

TWENTY - EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCT. 11, 020.

Our scripture readings announce today that God is putting on a party to end all parties. We are told that “Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it entered the heart of anyone what God has prepared for those who love Him” and this is a party that doesn’t end.

And secondly, **everyone** is invited to this Heavenly Banquet – The Invitation goes out to the good and the bad – there is nothing exclusive about it. **However**, there is a condition. This is one of those invitations that demands an RSVP. It demands a response. Like a number of people in today’s Gospel who rejected the invitation, we too are free to say, “Yes or No.”

That last line of the Gospel grabs our attention when it says, “**Many are called but few are chosen.**” It is important to remember that it is God who calls, but it is we who choose to answer the call. The bottom line of this parable is not who is invited to fill the banquet hall but who will choose to come and do so wearing the proper attire.

The sign that we have chose to come is that we put on a **wedding garment**. That is, we put on the proper clothe for the occasion- we observe the **dress code!**

What is the “**dress code**” for the **wedding feast of God’s Kingdom?**

First of all, how gifted we are. God not only gives us the invitation and likewise prepares for us the wedding Banquet, but He also gives us the **wedding garment!**

The wedding garment is Christ! At our Baptism a white cloth (dress) covered us – this was a symbol of our being clothed in Christ. As adults we seek to make that symbol a living reality. In other words, we strive to become like Christ in All we do.

That is what St. Paul is telling us in Romans 13/12, “Put on the Lord Jesus Christ.” And in his letter to the Colossians 3/12-14 he tells us, “Put on then, God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another...and over all these virtues, put on **Love!**”

The guest who was thrown out in our parable did not meet the “Dress code.” That should be our number one concern. We cannot take our salvation for granted. As the saying goes “If you or I were arrested for being a Christian would they find enough evidence to convict us?”

The Good News is that your presence here at Mass, which is a foretaste of the Heavenly Banquet, is a sign you are trying to meet the “**Dress code!**”

As you leave here today having been nourished by his word and His Body & Blood, go forth this week and **Be Jesus!**