

Fr. O'Connor's Homily December 23, 2018
4th Sunday of Advent

Who am I that the Mother of my God should come to me? Fascinating question.

Elizabeth, the cousin of Mary, is filled with awe and even senses her unworthiness that the Mother of her Lord should come to her.

Have you ever felt unworthy? What is it like when you think of going to Confession? Of what are you most ashamed?

You might say, "Whoa I don't want to go there." I don't blame you but it can be so healing.

One day a middle-aged woman was deep in prayer. Things seem to be falling apart. Her husband was totally immersed in his work and had little time for her and their children. Her three children seemed to be less respectful of her and her job was boring. She was beginning to feel discouraged, sometimes depressed.

As she prayed she wondered if God were satisfied with her or not. Over and over again she asked God, "Are you satisfied with me?" "Are you satisfied with me?" She prayed this way every day.

One day she asked God again, "Are you satisfied with me?" Then she heard an inner voice. It said, "My satisfaction with you consists in your satisfaction with me?" She was startled, astounded. This turned everything around, upside down.

Surely God is satisfied with us. He came on a clear cold night in Bethlehem in search of you. He came because he loves you. The question really isn't, "is God satisfied with you?" The question is, "Am I satisfied with God?"

Who am I that the Mother of my God should come to me? Who am I that God should come to me, knocking at the door of my heart, begging to come in?

This really changes everything around, doesn't it? What if I were really satisfied with God? That's the thing. Would I treat my wife/husband the same way? What about my children? Would I begin to see Jesus in the poor, in immigrants, homeless people, prisoners, drug addicts?

What's the big stumbling block in your life? Maybe it's fear. Am I afraid that I am weak or nasty, maybe greedy, mean, a failure? What if people knew what goes on in my head? Well, how do I begin to be satisfied with God?

Think of this: Not long ago we didn't exist. God has called you out of darkness into His own wonderful light. He has given you many gifts and talents. Count them! He has given you a purpose. And he has given you an incredible promise - life with Him, with your loved ones, even your enemies - life eternal.

Let our Christmas Feast turn you around. Get a notebook and write down your reasons for being satisfied with God. Let God breathe His Spirit into you and seek God always in the Holy Eucharist! Who am I that God should come to me? God says, "My satisfaction with you consists in your satisfaction with me!"