



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 – 28th Sunday of the Year 2018

From our first reading: "I prayed, I pleaded and the spirit of Wisdom came to me." Some years ago, a friend of mine told me that her daughter was going to be married in Singapore. My friend explained that her daughter's fiancé worked for Exxon and would be in Singapore for the next five years so the daughter was going to be married there. Then my friend exclaimed: "Do you realize how much the airfare is to Singapore? I'm not going to the wedding and I'm a teacher. I can't just take off a week or two to go to Singapore. So, I am not going to go to the wedding." Wisdom is knowing who God is and knowing what is important to God. Wisdom is knowing what life is and what is important to life. After I heard my friend's story, if I had the spirit of wisdom, do you think that I should have told

her that I agreed with her decision? Clearly, that's what she wanted me to say. Or, do you think I should have remained silent, non-committal. Or, do you think that, at the risk of losing her friendship, I should have said to her: "You should go to Singapore, it's your daughter, and it's her wedding. If you can't afford it, charge it or borrow the money, but go! Tell the principal at the school where you teach that you are going to your daughter's wedding. Even if it cost you your job, go to the wedding." If I had the spirit of wisdom, what do you think I should have done after hearing my friend's story? What do you think you would have done if you had heard that story? Could we pause for a moment so that each of us could go over that story – the wedding in Singapore and then ask yourself, what do you think you would have done, after hearing that story? (PAUSE). Wisdom is knowing who God is and what is important to God. Wisdom is knowing what life is and what is important in life. In the decisions that you make in your life, whatever they might be, are you guided by the spirit of wisdom? Jesus is wisdom incarnate. He not only knew God he WAS God. He not only knew life, he WAS life and Jesus teaches us this wisdom in our Gospel today. The wisdom that he teaches us in the Gospel story of the man who had many possessions is that he didn't need all the possessions that he had and neither do we! We don't need everything that we might think we need. The man wanted to do more but he thought that he couldn't do with less. He went away sad not because he had many possessions, but because he thought he needed all the possessions that he had. That's what made him sad and that's what would make any of us sad as well. It seems to me that the

secret to happiness is knowing that I already have and can never lose everything I need to be happy. Because I already have and can never lose God and God's love and that's all I need to be happy! Once I know the secret to happiness, I am free to enjoy everything because I know that I don't need anything. I give thanks to God for everything, but I cling to nothing, not my health, not my home, not my friends, not my family, not my abilities, not my mobility, not my independence, not my life. Dear God thank you for all that and for so much more! But when they decrease, when they've gone, I still have all I need to be happy because I still have God and God's love! WOW. Job says, "Naked I came into this world and naked I shall leave this world." And of course, that is true for each of us too. But, when I came into this world, I had God's love, while I'm in this world, I have God's love, when I leave this world, I will have God's love and I have all I need. Is that radical? YES, is that difficult? YES. Is that wisdom? YES. I prayed, pleaded and the spirit of Wisdom came to me!