

Thought for the week
25th Sunday of the Year (B)
23rd September 2018

Today's Gospel is another that we have heard so often that the message can sometimes be forgotten. We may not argue amongst ourselves in the same way that the disciples did on the road to Capernaum, but how often do we put ourselves above others, normally with the sole intention of making ourselves feel better? How often do we think of others before ourselves?

As someone in his twenties, with no big responsibilities such as children to look after, or a mortgage to maintain, it is pretty easy for me to just think of myself and not worry about anyone or anything else; not be as selfless as I perhaps should be. How many of us can claim to be thinking of others all the time? As Christians, we have a clear message from Jesus to put others before ourselves and to love one another. Although it is hard at times, I believe that as humans we also have an innate desire to want what is best for each other; look at the outpouring of good will whenever there is a natural disaster or for the refugees who flee from war.

In this journey through life, we occasionally need to be reminded to think of others; to put their needs before our own. Even if we just do it for this week thanks to the Gospel, why not let that be at the forefront of our minds?

If I may paraphrase what, I am sure, all of us were taught as children,

“It is better to give than to receive — and when we reach life's finishing line: it is not about the winning; it is about the taking part!”

A Parishioner