

Do whatever *He* tells you

It is not good to be alone. With these words we begin our annual reflection on ministry, relationship and caring love. We daringly remember that in truth we are all one flesh bearing the hope and struggle, life and spirit of one another in every place, all made in God's image breathing the very breath of our loving creator.

During these days we long for the spirit of wisdom to hold and change us, to renew our vision, restore our church and sustain us in faith, hope and love.

We hear again the cry of too many children, some still young and others whose faces are wrinkled with pain and struggle as we dare to remember that it is not good that they remain alone. We hear Jesus, with a troubled voice, speak words which echo through the generations, "Let the children come, do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

We hear God calling us to ministry, relationship and caring love, yet cannot forget how hard it is these days to find our way to the dwelling place of God. We see, hear and feel "what is lacking" in so many ways, both in others and in ourselves. Yet we still remember that it is not good to be alone and we choose not to go away, as we dare to pray and plead that the spirit of wisdom will come to us and to the whole Church. We still "believe in Him."

We remember that God's call today is living, effective and sharp, penetrating between soul and spirit, bone and marrow, "able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart" so much so that everything is exposed to the one "to whom we must render an account." Do we not feel the truth of those words?

It is not good to be alone! Jesus begins his ministry at a wedding Feast in Cana of Galilee. Still, as then, the "water jars" of need and longing, disappointment, hurt and loss are filled, waiting for a new transforming spirit, a caring generosity, and a loving heart. Water jars waiting to be transformed by those who "believe in Him," choosing to hope, to give, and to follow the one whose voice echoes through the generations. Water waiting to be changed into a new wine of compassion, justice and joy to sustain us, our Diocese and the whole world in faith, hope and love. Waiting so that the cup of our plenty will be poured out and shared and the bread of our life will be broken and given. Let the words of Mary, mother of our Lord, sustain us as we wait and prepare again to offer our gift:



"DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU."

Fr Ed,

