

HOMILY: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 21st 2019

Introduction

What do Martha and Mary mean to me in today's gospel?- We all need work and prayer in my life. They are not rivals, but allies,- partners, in the work of the Gospel.

Martha and Mary stands for two dimensions inside all of us here. One dimension stands for my desire to achieve, - to work-, to raise a family, - to make a difference. To accomplish something with my life.-- That's the Martha dimension in me. She stands for busyness in my life.

The other need we all have is, which is unique to us human beings,- is my need to pause, - to look where my life is going, - to listen to the Lord in my life. That is the Mary dimension inside of me, - REFLECTIVE. Prayer and reflection is the rudder of the ship to guide my life. - Otherwise, I am like a tree leaf, the wind pushes anywhere.

Another level, where Martha and Mary touch home within me is, my need to work, - to pause, - and pray. We human beings need both. Martha and Mary stand for two kinds of prayer in my life. I can so easily limit prayer, - "to saying my prayers"—the, - Martha side in me, - that I forget my prayer of silent listening to the Lord in my need to have a strong spiritual life in me. My being in the the quiet presence of Christ,- gives me a chance to pull all the separate strands of my life together. – It is like stopping and looking at a road map, to compare where I am, with my eternal destination.

Conclusion

What are we missing, because we are distracted by busyness? -
Where could I stop a moment to make time and space, for really
connecting with the visitor,- whether it be Jesus,- my family,- or a
stranger. The thing that matters , is the meeting.

Picture yourself

.__Standing in line at the grocery checkout-- pray for the
checker/bagger.

-Waiting for the traffic light to turn green, pray for law
enforcement/firefighters especially during these hot days and wild fire
season

-- In the doctor's waiting room, pray for the health of people there,
with you.

--when on a road trip this summer through a town '

Pray for those in houses you see.

Amen.