



**Friday 01 Oct 2021**

**Friday of the twenty-sixth week in Ordinary Time Year 1**

## **Gospel**

**Lk 10:13-16**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Whoever rejects me, rejects him who sent me.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Alas for you, Chorazin! Alas for you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. And still, it will not go as hard with Tyre and Sidon at the Judgement as with you. And as for you, Capernaum, did you want to be exalted high as heaven? You shall be thrown down to hell.

'Anyone who listens to you listens to me; anyone who rejects you rejects me, and those who reject me reject the one who sent me.'

### **Reflection By Fr John Purnell**

Today's Gospel is a "woe to you" gospel. Jesus is berating the Pharisees for their lack of openness to him and to his message. Even before Jesus began to preach the Pharisees had tried, judged, and condemned him.

Most of us, if not all of us, have a "Pharisee" within us. Judging others seems to be part of our human condition. Often I am not even aware of the judgments I am making about others. It happens so automatically. I may judge them on what they say, how they act, or what they believe. At these times I am being the Pharisee! Yet who am I to judge? (This now famous quote from Pope Francis). We all do it, but we do not like it when others judge us.

Perhaps Jesus is reminding us to be mindful today. He may be asking us to be attentive not only to how and when we judge others but also to how we judge ourselves. We often are pretty vicious in judging ourselves. Today when we become aware that we are judging another or ourselves, may we pause, take a deep breath, and deliberately let go of our judgment. Today may we strive to have the mind and heart of Jesus!

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