

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 30, 2018

The Lord bestowed some of the spirit that was on Moses on the 72. This did not sit well with Joshua, who from his youth had been an aid to Moses. He said: "My Lord, stop them." Was he trying to control or manage the presence of the Holy Spirit? How about you? How about me?

"The Precepts of the Lord give joy to the Heart." If I keep the Laws of the Lord as in the Ten Commandments and Eight Beatitudes in my thoughts, words and deeds, my soul is refreshed.

When we look at today's gospel according to Mark, we note what John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to prevent him, because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him." There is no one, who performs a mighty deed in my name, who at the same time speaks ill of me. For, whoever is not against us is for us."

How similar is John to Joshua who also –wants to fix, manage and control, what others do and feel as noted in the first reading. These traits apply to me as well, but lessen greatly, when I put ... "the precepts of the Lord into my daily life," giving joy to my heart.

To me, Mark's gospel reflects ... That being unified brings us more happiness than being divisive especially in our church, our homes and in our communities and that our purpose in life is to ... "follow the precepts of the Lord giving joy to the heart ..." to you and to me.

*A Grateful Parishioner*