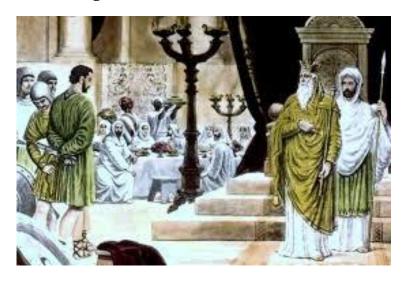


THIS SUNDAY October 15 & BEYOND

"Do you have the right clothes?"



I have some rather obsessive thoughts about what I'm wearing when I go to a party. For whatever reason, it causes me great anxiety that I might arrive to a party or an event and be under dressed. For most of my life I have insisted on erring on the side of being over dressed to ensure that I not arrive at the party under dressed. When I had the glorious opportunity to stand as godfather to my godson I traveled across several states (in the east not as big a trip as it would be here in the west) and arrived at my friend's house. When the morning of the baptismal service arrived, I realized that I had left my dark suit hanging near the door at home. I had hung it by the door to ensure that I would remember it when leaving the house. To my utter horror I had to attend the baptism, and stand in front of the congregation wearing shorts and an overly casual shirt. I was mortified. If I hadn't been the godfather in the proceedings I might have skipped the liturgy altogether for fear of being so under dressed.

In our Gospel passage for this week we read of the wedding banquet that a king has provided. Many of the invited guests do not come to the banquet despite being invited and so others are given their place in the banquet hall. Others arrive improperly dressed for the occasion and are removed from the banquet for their improper attire. This may all seem very harsh, but I understand the desire to be appropriately dressed for an occasion.

In our parable, the wedding banquet is a metaphor for the Kingdom of God and we learn of many who refuse the invitation to be a part of the kingdom and still others

who are not able to stay because they don't have the right clothes. The clothing in this parable is the grace of God. The expectation to attend this heavenly banquet is that we all be clothed in grace. There is no expectation that we find or manufacture the holiness of the heavenly kingdom on our own, but that we accept the grace of God so thoroughly that we are indeed clothed in the grace of God. That God's grace would completely cover us and leave us dressed properly for the banquet that God has invited us to.

Father Mitchell Bojarski Guest Priest

CALENDAR

SUNDAY: 8:00a Low Mass (Church) 10:30a Solemn Mass (Church)

—The entrance to the church is on 6th Avenue—

Note: Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

MONDAY: 7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY: Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

FRIDAY: 9:00a Morning Prayer (St. Mary's Chapel) Temporarily Cancelled

9:30a Mass (St. Mary's Chapel) Temporarily Cancelled

AA Meetings

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room) 8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)