



Father Danny Murphy is a retired Pastor from Brooklyn NY. A gifted man with a God given talent to inspire and God's gift to us at Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach Florida. This is just one of his inspirational homilies.

Danny Murphy – 19th Sunday of the Year 2016

From our Gospel: "Come to me all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you Fr. Where your treasure is, there also will your heart be. That is the sentence from today's Gospel upon which we shall reflect. But first, I want to share something I heard recently. At first, it may sound silly, but I put my hand on the Bible and take it very seriously. Have you heard that God has recently been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease? Isn't that crazy? For it means that not only God FORGIVES but also that God FORGETS. I love that!

Now our Gospel sentence: "Where your treasure is there also your heart will be." Let me start by making a very bold statement, the truth of which I am totally convinced. See if you can agree. I'm 100% convinced when I assert that you already have and can never lose all you need to make you happy. You already have God and God's love. THAT's where your

treasure is. Once you are convinced of that you can enjoy everything, you will need nothing and you will not lack for anything if you realize you have God and God's love. If your treasure is anywhere else, your heart will always be filled with fear lest you lose what you think will make you happy. Once you are convinced you have God and God's love you will be at peace because you know you have all that you need and can never lose it. This will allow us to enjoy food, friends, family, money, mobility, memory, eyesight, hearing, health, independence and so much more. We can thank God for them. If we were to lose any of them or even all of them we remember we don't need any of them because we will still be fine because we already have all we need: God and God's love. I warned that this was a bold statement, but can we get a sense of how freeing this is? But it is tough to do. Here are two stories that might help us understand this better, the first one I read about and the second one I witnessed. A tourist went to visit a renowned holy man and was surprised by the utter simplicity of the holy man's room. He had few books, a table, one chair and one bed in his single room. The tourist asked the holy man, "Where's your furniture?" To which the holy man replied, "Where's yours?" The tourist responded, "I'm just passing through!" And the Holy man answered, "So am I!" We are ALL passing through this life, this is only a pit stop on the way to heaven. The holy man knew where his treasure was. Recently I heard the story of Jack whose co-worker came to him and confessed that he had a gambling addiction and was in debt for six thousand dollars. He told Jack that he couldn't pay it and asked him for help. Without hesitation, Jack took out his checkbook and wrote him a check for the

entire amount and told him to pay him back when he could, a little at a time. For the first week, the man called Jack nearly every day and thanked him for his generosity and then the calls trailed off and stopped altogether. When Jack tried to call the man, he only got his voice message and the man never called him back. Eventually, Jack realized that he would never see that money again but he refused to entertain any feelings of bitterness, resentment or revenge. Instead, he resolved to pray for the man and said that even if it was six million dollars, he would not allow hate to enter his heart. Jack knows where his treasure lies. Do I know? Do you know? Because where your treasure is, there also is your heart.