



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 – Funeral Homily – 10/09/18

Whenever I am dealing with death, and that's what we're all dealing with this morning, invariably, two thoughts come to mind, almost all the time. These two thoughts have helped me so I share them with you. The first one, that I will share is when I am dealing with death, it is a reminder to me that someday and in some church it's going to be my casket in the center aisle and the same is true for all of us. The only thing we don't know is the day or the hour, but I know this, I'm a day closer today than I was yesterday, and so are you. So, not knowing the day or the hour, I try to remind myself to use the time that I have to try to do some good with the remainder of my life. One of the amazing thing that I find in the scriptures is that in the whole of the New Testament other than one sentence. We don't

know, because, it is never told in scripture, how tall Jesus was, how much he weighed, what color hair he had, what color eyes he had, did he have a beard? We don't know. Here's the only description we have – one sentence: He went about doing good. So, if you and I would use the rest of the time that we have going about doing good, then we would be spending the rest of our lives well! The second thing that comes to mind is that God has to have a bigger plan for us than just this life. In the scriptures, the definition we have of God is God is Love. A loving God would have to have a bigger plan for us, because God is Love. And God indeed does have a bigger, better plan. This life is just too tough for all of us! There are too many tears, sometimes tragedies, aches and pains, sufferings and setbacks. So God's bigger plan and better plan found in today's scriptures – many places, in fact somebody looked up and found that there are forty-five different better places that are found in scriptures, we heard about two of them in today's scriptures. The first reading from St. Paul talks about eternal life, heaven. That's God's bigger and better plan. The Gospel that we heard, St. John, Jesus tells us: "I am going to prepare a place for you so that where I am, you also may be. I come for you and take you with me so that where I am, you will be." It can't be much clearer than that, you can't ask for a better description of God's bigger and better plan. So, when you die, whatever the day or hour that God chooses, the bigger and better plan begins – we call that heaven. It is not too much of a stretch for me to conclude with a little prayer. Dear Lord, please help me, please help each of us to use the time that we have remaining to do good with our lives. And then, dear Lord on the day and

