

Pastoral Reflection: 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time- John 2,1-12

Mother's Request

I once asked a mother how it felt to nurse her baby. She answered that she enjoyed feeding her baby, knowing that this made the bond between them stronger. Her baby would prefer to stay attached to her as long as she is allowed - even if the milk is no longer flowing. Such is the beauty of the bond between mother and child. Painters throughout the ages have tried depicting this relationship between Jesus and His mother Mary. I myself have three framed images of the Madonna and Child.

In the Gospel this Sunday we see Mary and Jesus at the wedding feast in Cana. Jesus manifested His power at the request of His mother.. even when He at first felt some hesitation, " My hour has not yet come" (John 2:4). On this occasion, Mary delivered her only sermon, " Do whatever He tells you" (John 2:5) She Knew her Son. She knew what He could do. She had confidence that He would do it.

There was a time when people from our town would course their request through my mother, for me to officiate at a wedding or a funeral mass. They knew I could not refuse her. I knew what it must have been for Jesus when Mary whispered, "They have no wine" (Jn 2:3) .

We are recovering from the effects of the recent Christmas holidays. Take out the decorations. Take out the lights. But let Jesus and Mary remain in our hearts. Let the image of mother and Child be a constant reminder for us of the possibility and reality of love and affection between God and humanity.