

TRINITY NEWS

Pentecost X For the Love of a Child

From the Wise of all the years who look into human hearts and minds and tell us what they see and hear:

Don't project your thoughts and perceptions about other people onto them. Consciously reject such projections as soon as they become conscious whispers in your mind's perception. This is especially so when you are in their presence. It is a form of judgement and it will rebound on you. Projections convey dislike, perceived dislike provokes reaction, and in the unstable, it draws hatred. Consciously rejecting negative projections that may get transformed into judgements protects our heart and the hearts of others before any damage occurs. Children sense projected rejection before it comes to the surface in expressions. They are also great monitors of love. Even a child blind from birth smiles in the direction of the mother. Perhaps this is why Jesus says that children point the way towards the Reign of God: they sense where deep love is to be found.

Look at the story in Mathew 15:21-28 and Mark 7:24-30 about the Syro-phoenician woman and her fears for her tormented daughter. She comes shouting after Jesus. She calls him "Lord, Son of David". Jesus' disciples want him to reject her because in effect she is also pleading with them. She defies their negative projections and the implied rejections of Jesus to her pleas. She is a foreigner and a woman, but bravely she does not give up. We recall her words every time we say, "We do not presume to come to your table..." in the Eucharist. The Greek text in Marks' account of this encounter indicates that Jesus sensed in her persistence the unassailable "word" (*logos*) and the sure expectation of God's compassion given voice in the Gospel (Mark 7:29). The daughter is healed instantly. What had she said to her mother beforehand and how did the mother know about Jesus as the "Son of David"? Now that she is healed what would the mother say in explanation to her when she finds her lying calm in bed (Mark 7:30)? The love of the mother for her daughter prevails and the breadth of God's compassion is underlined. The quality of a person's character is displayed in part by the way in which they treat children. We are all God's children at whatever age. No one is excluded if they have "ears to hear" and the will to seek and accept.

YOUTH SUNDAY.

The objective of Youth Sunday is to enable our youth (teens and tweens) to have the opportunity to serve our God in our church. It is one way of thanking Him for all the blessings He has given them. It is also a way of showing that they are part of our church family.

We would like to encourage all our teens and tweens who are interested in being in our roster of acolytes, ushers, readers and bread & wine bearers for our future Youth Sunday to sign up in the Parish Office or look for Delia Yu/Skeeter Dagas in the 7:30/9:30 a.m services respectively.

THIS WEEK:

Monday, August 18.

- *Finance Meeting, 5:30pm, Parish Office*
- *Vestry Meeting, 6:30pm, Rectory*

Wednesday, August 20.

- *Bible study, 10:00am*
- *Group discussion, 7:30pm Parish Hall.*

Thursday, August 21.

SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY. OFFICE CLOSED.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138
Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20