



From the Office of the President

John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J.
REGIS UNIVERSITY | DENVER, COLORADO

Sirach 50:22-24
Homily for Thanksgiving Day
Boryla Home
November 22, 2018

Psalm 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Luke 17:11-19

Please take a moment, just now, and call to mind what you are most grateful for today. It might be anything ... don't judge it because any gratitude, any thanks is the best place to start.

"We must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love, and when we do, then we will make this old world a new world. For love is the only way" (Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, quoted by Bishop Michael Curry in the Sermon for the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle).

"Imagine governments and nations where love is the way. Imagine this tired old world when love is the way, when love is the way, unselfish, sacrificial, redemptive. When love is the way, poverty becomes history. Racism and misogyny are no more. We see differently, as if for the first time.

Do you ever imagine what was in Jesus heart and his mind when he met the ten lepers on the road and cured them? I imagine his heart going through stages of recognition, identification with the suffering, a wave of profound tenderness, and the welling up of cosmic, infinite power to redeem, to take away the pain and isolation. Jesus saw in the lepers the beloved children of God, God's "favorites."

Each of us is God's favorite. But it is not a contest as we often make it! When we have been loved unconditionally, infinitely, when we allow ourselves to taste that love, we give that same love away. We are compelled to do so because love cannot be selfish; it must be shared. When we share the power of love, we change the world.