



Blessed Trinity Catholic Community+ Spirit of Christ Mission  
Twenty-eighth Sunday Autumn Ordinary Time,  
October 10, 2021

**Diocese of Helena ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL Introduction**

Wisdom 7:7-11; Psalm 90:13=13, 14-15, 16-17; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30

Homily ~ Fr. Ed Hislop

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Again we meet Jesus setting out on a journey...

We gather today, with all the parishes of our Diocese and indeed our world, longing, we hope, for a deeper sense of care, a genuine spirit of service, and new spirit of wisdom. Care, service and wisdom, in the truth that the journey Christ sets us on, is always is a way forward: a “way” realized when we embrace the truth that God makes all things new, always leading us forward, and never backward to another age or time.

God makes all things new when our eyes are opened to the needs of our brothers and sisters, when we are inspired to comfort those who labor and are burdened. God “inspires, provokes and guides” new vision when together we serve all people truly, after the example and command of Christ. God “accompanies us in a thousand ways” when we choose to live and “do this,” and make our way see in memory of his Son. God makes all things new when we, as a merciful Church, stand as a living witness to truth and freedom, peace and justice, so that all people may be raised up to a new hope.

(Adapted from Eucharistic Prayer: Jesus Who Went About Doing Good.)

The man meeting Jesus while on a journey today could be anyone of us. He seems to be seeking something new in his life, a new vision or perhaps simply a renewed sense of home.

“*What must I do?*” What must we do? How do faith and action, needs and gifts connect with life—my life, the life of others? The life of this faith community? The life of our Diocesan Church?

Imagine that you and I, this parish community, are that person encountering Jesus, as he “sets out on a journey.” “*What must we do?*” we dare to ask. Perhaps we are ready to hear him thank us for the great work we are doing, the manner we are living and the faith we are sharing. And indeed we, in this parish, do great work, and ministry! We are generous. But still, like that man, we dare to ask: “*What must we do?*” “Go..., journey through the lives of the many in every sort of need; give for their sake—those who long to hear some “good news.”

“Come with me,” we might hear, “as I journey through the streets of the cities, towns and country-sides. Come with me as I walk the roadways of the Diocese of Helena.” “I will,” Christ says, “accompany you.” See with my eyes and feel with my heart. See the face of a child longing for life and a loving home; look into the eyes of those running from terror and violence seeking a safe haven at our borders, see there your mother, father, sister, brother, or your child.

Gaze into the eyes of the sick awaiting merciful healing, especially the too many today, in this city, needlessly suffering from Covid. Look into the broken hearts of those who struggle to care for them. Feel hope welling up in the young whose lives are a mystery; embrace the aged who long for God’s face. Hear the cries for justice from those forgotten, judged, set aside, kept out, shunned and unwelcomed. Hear what I hear, while on the journey through life; listen to the joy and longing of “the many” of whom you are all a part!

I am on the way. The journey goes on. Will you follow me “for the sake of the Gospel?” “What

must I do?" "What must we do?" *"Let God bring about your sharing."* Trust in the truth of God's wisdom! Give for the sake of others. Embrace truth, which is more valuable than power or wealth. Do not go away sad or grieving over what you are asked to do. For while it may seem impossible for you, it is not for God, who "discerns the reflections and thoughts of the heart."

Let the spirit of wisdom fill your heart and all good things will come to you. You will become new with a *"newness which God himself brings about, and inspires, provokes, guides and accompanies in a thousand ways."* (Pope Francis)

"What must we do?" Look, listen, "give..." Offer a sacrifice of praise. Yes, it is difficult, but "behold, *God makes all things new!*"

As we heard our psalmist sing a few moments ago: *"Let your work be seen by your servants and your glory by your children; and may the gracious care of the Lord our God be ours; prosper the work of our hands for us! Prosper the work of our hands."* "FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE, O LORD, AND WE WILL SING FOR JOY." (Responsorial Psalm 90)

Today, Jesus again invites us to "set out on a journey with him, **"SO, COME, LET US WORSHIP."**

