



THE NIGERIAN IGBO CATHOLIC COMMUNITY,
SAN JOSE

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year 3. February 17, 2019

Fr James Okafor, Chaplain

“In the liturgy of the Church, God the Father is blessed and adored as the source of all the blessings of creation and salvation with which he has blessed us in his Son....” (Catechism of Catholic Church no. 1110)

We are the Agents of God’s Blessings

The Eucharist we celebrate offers us the great opportunity to share in the richness of God’s blessings. The two main parts of the Eucharistic liturgy (Liturgy of the Word & Liturgy of the Eucharist) prepare us in different ways that are linked together to participate and share in these blessings. The Word of God that is proclaimed and shared among us takes flesh and dwells in us through the Eucharistic presence of body and blood of Christ, the spiritual food that gives us spiritual strength we need in our daily life.

The words of Prophet Jeremiah in the 1st reading remain a great encouragement to us as we continue to reaffirm and strengthen our trust in God through our prayers and worship. Our trust in God as Jeremiah uses the analogy of trees planted beside the waters to describe; carries us through, amidst the storms and struggles of our lives. In the same way, the gospel presents to us Luke’s version of the beatitudes. The blessings that come to God’s people, not because, either that they are poor, hungry, weeping, hated, rich, laughing, are consoled, or are spoken good of, but because they trust in God. When our life lacks this trust in God, then we become most pitiable of all the people as St. Paul describes in the 2nd reading.

The richness of God’s blessing we are privileged to experience and share in this Eucharistic celebration prepares us to become the agents of God’s blessings. God will bless others through us. He wants us to make ourselves available so that we become instruments through which he shares his blessings in the world. Let us remember always that whenever we share God’s given gifts to others, we become God’s gifts to them. We pray that the good Lord will help us to remember and live this out always. Amen.

“You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last....” (John 15: 16).