



## **Sixth Sunday in the Ordinary Time**

In the Book of Leviticus in the Old Testament, Moses and Aaron convey in the Law instructions for those unclean having leprosy. They are to dwell outside the camp of the people where they cannot infect others.

Psalm 32 is from the hearts of the people that; "I turn to you in times of trouble, and you will fill me with the joy of salvation." They recognize that real joy comes only from obedience to God. What constitutes obedience to God? St. Paul speaks of this in his letter to the Corinthians. Everything we do in life should be for the glory of God. In this way, we imitate Christ.

The story told in Mark's Gospel today is one of helplessness and overwhelming mercy. Jesus encounters the leper who approaches and begs Him saying; "If you will to do so, you can cure me." Jesus moved with pity, touches him and says; "I do will it. Be cured." Remarkably, Jesus does what no one would until that time ever do, namely touch someone with leprosy. In that time leprosy was thought not only to be a fatal illness but contagious as well.

Jesus shows a New Law. This Law has as its first precepts; love and mercy. It is this new way that Jesus manifests throughout His public ministry by His very life.

May we as His followers set ourselves on the path of love and mercy and there, we too will encounter Christ.

Peace,

*Fr. Robert*