**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

17th February 2019

What are your goals in life? Maybe to become a famous actor, or a professional sports player. It might be to go to a good university, or get a well payed job. Many people want to get married and have a family, some want to travel the world, others to build their dream home. I think the majority of people would say that they want to do something with their life that makes them happy.

Of all my goals in life, probably not on my list are: to be poor, hungry, sad, hated and excluded. But did you hear today’s Gospel? These are the attributes Jesus blesses; these people will receive the Kingdom of Heaven.

So does that mean I have to give up happiness in this life to become a disciple? I think it’d be more helpful to rephrase the question: what do I need to do to find JOY in this life?

True joy is so much more than happiness; it goes beyond a temporary feeling to a deep and lasting peace. In the Beatitudes Jesus is telling us that being rich, full and popular won’t necessarily bring us joy and everlasting life but rather we need to know our spiritual need for Him!

Today take the advice of the prophet Jeremiah: "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD….” And experience the joy of following Jesus.

Sophie

SYMT