

## **Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 09/13/20**

“Remember your last days...remember death and decay, and cease from sin!”

In the past many priests would often preach on the four last things: Death, judgment, Heaven and hell.

It's important to reflect on these things regularly.

Death and judgment are inevitable and we will either end up in heaven or hell depending on how seriously we lived our faith in this life.

I'm not preaching on this to cause anxiety or to instill fear in anyone...at least not the kind of fear that people ordinarily think of.

The kind of fear I am talking about is the fear of the Lord.

Pope St. Gregory the Great said, “Through the fear of the Lord, we rise to piety, from piety then to knowledge, from knowledge we derive strength, from strength counsel, with counsel we move toward understanding, and with intelligence toward wisdom and thus, by the sevenfold grace of the Spirit, there opens to us at the end of the ascent the entrance to the life of Heaven”

This is God's will for each and every one of us – that we eventually die, are judged and then enter the life of Heaven.

God does not will that anyone go to hell.

But we need to adhere to the traditional teachings of the Catholic Church to the best of our ability if we hope to attain to the life of Heaven.

In many ways it is getting harder all the time to know and to follow the traditional teachings of the Catholic Church – current societal conditions are seeing to this.

There are many liberal voices out there in the Church today who are trying to reconcile our current society with Catholicism. But in many cases they are absolutely irreconcilable.

It's sad to say but in its current state our society is almost diametrically opposed to our Catholic faith.

St. Pius X, who was pope from 1903 to 1914 warned us even then particularly against liberals in the Church.

He said, "Let priests take care not to accept from the liberal any ideas which, under the mask of good, pretend

to reconcile justice with iniquity. Liberal Catholics are wolves in sheep's clothing. The priest must unveil to the people their perfidious plot, their iniquitous design. You will be called Papist, clerical, retrograde, intolerant, but pay no heed to the derision and mockery of the wicked. Have courage; you must never yield, nor is there any need to yield. You must go into the attack whole-heartedly, not in secret but in public, not behind barred doors, but in the open, in the view of all."

So I'm publically warning everyone here right now, not to get caught up in any new-fangled version of Catholicism that departs from tradition.

Death, judgment, Heaven or hell awaits us all.

It's vitally important that we reflect on these things regularly because as it becomes more real to us it will instill a healthy fear of the Lord which in turn will in turn help us to eradicate sin in our lives and open us more to the life of heaven.

So let's remember our last days...remember death and decay, and we will more and more cease from sin and finally enter into the life of Heaven.