

Fr. Romeo Evangelista Homily
Weekday Mass – Wednesday, June 17, 2020
Cycle A

It is automatic that when we hear the words of Jesus today from the Sermon on the Mount, we think of being humble, doing good without any announcements and press releases; expecting no rewards and returns. Our human nature tends to lean toward these things, as we also are in need of recognition and affirmation. Taken in simple terms, we are to be unconditional in our goodness.

Our present Church situation, however, makes me think. We may have some people who joined us in our worship services, but we are suffering a sure decline in the way ordinary people regard our relevance to their life and to society. Many are going through life without any church affiliation, believing that faith is better when personal than communitarian.

Many think the churches and “Praise God” groups are enclosed in their elegant liturgies, well-defined organograms and procedures, and seasonal reach-out and evangelization programs. Certainly, we have our remarkable realizations that have led us as Church to respond to modern-day challenges in a real and concrete way. However, we have been too silent, too unassuming, and therefore, out-talked. Our good stories and narratives have not been sufficiently heard, while those of our critics and detractors have been widespread, amplified even by fake news in social media platforms.

Let us not be naïve! Humility and silence do not always go together. There are moments when we serve God and His church best by being creative with our true-to-ministry stories. What humility requires is that we be clear in our hearts: our intention is not to advance myself and my goodness, but to glorify God and His works in the Church.