



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.

Fr. Danny Murphy – 14th Sunday of the Year 2019

Now, don't get nervous! We are NOT going to have three homilies today, but we will reflect a little bit upon each of our three scripture readings today. From our first reading: This is how the Prophet Isaiah describes our relationship with God. "As nurslings you will be carried on my arms and fondled on my lap. As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you." That's the kind of relationship that God wants to have with us – a relationship of intimacy, not distance, a relationship that is filled with joy and peace, not a relationship that is filled with fear and guilt. If I can accept that kind of relationship with God, I can always rejoice and flourish no matter what is happening in my life. In our second reading, St. Paul tells us that all we need to do is to be "Created anew." Am I willing to be created anew? Am I willing to say yes to Our Lord's invitation to imitate him in everything?

What need I do to be created anew? In our Gospel today, Jesus tells his disciples that the first thing that they should do when they enter a house, is to wish peace to that house. You and I are His disciples today, so you and I are to be bearers of peace. Do I always forgive everyone every time, no matter what? Do I always accept everyone, as they are, not as I think they should be? Do I always include everyone, remembering that the one who does not gather – scatters! Am I prejudiced? Am I petty, Am I judgmental? Do I use my gift of speech to heal or to hurt? Am I a peacemaker? Well...now I am going to say something that has nothing to do with the scriptures that we heard and upon which we have reflected. Recently, I reread two quotes from the late boxer Muhammed Ali. The first quote is silly, the second is serious. Once Ali quipped, "I am so mean that I make medicine sick!" But how about this quote from him: "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room on earth." Have I paid this week's rent?