

# [61] SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

## FIRST READING

You will be a glorious crown in the hands of your God.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

62: 1-3

**J**erusalem, I will speak up for your good.

I will never be silent till you are safe and secure,  
sparkling like a flame.

Your great victory will be seen by every nation and king,  
and the Lord will give you a new name.

You will be a glorious crown and a royal headband  
in the hands of the Lord your God.

The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a

*R. (3) Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.*

Sing a new song to the Lord!

Everyone on this earth,  
sing praises to the Lord,  
sing and praise his name.

*R. Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.*

Day after day announce,  
"The Lord has saved us!"  
Tell every nation on earth,  
"The Lord is wonderful  
and does marvelous things!"

*R. Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.*

Tell everyone of every nation,  
"Praise the glorious power  
of the Lord."  
He is wonderful! Praise him!

*R. Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.*

## SECOND READING

There is one and the same Spirit giving to each as the Spirit wills.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

12:4-11

**B**rothers and sisters:

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts,  
but they all come from the same Spirit.  
There are different ways to serve the same Lord,  
and we can each do different things.  
Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do.

The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others.  
Some of us can speak with wisdom,  
while others can speak with knowledge,  
but these gifts come from the same Spirit.

To others the Spirit has given great faith  
or the power to heal the sick  
or the power to work mighty miracles.

Some of us are prophets,  
and some of us recognize when God's Spirit is present.  
Others can speak different kinds of languages,  
and still others can tell what these languages mean.

But it is the Spirit who does all this  
and decides which gifts to give to each of us.

The word of the Lord.

## ALLELUIA

See 2 Thessalonians 2:14

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

God has called us with the gospel,  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

## GOSPEL

The first of the signs given by Jesus was at Cana in Galilee.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to John

2:1-12

**M**ary, the mother of Jesus,  
was at a wedding feast in the village of Cana in Galilee.  
Jesus and his disciples had also been invited and were there.

When the wine was all gone, Mary said to Jesus,  
“They don’t have any more wine.”

Jesus replied, “Mother, my time has not yet come!  
You must not tell me what to do.”

Mary then said to the servants,  
“Do whatever Jesus tells you to do.”

At the feast there were six stone water jars  
that were used by the people for washing themselves  
in the way that their religion said they must.  
Each jar held about twenty or thirty gallons.  
Jesus told the servants to fill them to the top with water.  
Then after the jars had been filled, he said,  
“Now take some water  
and give it to the man in charge of the feast.”

The servants did as Jesus told them,  
and the man in charge drank some of the water  
that had now turned into wine.  
He did not know where the wine had come from,  
but the servants did.  
He called the bridegroom over and said,  
“The best wine is always served first.  
Then after the guests have had plenty,  
the other wine is served.  
But you have kept the best until last!”

This was Jesus’ first miracle,  
and he did it in the village of Cana in Galilee.  
There Jesus showed his glory,  
and his disciples put their faith in him.  
After this, he went with his mother, his brothers,  
and his disciples to the town of Capernaum,  
where they stayed for a few days.

The gospel of the Lord.

## Second Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle C

The Week of Christian Unity begins on January 18 through 25.  
THEME: He even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak. Mark 7:37  
(More to be shared next week)

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, We love to sing and pray about your love for us and for all of Creation. Thank you for all the good gifts we have to share because you have called us by name to be one in You. AMEN.

**Readings:** Isaiah 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10; 1 Cor. 12:4-11; John 2:1-11

**Reflection:** At some point, mention to the children the tradition of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It begins this week and runs through January 25<sup>th</sup>. We will discuss it more next week.

In today's gospel, John tells of the first sign Jesus performs revealing his power and mission. It is appropriate that it is a wedding feast. It is not performed in a synagogue but within the context of a family setting where love brings all people together. Jesus is invited to perform the special favor at his mother's request so that the bride and groom will not be embarrassed. Mary knows Jesus will do "whatever" is necessary to make the situation right. Love is the operative dynamic. A marriage is used in the Hebrew (Old Testament) Scriptures as a symbol of God's love for God's people. Jesus, too, builds on this most basic expression of love. Love is the UNITY all Christians seek in Jesus Christ—it is Jesus' gift to the world.

Jesus' loving sign—changing the water to choice wine—makes a difference. It is a simple and unassuming gesture. Each of us has been invited by God to be the simple, yet powerful, instruments of love to change the world. It is the simple every day gestures of love, care, peace and joy that makes "whatever" we are doing better. To think that we have what it takes to make a difference! Now that is a worthy New Year's Resolution: MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH YOUR ACTIONS OF LOVE.

What would happen if we considered this new year as the beginning of a new relationship with God, something like a wedding? How would the world change if each one of us took hold of even one of the marvelous gifts/fruits that we have been given by the Spirit? The same Spirit, the same Lord, the same God works in us. What gifts/fruits do we have that can be shared with others to make the world a better place?

**Activities:** Talk about how and why 'spiritual gifts/fruits' (See list at the end of this session) bring out the best in a person and always are "given for some benefit" of others. The Letter to the Corinthians lists gifts: wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing powers, the ability to perform mighty deeds, prophecy, discernment of spirits, tongues and their interpretation most often associated with Confirmation. But 'every good gift comes from heaven above' for all of us to enjoy.

Have ready a drawing/picture of a large jar for each child—or if you choose, one large jar picture for the group to use. Under the jar, write the words: "Make a difference." From the list of "spiritual gifts/fruits" choose one and talk about how the children can live it in practical ways during the week. Place the 'gift word' in the jar. Choose another word and continue

*(continued on page 2)*

until the jar is full of 'good gifts' that the children will use to 'make a difference' during the week.

**To Conclude the Session:** The gospel story of this miracle of changing water into choice wine at the wedding feast reminds us of these facts: Jesus responds with a good deed when invited; Jesus shows what can happen when someone believes in us; Jesus shows us we are to serve one another when we can. Talk about ways we can invite each other to do our best and bring out the best in each other during the coming week.

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, We have been given the gift of being Baptized in your Name. It is a gift to be a member of your Body, the Church. Help us to be one with our other Christian brothers and sisters in your Love. Help us to serve you by learning to share your gift of love with others. AMEN.

### **The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit**

**Catechism of the Catholic Church: # 1830** The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

**#1831** The seven *gifts* of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

**# 1832** The *fruits* of the Spirit are perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory. The tradition of the Church lists twelve of them: "charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity."

#### **The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

1. Wisdom
2. Understanding
3. Right Judgement
4. Courage
5. Knowledge
6. Reverence
7. Wonder and awe in God's presence

#### **The Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit**

1. Charity
2. Joy
3. Peace
4. Patience
5. Kindness
6. Goodness
7. Generosity
8. Gentleness
9. Faithfulness
10. Modesty
11. Self Control
12. Chastity