

MAKING CHOICES: THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2021.

DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20; PSALM 1; LUKE 9:22-25.

Every day of our lives we are presented with choices to make. Sometimes they are simple choices like what to wear, eat, drink, what to watch on Netflix etc. Sometimes they are very decisive choices like how to react in a situation, whether to compromise or not, whether to retaliate, forgive, fight or be calm, whether to keep a promise/vow or break it, whether to trust God in a situation or to seek help outside of God, to say yes to a proposal or not, to continue or end a relationship, to quit a vocation or not etc.

These choices are very important because sooner or later, the consequences follow. These consequences will either increase our happiness or cause us to regret and lament.

In the first reading of today, Moses told the people the way to happiness, namely, they should not choose anything that contradicts the word/commandments of God. A child of God blossoms spiritually to the extent of his faithfulness to God and obedience to His will.

This is why in today's Gospel, Jesus encourages us to follow Him and not our desires and ambitions alone. It is by obeying Him and allowing our decisions to align with His teaching and be guided by His Spirit that we can enjoy to the fullest the benefit of our relationship with Him, it is through wise choices that we can escape the greatest tragedy, the most pathetic curse namely the loss of our souls.