



## **SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JANUARY 16, 2022**

Fr. Bob Kabat

Scripture: Isaiah 62:1-5 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 John 2:1-11

Charles Schultz introduced a new cartoon called "Little People" in 1950. No newspapers picked up this new cartoon strip. Charles Schultz then changed the name to "Peanuts" which became the most prolific cartoon of all time.

Phil Knight began a shoe company in Portland, Oregon in 1964. Sales were sluggish for his shoes labeled, "Tigers." In 1971, Caroline Davidson, a Portland State coed, suggested the "Swoosh" of the Greek goddess Nike as the shoes' logo. That Swoosh is now the one of the most familiar symbols in athletic wear.

Because of advertising when we shop for sporting clothes we know if it is Nike, or Under Armour, or Puma, or Adidas. I know you are a Chiefs fan, or a Packers fan, Bears fan, Vikings fan, by the apparel you wear. We wear that logo – sign -proudly, no matter how our team is playing. It's in our blood. They are signs that point to a message of our allegiance.

The right word, the right symbol, is critical. Today's gospel says of Christ changing water into wine at Cana, "Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs." The gospel of John never uses the word "miracle." They are called "signs."

John doesn't want us to think of Jesus as a magician with these signs, but as our Savior.

These marvelous signs of Christ are important messages for us to know who Jesus is and who we are, as his family.

The first sign for Jesus, changing water into wine, doesn't happen though unless Mary tells the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Right?

The command of Mary to the servants is the same for us; "Do whatever he tells you."

Isn't that why we are here right now at St. Matthew Parish?

At the Last Supper he said, "Do this in memory of me."

Jesus again takes bread, blesses it, breaks it and gives it to us.

It's the second step – Mary's request – do whatever he tells you – that is the next step for all of us after receiving the gift of Eucharist.

We are to be that sign of Jesus' love. Our lives are to help change water into wine by sharing Jesus' love with the world.

Where is that world? Wherever we are – depending on our age and circumstances.

Signs are important in sports apparel, but they are really important in life – may we be a sign of God's love.

Thanks for listening.

Prayer: Bringing Home the Word