

## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2019

My beloved brothers and sisters, the one thing in this life that I have no choice about, is that fact that God chose to bring me into existence, when I was conceived in the womb. After this fact my eternity depends upon my cooperation or my refusal to cooperate with the plan of God. For an eternity with God, **only one thing is necessary**: God desire my friendship. The one thing necessary for a fulfilling, meaningful and fruitful life is: to stay as close to Him as possible, for He created me for this relationship, and nothing else can fulfill it!

Jesus teaches us today, that what is more important to God, is not what we can do for Him; rather, it is what we can do for Him, and what He can be for us! Jesus desires our friendship; indeed, His last words upon the Cross were: "I thirst!" He was not thirsting for sour wine; rather, He is thirsting for our response to the Infinite Outpouring of Love for us on the cross. This is what He wanted from Martha and Mary. Martha was doing all kinds of things, but she was neglecting the needful thing: to be with Him, in His Divine company, listening to Him, responding to Him in His desire for intimate friendship with Him.

Friendship with Christ is the one needful thing! Therefore, the most necessary thing in this life is to shape our lives accordingly, keeping Christ first, at the center of our lives, living from His love, and for His love. Mary has chosen the better part, for she has chosen to sit at the feet of the Divine Master, listening to the Divine Love. Martha has divided her heart: she loves Christ, otherwise she wouldn't be breaking her back trying to do the works of hospitality; but, she has made her preoccupation with getting things done, more important than the Person of Christ in her midst! Jesus is teaching her and us, that the thing that matters most in this life is not what we do for Him; rather, it is to let Him rule over the whole of our lives and our hearts with His Divine Love!

So, we are face with making this choice every single day: will I let Christ rule over me with His Divine Love; or, will I make my own needs more important than Christ and His Divine Presence for me? This is the priority He is asking of us today!