

The Way To Right Living

I. A LOOK AT THE THREE READINGS

FIRST READING (Prv 9:1-6)

¹Wisdom has built her house, ^{*}she has set up her seven columns;/ She has prepared her **meat**, mixed her **wine**,/yes, she has spread her table./ ³She has sent out her maidservants; she calls ^{*}from the heights out over the city:^{a/} ^{4c}“Let whoever is naive turn in here;/to any who lack sense I say,/ ⁵Come, **eat** of my food,/ and **drink** of the wine I have mixed!/⁶ Forsake foolishness that you may live;^{*} **advance** in the **way of understanding.**”

THE FOCUS: Invitation to Take the Way of Wisdom

COMMENTARY

Wisdom is personified here as a woman of the house who prepares a very sumptuous meal so that people in need can partake of her food, what she has learned from God.

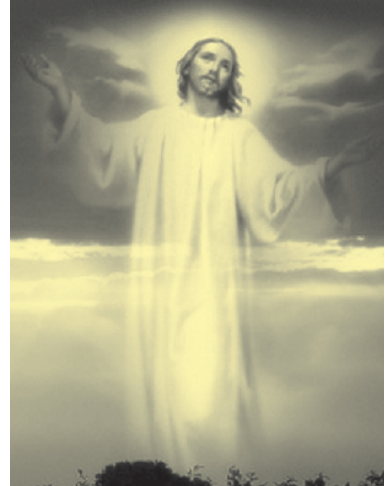
REFLECTIONS

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 34:2-7)

TASTE AND SEE
THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD.

SECOND READING (Eph 5:15-20)

^{15*} ^mWatch carefully then how you **live**, not as foolish persons but as **wise**, ¹⁶making the most of the opportunity, because the days



Eternal Life from this Bread from Heaven

are evil. ¹⁷Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. ¹⁸ⁿAnd do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ^{19o}addressing one another [in] psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts, ^{20p}giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.

THE FOCUS: To Live Wisely

COMMENTARY

The Second Reading picks up the imagery of the banquet but stresses not to get drunk with the wine of the works of the flesh, but be filled with the spiritual ways and values.

REFLECTIONS

GOSPEL READING (Jn 6: 51-58)

^{51a}I am the **living bread** that came down from heaven; whoever eats this **bread** will **live** forever; and the **bread** that I will give is my flesh for the **life** of the world.”

⁵²The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us [his] flesh to eat?” ⁵³Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have **life** within you. ⁵⁴Whoever eats* my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal **life**, and I will raise him on the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true **food**, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. ^{57b}Just as the **living** Father sent me and I have **life** because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have **life** because of me. ⁵⁸This is the **bread** that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this **bread** will **live** forever.”

THE FOCUS: Jesus, the Living Bread, gives Life Eternal

COMMENTARY

The contrast in terms of effect is highlighted here: the manna gave temporary fulfillment of the stomach. Food was essential element to survive. But the bread Jesus offers gives eternal fulfillment. Life everlasting because the one who sent Him is the living Father!

REFLECTIONS

II. TYING THE THREE READINGS TOGETHER TO DEVELOP YOUR HOMILY/SHARING

The First Reading talks about Wisdom preparing a banquet for the attentive to grow in the way of understanding.

The Second Reading stresses the person of the Spirit as one who lives wisely in an evil environment as one follows Jesus.

While the Gospel Reading affirms the basic claim of Jesus: He is the Living Bread that comes down from heaven and whoever partakes of Him will have eternal Life.

Suggestion for your homily or sharing.

Refresh the people’s practice of throwing banquets during fiestas and special occasions. What are the reasons why one throws a party. One of these reasons is thanksgiving. *Eucharistia* means thanksgiving. We have to acknowledge the blessings Jesus has showered to us by celebrating his act of Thanksgiving. In this event, Jesus speaks to us and offers his life for us.

The one who listens to Jesus teaching is a wise person because Jesus gives life, and the wise person opts for life.

As we continue to celebrate the holy eucharist, we hear Jesus word and be nourished by his body and blood thus we become wiser more and more.

End your sharing with an appropriate story that encourages one to act wisely in this world where sometimes it becomes so illogical because it is often driven by profit, power and pleasure.

III. OUR CONTEXT

1. Honest and righteous taxi drivers vs. lazy and choosy taxi drivers.
2. We remember Marriage Counselors and Guidance Counselors in and out of school.
3. Who are the morally credible teachers during this time of fake news?

-Prepared by Bro. Hansel B. Mapayo, SSP