

September 29th 2024 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year B – Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

⁹⁻³⁸ John said to him, 'Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.' ³⁹But Jesus said, 'Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterwards to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴² 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell., ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel. ➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition. ➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).
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In this week's gospel Jesus gets very annoyed with his disciples who tried to stop people who were not one of them from casting out demons. He told them "no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me" and anyone who is not against us is for us." He also condemns anyone who puts an obstacle in the way of people especially 'little ones' on their journey to you through this life.

What are the obstacles that have been thrown in your way that prevent you from experiencing the great gifts and freedom given to us on our journey by Jesus?

Prayer:

Thank You Lord for the great moments of grace when we realised that often letting go of things that give us security can help us to experience your kingdom here on earth.

Forgive us Lord for the times we did not take into consideration that people do not need long speeches or grand gestures in life but to experience that they belong to you through our compassion and kindness 'giving a cup of water in your name.'

Help us Lord to be aware of the obstacles that can prevent us from welcoming all in your name and bringing them your love and compassion .