

Sunday Homily
2nd Sunday Ordinary Time C
January 17, 2010
Is 62:1-5; 1Cor12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

By Deacon Jeff Claar

Don't you just love the image set before us by John today of Jesus and His Mother at this wedding reception? In their time, the wedding was celebrated for days with a huge crowd of people consuming vast amounts of food and drink, and I am sure there would be some embarrassment for the host family if they were to run out of wine. And since Jesus and his family and friends were there, they no doubt knew the couple and many of the people there, and as yet, His ministry had not been revealed to the people.

Mary's request of her Son is met with a push back, "My hour has not yet come". Any parent is familiar with this kind of exchange. Mary's thoughts are not recorded, but she might have been thinking,

"Jesus, you are 30 years old; don't you think it's about time you moved out of the house!?" But Mary's response is recorded, "Do whatever he tells you."

The *hour* Jesus refers to is not the beginning of His ministry, but He points to the final hour, His death on the cross. He already knows His role as our Redeemer; He will suffer His passion, die for us, and rise from the dead so that we can have the opportunity to spend eternity with God in Heaven. This is what we call the Paschal Mystery.

Always obedient, He listens to His Mother and does reveal His power and glory by turning the water into wine. And it's not just a glass or bottle, its 150 gallons! It's not just any wine, but the best of wines. By His actions, Jesus shows He is not limited to the laws of this Earth, He shows Himself to be God the Son with power over all. He offers us only the best and in great abundance when we believe in Him.

And later, when His hour is close at hand, He again showed this same power when He changed the wine into His Blood and the bread into His Body at the Last Supper. He again proves He is not bound by the laws of this Earth; in His divine nature He has power over everything. And His command is "do this in memory of me."

And today, in this hour, He will be present with us in a very real and physical way, just like at the Last Supper, in the changing of the bread and wine into His Body and Blood. And we will respond with our "Amen", "We believe", when we receive Him physically into ourselves at Communion.

Let us pray that just as His disciples began to believe in Him through the miracle at Cana, may our belief in Him be strengthened today through the miracle we will witness on the altar at this Mass.