



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 – 2nd Sunday of the Year 2020

The other day, my nephew went to the doctor complaining, "I don't know what is wrong with me. The doctor suggested, "Just get married, your wife will tell you!" That is the exact opposite message of what we hear in the first reading today, from the book of the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah is considered the greatest of the Old Testament prophets. What made Isaiah so great? He tells us in our first reading this morning, he says: "The Lord formed me from the womb, I am made glorious in the sight of the Lord." What Isaiah says about himself, each of us should say about ourselves: "The Lord formed me from the womb, I am made glorious in the sight of the Lord." Is that the voice that you hear right through your mind? Or, perhaps, there are other voices that give you the sense, give you the impression that you

disappointed your parents, your family, your God, yourself? Here is a sad story that author Neil Krushner tells us. It is the story of a brilliant young woman, a medical student who is haunted by a memory from her childhood. She tells us: "I came from a wealthy family. Each year my parents would vacation in Europe and leave me home in the care of the housekeeper. When I was about eleven years old, the housekeeper retired and my parents hired a replacement just shortly before they were to leave for Europe. When I saw my mother packing away silver and jewelry. Since she had never done that before, I asked her why. My mom explained, 'I don't know the new housekeeper well, so I don't want to entrust our valuables to her!' I was stunned to the heart, right to the heart, aren't I a valuable? Aren't I worth more than knives and forks?" That poor young woman could never forget that experience. That poor young woman never knew that Lord formed her in the womb and that she was made glorious in the sight of the Lord, she never knew that. Do I know that, do you know that? Now that doesn't mean that I can't improve. I should try to be the best ME that I can be, but I need to remember that God loves me as I am, not as I should be. Because God loves me as I am, not as I should be. I need to love me as I am, not as I should be. And I should rejoice in who I am because the Lord formed me from the womb; I am made glorious in the sight of the Lord. That doesn't mean that I don't make mistakes. Even John the Baptist of whom Jesus says, "No man born of woman is greater than he." Even John the Baptist made mistakes, in our Gospel story today, he twice acknowledges that he did not recognize Jesus. Even though, the reason John came was to

make Jesus known! So, when you make mistakes, don't be too hard, too harsh on yourself. We all make mistakes. But, in the midst of our mistakes, in the midst of my faults, in the midst of my sins, let me always remember the Lord formed me from the womb; I am made glorious in the sight of the Lord, and so are you!