

Thought for the week
27th January 2019
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

When reading this week's liturgy with a view to writing this thought, I was drawn to the second reading from Corinthians 12:12-31. Unfortunately, I found a number of avenues of thought and I struggled to decide where to focus.

We are asked to recognise that, like our own body, the body of the Church is one whole made up from different individual parts. We are also called to recognise that the very differences between the parts are crucial to the successful operation of the whole. We benefit from both eyes to see and ears to hear.

We are also called to recognise that each part has importance and no one part of the body is favoured over the other parts. All are of equal importance to the whole, even if some are plentiful and others are rare.

I was eventually reminded of the game 'beetle' where the winning player is the first to construct a plastic insect, driven by the random rolls of a dice. This achievement will require one body, one head, six legs, two wings, two eyes, two antennae.

Normally a player can only commence after the roll of a 6, for the body. As a result, this one part may seem more "valuable" than the other pieces. The more numerous parts may in some way seem less important, after all it is 'easier' to get a leg.

In the end though, in order to succeed every individual part is needed. Every part is important. There is nothing more frustrating then, than discovering that one little plastic leg is missing, and the beetle cannot be finished.

Maybe we can each be persuaded to look again at our own place in the body of the Church and what we can bring to it, so that we are not that little missing leg.

A Parishioner