



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 – 5th Sunday of the Year 2017

While I'm giving a homily on the "Salt of the Earth" and the "Light of the World", you might want to ask yourself this Super Bowl trivia question: Which teams played in the 2017 Super Bowl, ten years ago, and which team won? We'll get back to that... Let us now recall what Jesus tells us tonight, he tells us that "You are the Salt of the Earth" and you are the "Light of the World." Is the way that I'm living my life having a difference in the lives of other people? Is Vero Beach a better place because of me? Tonight, Jesus tells who we are! "You are the light of the World, you are the Salt of the Earth." So, if I am the "Salt of the Earth," if I am the "Light of the World," then the way that I am living my life SHOULD be making a difference in the lives of others. And Vero Beach SHOULD be a better place

because of me, because I'm the "Salt of the Earth," I'm the "Light of the World!" How can we live like that? Well, the first thing Isaiah tells us gives us some ideas: "Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, remove from your midst oppression, false accusation and malicious speech." That's being the "Salt of the Earth" and the "Light of the World!" Can you imagine how different our world would be if that is how we lived. You might be a cynic and say: "What real difference would we make? We wouldn't even make a dent!" Well that just goes to show you that you never heard of Geometric Progression. Try this: There are 40 days between today and St. Patrick's Day. Get out a shoebox and tonight put a penny in, tomorrow double that, Monday, double that, Tuesday, double that and so on for the next 40 days. So tonight you'd have once cent, tomorrow you'd have two cents, Monday you'd have four cents, Tuesday you'd have eight cents. Do you realize that if you kept doing that, by St. Patrick's Day you would have over a million dollars! It's true, you can test it yourself. That sequence of numbers is called Geometric Progression; the progress having an exponential increase. That same Geometric Progression applies to us being the "Salt of the Earth" and the "Light of the World!" Goodness attracts goodness; your goodness attracts my goodness, our goodness attracts other people's goodness and so on...The Geometric Progression has begun. And before you know it, there will be more and more of us sharing our bread with the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked. And there will be fewer and fewer, less and less oppression, false accusation and malicious speech. But it all begins with the first penny, it all

begins with us! Allow me to share with you a personal example of a Geometric Progression that I've experienced. You might not agree with what I am going to say, but as long as you get the idea, that's ok. It has been my consistent experience that most motorists, not all, but most motorists in Vero Beach are courteous and patient! Many, many months ago, I was one car in the left turn lane and when the red arrow turned green, I expected the line to start moving, to make the turn, but it didn't. Apparently, the driver in the lead car, the first car didn't notice the green arrow, for about ten or more seconds. What utterly amazed me, I will never forget this, is that no one honked their horn! They all waited courteously and patiently. Almost every day when I'm driving in Vero, I notice some motorists gesturing to another; "come in or you go first." A tone has been set, not everyone follows it, but most people do, including me. I NEVER drove like this before! But I sense that a tone has been set and it seems most people follow it. Tonight, Jesus tells us: "You are the Salt of the Earth, you are the Light of the World". It seems that Jesus is almost pleading with us: "Make a dent, make a difference, set the tone!" So, What teams played in the 2007 Super Bowl, ten years ago and which team won? Indianapolis Colts vs the Chicago Bears, Indianapolis won 29 to 17. That was only ten years ago there aren't more than ten of us who knew the answer. AND I bet you that there are far fewer than that among us who care! If you're going to watch the Super Bowl tomorrow night, and I certainly am, enjoy it! But try to remember that the Super Bowl is passing...try to hold on in life to something that's lasting. Be the

"Salt of the Earth," be the "Light of the World," make a dent, make a difference, set a tone.

Then you will be a winner in the only game that really counts – the game of life!