

God says “I have loved you with an everlasting love. I have drawn you with unfailing kindness” **Jeremiah 31:3**

Bernard Kellet

Entrance antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading: Nehemiah 8: 2-6, 8-10

Psalms 18: Response: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1 1-4, 4:14-21

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

“The success of love is in the loving – it is not in the result of loving. Of course, it is natural in love to want the best for the other person, but whether it turns out that way or not does NOT determine the value of what we have done.” – Mother Teresa



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday Cycle C, 2022

God made me to know him, love him, and serve him.

Those of us brought up with a traditional Catholic education will recognise this from their catechism classes. It was the answer to the question “why did God make you” which was preceded by the question “who made you” (God made me). We were taught the catechism much in the same way we were taught our times tables and remember them just as clearly. However, could we really know what love meant at such an early age?

The initial love responses of human beings are those made by the infant to the mother or mother surrogate. From this intimate attachment of the child to the mother, multiple learned and generalised affectional responses are formed. Perhaps we begin to understand what love is because of our feelings towards our parents or observing them together. Does this help us to understand the love of God? Do we move from an abstract understanding (as a child) to an intellectual understanding (as we get older) eventually to an emotional understanding, perhaps when we fall in love as an adult?

Steven L. Pogue (The First Year of Your Christian Life) describes the relationship with God as like no other you may have experienced. God has a unique kind of love for us which is unconditional. God loves us because he loves us.

Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies – Aristotle.

“I love you” are the three most emotionally charged words we ever utter. If we are lucky in life, we find someone who helps us to give truth to Aristotle’s statement. Perhaps this is the moment when we truly understand what love is.