



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 – 17th Sunday of the Year 2017

This evening, we're going to do something a little different: we're going to have two homilies. Don't get nervous, it shouldn't be too bad! The first homily, you're going to give, and then I'll give the second homily. The first homily, your homily: What would you say to God if God said to you, what he said to Solomon: "Ask something of me and I will give it to you" Or if you prefer, but it is really the same question, "What do you think is the 'buried treasure,' the 'pearl of great price,' that which is more important than anything else in life. Could we please take a couple of moments so that we could answer those questions? (PAUSE) Well, that was your homily and now I'll give you my homily. Maybe someday, but not today, I will ask you, "What is your favorite scripture passage?" I someone asked me that question, unhesitatingly, I would reply, Romans 8:28 which is the first sentence of our second reading today: "Everything works for good, for those who love God." The best gift that I could possibly give you is for me to help you to believe Romans 8:28; to trust that because of God, everything works for the good! Once I believed that, and you cannot believe that without the grace of God, once I believed that, my entire life was changed. Once you believe Romans 8:28, you will enjoy deep inner peace in your life, no matter what is happening in your life. Because you trust that in some way or another, at some time or another, God will bring good out of everything. Not that everything is good! A lot of things aren't good: suicide bombings aren't good, human trafficking isn't good, hurricanes aren't good, cancer isn't good, pain isn't good and each of us could add so much more to a

long list to things that are not good. But God IS good! And God is in charge, God is ALWAYS in charge! One way or another, at one time or another, God will bring good out of everything, everything! For me a perfect example of Romans 8:28 is how I am with you here at Holy Cross parish. Come of you may already know the story: On January 31, 2015, I retired as pastor of a parish in Brooklyn. I came down to Vero Beach that afternoon for a ten day vacation. The following morning, Sunday February 1, 2015 while I'm here sitting in the pews for the 7:30 am Mass, Fr. Jim announced that two days prior, our pastor, Fr. Murphy, fell and broke his leg. So, I offered my services to Holy Cross parish for the ten days I intended to be here...and I've been here ever since! Thank you God. I can't begin to describe the enormous joy, the incredible blessing that has been mine these past two and a half years. Breaking your leg is not good! But do you see what God did?? God makes good out of everything! Romans 8:28? Maybe the best reply we can give to the question, if God promised anything for which you ask, for what would you ask: What is the "buried treasure", the "" pearl of great price". Maybe the best answer is to trust Romans 8:28, that God brings good out of everything.