

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 21, 2018

Once upon a time, there was a planet where the inhabitants did everything the opposite of earth's ways: when people met, they would say "Goodbye," when they parted; they said "Hello." They called a good job "bad" and vice versa. In times of crisis, instead of being alert, they went to sleep. It was a really strange place.

**"Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all."** Doesn't that statement sound like it came from somewhere other than earth?

We who accept the title "Christian" claim to be the followers of Christ. YET, today's gospel places us in the role of candidates

The call may be clear but the way we are to respond is not always so clear; NOR is it ever always easy.--We may find that in witnessing to the values of the Gospel that we are going against American values. Jesus questioned the values of the society in which he lived and he is asking us to question the values of our own society.

**"Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all."**

It is strange but true: until we make gospel values our normal way of living on planet earth, according to God, we are going to remain inhabitants of a strange world that makes no sense.

Fr. John Nolan