



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 – 8th Sunday of the Year 2017

God said: "I will never forget you." I said: "But I am only one, there are billions, billions of people on the earth, and the earth is only one small planet in the galaxy." God said: "Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness to the child in the womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you." Do you believe that? If you do, then perhaps you are ready to hear these words from our Gospel today when Jesus tells us four times, not to worry! He will provide for us like he does the birds in the sky except more so, much, much more so! If you believe that, you trust that, then you will have inner peace, inner peace – the most sought after yet elusive of all God's gifts. If you believe that not a hair on your head falls without God noticing it, if you believe that God watches over you intimately and always,

then you will have inner peace. Of all the teachings of God that are found in the scriptures, the most repeated teaching, by a landslide (not even close), the most repeated teaching is God telling us: "do not worry, do not worry." And yet, even though, by far it is the most repeated teaching, I think that most of us find it the most difficult teaching. Perhaps, why we find it so difficult not to worry is because we find it so difficult to believe that God loves us so tenderly. Said the Robin to the Sparrow: "What I want to know is why can humans fret and worry so?" Said the Sparrow to the Robin: "I guess it must be because they have no Heavenly Father such as cares for you and me!" Jesus tells us: "You are worth more than many sparrows." Jesus tells us: "Your heavenly Father knows all that you need before you even ask!" Jesus tells us: "Fear is useless, what is needed is trust!" If you believe that, if you trust that, then you can live the rest of your life with great nerve and great verve, because you will be finally be free from worry. Winston Churchill tells us this story about a friend of his who on his deathbed said: "I have experienced a lot of trouble in my life – most of which never happened!" Psychologists tell us that most of what we worry about never occurs! Let's take a test – think back, if you would, to one year ago today, February 26, 2016. Ask yourself: "What was I worried about one year ago, this month?" (PAUSE) Well I bet you, most of us were worried about something, and I bet you most of us can't think about what it was. If we could be free of worrying, then we would free to live the rest of our lives with that elusive gift of inner peace. I know nothing of tomorrow except that the Love of God will rise before the sun. St. Francis de Sales teaches us, that God will either shield you from all

