



Thirteenth Sunday Of The Year

Making Contact

Introduction

We hear in today's Gospel how a sick woman had the most amazing faith in Christ. She believed all that she had to do was touch the hem of his robe and she would be well. And just as soon as she made contact with him, power flowed out from him and healed her. Here we can draw close to Christ, very close, depending on the depth and intensity of our faith. And we too need his healing touch in our lives.

First Reading (Wisdom 1: 13-15; 2: 23-24)

God did not make us to destroy us. He made us to enjoy a blessed immortality.

Second Reading (2 Cor 8: 7-9, 13-15)

St Paul here is appealing to the Corinthians to contribute to a collection for the poor in the Church at Jerusalem.

Gospel (Mark 5: 21-43)

This contains two separate miracles of Jesus: the cure of a woman with a haemorrhage, and the raising of the daughter of Jarius. Both are signs of God's power, restoring life and health through Jesus.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray earnestly for God's healing for our wounds and the wounds of all his children.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church: that it may continue Christ's healing work by caring for all those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



Liturgy Cycle B

For doctors and nurses and all those who care for the sick: that they may do so with patience, skill, and care. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have no one to care for them, no one to touch their wounds, no one to introduce them to Christ their Saviour. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may be aware of the power we have to heal the wounds of others: a kind word can heal a wounded heart; a kind deed can repair the damage done by rejection. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Reflection

Power went out from Jesus and cured that woman.

He felt it happen.

You might well ask how this was possible with all those people pressing in on him?

The reason is simple.

Each cure took something out of him.

Each act of caring costs.

We could all do a little healing
if we only allowed ourselves
to become instruments of Christ.

With a little sympathy
we could heal a wounded heart.

With a little care
we could ease a troubled mind.

With a little of our time
we could ease the pain of loneliness for someone.

Each act of caring would cost us something.
But if we keep up our contact with the Master,
then power will continually be restored to us.
And all the time we are thinking of others,
we ourselves are being made whole and well.
We are being raised from the grave of selfishness
and healed of our hardness and coldness of heart.