

Day 206 – Monday, October 12, 2020 – Thanksgiving

One of my favorite past-times is watching movies, it is hard to beat a great action packed Superhero movie, or better yet an astounding Science-Fiction. However, when all is said and done, I know they are just that—movies. There is no truth to them. Oh there might be a good moral...like we need to protect the helpless. But I know deep down that Hollywood is very adept at making the truth look real.

This is why I love being a follower of Christ. No matter how hard you try, you cannot overestimate his abilities. 5000 people who are hungry...not a problem. People with incurable diseases...bring them to me. Someone has died...Jesus will raise them up.. The difference between Jesus and all the Superheroes from Marvel or DC, is that Jesus never forces himself upon a situation. His true power comes from his helplessness. A friend of mine just celebrated his daughter's wedding, needless to say he had a very busy weekend. In the midst of the chaos of the wedding, a five year old girl tugged on his coat and said, "Take me to the park." When he told me about it, he said, "When a five year old girl says, "Take me to the park, you take her to the park." Even in the midst of the chaos of his daughter's wedding, the powers of a helpless child prevailed.

Even in the midst of the chaos surrounding COVID 19, the power of Jesus prevails. Now in some twisted way; some pastors might claim, by flouting the regulations around social distancing; that Jesus will cure all COVID cases. Yes I truly believe that Jesus has the power to cure, not just all COVID cases, but all disease—but that is not the way he works. That is the power of Charismatic individuals, and that sort of power is only fleeting. It is the power the Devil was tempting Jesus in the desert with. Only the power of powerlessness is enduring.

For the most part, it is this power of powerlessness that we are celebrating this Thanksgiving weekend. It doesn't matter how much fertilizer that we pour onto a crop, it is Christ who makes it grow. It doesn't matter how much families may disagree, it is Christ that keeps them together. It doesn't matter how sick someone might become, in the end Christ will prevail. It does even matter if you think you are a wonderful priest, when you are in a car accident, it is the power of God that keeps you safe.

And so on this Thanksgiving weekend, when you are taking a minute to think of all you have to be thankful for, do not forget to thank Jesus for all that he has given to you.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

In the light of eternity, we're here for a very short time, really. We're here for one thing, ultimately: to learn how to love, because God is love. - James Finley

Sincerely,
Fr. Jim Kaptein