

WE LIFT UP OUR HANDS AND VOICES!

The Psalmist chooses to help us lift up our hands and voices in praise and worship of God when it says, 'O God you are my God, for you I long, for you my soul is thirsting, my body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water' (cf. Ps 62:1ff). In his letter to the Romans, St. Paul enjoins us to 'think of God's mercy...and worship him.....in a way that is worthy of thinking beings'(Rms.12:1-2). Such worship is acceptable to God and is adequately rewarded by Him.

Beloved People of God, ours it is to discover the will of God and know what is good. We have to know what it is that God wants, that which is the perfect thing to do. The good news is, there is hope for those who desire to see God's strength and glory; those who need their soul to be filled as with a banquet. Such persons must learn to gaze on God in the sanctuary. They must let their mouth praise God with joy. They ought to accept to lift up their hands in God's name and in praise of him. Indeed, God remains our help, his right hand holds us fast. Until our soul thirsts for God and our heart yearns for him, until our body pines for him and we long for him like a dry weary land without water, our praise and worship will remain half-hearted.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us' (Eph 1:17, 18). May a false sense of our worth, of the person we think that we are, never constitute an obstacle in God's path to receiving our praise, worship, and adoration. The Scripture recommends self-renunciation to whoever wants to be a follower of the Lord. May his perfect will alone be done in our lives.

Fr. Ted

All to Jesus – Through Mary our Mother!

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

3rd September 2023