

Fr. General Arturo Sosa, S.J.
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Homily
Ambikapur (India)
February 26, 2017

Today`s readings show us who and how God is and invite us to accept God`s proposal of how to be human beings.

God is faithful, true to his word. The prophet Isaiah uses a beautiful image: even if a mother should forget her infant, *I will never forget you*. Faithful to His word, God sent his son, just to be with us, to give his life for us. Moreover, He named him *Emmanuel*, that is, God-with-us. He is a God who promises to be with us every day until the end of history. In addition, he gives us the Holy Spirit to inspire our life`s journey.

Therefore, there is no doubt about God`s engagement with human beings and human history. He will not change his mind. He invites us, each one of us, and the Society we establish to be *servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God*. The only condition is to be found trustworthy.

That means to serve only one master and to seek first the Kingdom of God and his justice, every other thing being secondary. It seems easy, but we know very well, that it is not so easy. Which of us really does not worry about life, about what to eat, drink, and wear? Which of us remains idle waiting for God to bring us our daily bread and clothes? Is God inviting us to be irresponsible? Does God want us to be lazy people waiting for others to support us?

The Lord cannot deny himself. He sent his disciples to work, to be active in building human life... Jesus himself was a hard worker all his life, initially as a carpenter and then as a preacher. He learnt from his Father never to stop working (John 5, 17). St. Paul says that people regard us as workers, as servants of Christ...

Jesus is teaching us a way of proceeding and what it is that gives depth and sense to our lives. Being in the hands of God, only trusting in Him is the only thing that gives meaning to human life. If we have God and his kingdom as the only goal of our actions, we will establish just relationships and all of us will have something to eat, drink, and wear. If we have God as the only master, human dignity will be fully recognized and nature will be respected as the font of life for all.

Let us pray to the Lord that he gives us the grace of being trustworthy in our service of him, the only one we ought to serve.