

16 Sunday OT C 2016

July 16-17

Frazeo/Callaway

Homily

Mary, my Mother, I give myself totally to you as your possession and property. Please make of me, of all that I am and have, whatever most pleases you. Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for bringing the greatest possible glory to God. Amen

Sometimes we are not very attentive to God. We want to pray but we don't find the time. We sit to pray with a thousand words, yet our mind never quiets enough to listen. God's voice is like white noise which we get used to, but to which we pay no attention.

Jesus called to Martha twice, *Martha, Martha*. Did she not hear the first time? Did she not hear the love in his voice? Jesus wanted not her ordinary, distracted attention; he wanted her full attention. He wanted to tell her that he wants more for her and from her than simple servitude. He wants to love her and to be loved by her.

When it comes to listening to God's voice, we can be like little children who are called to do something they do not want to do. My sister asked her son to straighten up his room. He ignored her voice. A second time she asked him to clean his room; he threw a little fit and continued with his computer game. A third time she asked him, and he entered into one of the best tantrums ever. After about twenty minutes of screaming and crying, he settled down. My sister asked him to clean his room, and he did. It took him about four minutes.

Some of us, or perhaps all of us at certain times, decide we are not going to listen to God. We can for months, years or even a lifetime evade what we know God desires for us. We simply and positively refuse to accept the better part.

Mary sat at the feet of Jesus. She listened to him. She chose the better part. What better description is there for prayer? To sit at the feet of Jesus. To listen to him.

To allow his will to saturate our freedom so completely that it becomes our will.

It is a challenge to remember that God's will for us is a better choice. It is a better part than what we would choose for ourselves or accomplish on our own.

Moses knew what we struggle to know:

God's will is not too mysterious or remote

It is not up in the sky

Nor across the sea

No, it is something very near to you,

Already in your mouths and in your hearts.

Jesus is calling your name. Do you hear the love in his voice? Sit at his feet and listen.