

Jesus who teaches and heals

One of the central themes the readings of today invite us to reflect is on the ministry of Jesus as our teacher and healer. In the first reading, God promised the people of Israel to give them a prophet that will be like Moses. We know the place of Moses in the history of Israel, especially his role as being the instrument through which God brought the people from slavery in Egypt to Promised Land, though he did not set his feet on the Promised Land. When the works of the prophet did not achieve the hope of God, He sent his own Son Jesus who came as the prophet of the prophets.

The Gospel describes one of the actions of Jesus as the prophet of the prophets. Not only that he taught, but also performed mighty deeds in God's name. He has power over demons and preached with authority and power, that people were amazed. Jesus brought freedom and healing to his people through his mighty power. The Eucharistic celebration offers us the great opportunity to encounter this great teacher and healer.

The readings, the songs, and the prayers during the Mass are different ways Jesus speaks to us and these words if we pay attention to them could be sources of healing to us. Also, these words help us to affirm the presence of God in our lives. This presence gives us the strength to face the challenges of everyday life, especially the anxieties of our daily lives. In addition, the presence of God helps us to know that God has a plan for us and that the Will of God for us will not take us to a place where his grace will not abide with us. Let us pray that God will help us to know always that our Lord Jesus is a loving father who teaches and heals always. Amen.

“For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, plans for your welfare and not for woe, so as to give you a future of hope” (Jeremiah 29:11)