



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 – 18h Sunday of the Year 2018

Telling a joke is like changing a baby's diaper: it doesn't have long-term results, but it can make things better for a little while! I am about to tell you a joke. The word "joke" might be stretched in its definition when you hear what I have to tell you. So, if you don't find this funny, it's not because you are losing your sense of humor! Here goes! A friend of mine grumbled to me that some people can be so moody at times. She said, "I was on a cruise and the conversation at the dinner table one night turned to reminiscing about high school, one of the diners remembered, 'When I was in high school we were all listening to the music of the Beatles and the Beach Boys.' Another remarked, 'When I was in high school we were all listening to the music of Elvis and Buddy Holly.' Then the diner turned to my

friend and said, 'I bet you that when you were in high school everyone was listening to the music of Moses and the Israelites!' " Ouch! That was mean, but believe it or not, my friend's grumbling might segue right into this sentence from our first reading: "The whole Israelite community grumbled!" That's the sentence upon which you and I will reflect today. This might well be the only Mass in all Christendom when we're not reflecting upon our Gospel where Jesus tells us: "I am the bread of life." One of the reasons why we're not going to reflect on our Gospel is because I think and I hope and I pray that I am right; but I think that we know the awesome privileges to eat his sacred Body and to drink his Precious Blood and that when he fills us we're fully satisfied – we never need hunger or thirst for anything again. So, hoping and praying that we know that, we'll reflect on this sentence from our first reading: "The whole Israelite community grumbled!" Am I a grumbler? Am I a complainer? Am I hard to please? Do I grumble or am I grateful? If I'm grateful, I won't grumble; if I grumble, I'm not grateful. St. Paul teaches us: "Everything is gift, so," Paul says, "Give thanks to God for everything." If I have a grateful heart, I won't grumble about other people. Instead, I'll follow the advice of St. Paul and say only the good things that people need to hear – things that would really help them. What a contrast we have in our readings today; the awesome gift of the Eucharist, the awful habit of grumbling. Let's embrace one and avoid the other!