

January 20, 2019

## Wedding Feast at Cana



### Readings for the week of January 20, 2019

Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c [5]/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [8a and 9a]/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Mk 16:15-18

Saturday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 [3]/Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

“Do whatever he tells you.”

## Do Whatever He Tells You

Second Week in Ordinary Time – John 2:1-11

The Virgin Mother's words to the servants at the wedding in Cana are words for all Christians. We are called to do what the Lord commands. It seems simple enough for us today. But looking at this story in the context of the time we might wonder as to what was going on? What lies behind John's gospel this week?

We have, at first glance, the mother of Jesus at a wedding. It turns out, Jesus and his disciples are also there. A wedding would have been a joyous celebration. It would have been the delight of the host to provide for his guests. And yet, here we have the unthinkable. The host has all but run out of wine before the party was over.

The initial concern is expressed by Mary to her son. **“When the wine ran short the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come.’** It doesn't really sound as if Jesus is going to listen or even cares about the situation.

The point of this dialogue has nothing to do with wine. It has to do with the coming of the Messiah. It has to do with the old order slipping away and a new order coming forth. Jesus is the new order. He is the Messiah, the new bridegroom who will initiate a new way of living in this world. This new way of living is signified in the abundance of water now changed into wine. It is the very abundance of God breaking forth into the world in a new and profound, life-giving way.

Mary is not put off by Jesus' response. Instead, she says to the servants, **“Do whatever he tells you.”** And so you have it. Our lives are to be directed toward Jesus who calls us into a new way of living. We are called to change ourselves, being like Christ in all things. We are called to be changed into servants who do the Master's will.

We are called to be people who embody the very essence of Christ in what we say and do. May our lives reflect a response to the words of the Virgin Mother... **“Do whatever he tells you.”**

Blessings!

  
Sue Schettler