creature, failed and imperfect, and Jesus is, well, God of the Universe, infinite, all powerful, all knowing, all loving; perfect.

Jesus knows that we must all travel this world, our pilgrimage, until we can finally meet Him face to face. Jesus knows that we will struggle along this journey. And He asks His father to protect us from the evil one and He asks His father that we may be consecrated to the truth.

What truth? Jesus prays to His father that we be consecrated to the truth that His word is truth. Jesus is truth! We receive Jesus, we receive truth, in the word proclaimed and in the Sacrament we are all about to receive. We become one with Jesus as He craves to be one with us.

Today we celebrate the Feast of Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, 4th Century martyrs mostly unknown, except for the conversion of their executioner. They knew the truth. They rejoiced in the truth. They gladly laid down their life for the truth.

Do we crave the truth? Our cravings for the material goods of this world are not bad in and of themselves. But, do we crave them in place of the better craving? The best craving? Do we want to be one with Jesus as much as we want to be one with the world?

Today we are called to remember the best craving and we try to maybe crave the things of this world a little less to make room for the God of the Universe Who craves us with the perfect love.