

Homily: The 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time August 11<sup>th</sup> 2019

TITLE: FAITH is not a NOUN. It is a VERB.

## INTRODUCTION

Faith is a gift from God to me, to help me navigate my life. If I live my life excluding God my journey of life on this earth is meaningless, especially when times are difficult for me. Remember we all have an exit date.

In today's busy world where most of us live in the fast lane, without realizing it, we hear a lot about Mindfulness, in my life,- having my mind and body in sync,-moving as a unit together, in my living.- Too often my mind says one thing, my body, something else. This can be another word, for what Jesus is calling me to do today:- to slow down,- be aware,- truly listen,- discern,- because what appears in my life, to be true, is not always,- because of so much superficiality. Look for God in all people, and in all things,- and thus be able to truly respond to my own needs, and the needs of others ,- in a loving,- caring,- responsible,- just way.

As well as being vigilant, Jesus asks me 'always be dressed for action'.

In today's gospel parable the Master has gone away and left an administrator in charge. - In the first scene of this gospel, the administrator faithfully does his duty.

In the second scene, the administrator abuses his authority, strikes the servants, and for this, upon the unexpected return of the Master, he is punished.

This kind of scene well describes much of what we see in our world today: - governments and others in authority, including in the Church, who through the corrupt and irresponsible use of their position cause violence, - injustice, - poverty and suffering. God has placed each one of us here in care for God's household, - God's creation. In today's gospel, I am invited by God, to ask myself, how answerable I am, in the administration of that which He has entrusted to my care.

We all know a person of faith through their good works! This is an invitation by God to me today, in the gospel, to give alms to the poor, in God's name.

Pope Francis tells us , - almsgiving is not just about giving money, but is a gesture of love and mercy by me , -about my being attentive to the person asking for my help, - being able to look that person in the eye, - stop to talk, - understand what the person really needs, - give freely, - without grudging, -or expecting reward.

## CONCLUSION

May God give us the grace to live our lives as a journey of faith, - to be mindful and attentive always , - to see God in every

person I meet, and in every circumstance of life, even in those which seem difficult,- and be ready to respond with faith,- with love,-and with service.

AMEN.