



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 – 29th Sunday of the Year 2017

In our Gospel tonight, Jesus receives, what I think, is the best compliment that he ever received: "teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you are not concerned with anyone's opinion." Now, you and I are supposed to imitate Jesus, right? So you and I are supposed to be people who live in the truth and not concerned with anyone's opinion. Now that can be very tough to do. It seems to me, the only way that we can live in the truth and not be concerned with anyone's opinion, is if we know the truth that the only thing we need to be happy is God and God's love. And I already have that and I can never lose that! If I can live in that truth that I already have and can never lose everything I need to be happy: God and God's love, then that truth will set me free. And I will be dangerously free, not depending on anyone nor anything for my happiness. Oh, I might want other

people to like me, I might want other people to have a high opinion of me. But if they don't that's ok, because I have everything I need to be happy. Do you sense how freeing that is? I am no longer a prisoner, a puppet, no longer depending on other people's opinion of me for my happiness! Once I can live in that truth (that I already have and can never lose everything I need to be happy). Well, then I can enjoy everything, knowing that I don't need anything. I can be grateful for everything, knowing that I'm not dependent on anything. How freeing that is! Health, independence, money, mobility, popularity, success and much, much more. I can enjoy it all, give thanks for it all knowing that I don't need any of it. I told you this is very tough to do. But if I can do that, and I think we can, with the grace of God. If I can know the truth that that I already have and can never lose everything I need to be happy; God and God's love, well then that truth will allow me to make this prayer of St. Ignatius Loyola, my prayer: "Lord, all is yours now, give me only your love and your grace; that's enough for me – your love and your grace are enough for me." That's living in the truth, not concerned about any one's opinion, that's imitating Jesus.