

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Today, the Word of God invites us to reflect on the beautiful harmony between wisdom and the Law of God—two divine gifts that lead us to true freedom and real life.

In the First Reading, Sirach states a powerful truth: God has created us free. “If you choose, you can keep the commandments... life or death is set before you.” God does not force us. He invites us. He places before us a choice, and He respects our freedom. But with freedom comes responsibility: the responsibility to choose what leads to life.

Saint Paul continues this message in his First Letter to the Corinthians. He speaks of a wisdom that goes beyond human intelligence: “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard... God has prepared for those who love him.” This is not worldly wisdom; it is the wisdom of the Spirit—a wisdom that shapes our conscience, purifies our desires, and helps us see clearly what leads us closer to God and what pulls us away.

This wisdom reaches its fullness in today’s Gospel when Jesus tells us plainly: “I have not come to abolish the Law, but to fulfill it.” Then, He does something extraordinary: He takes the Law beyond external actions and brings it straight into the heart. For instance, Jesus tells us that it is not enough simply to avoid murder: we must confront anger; it is not enough to avoid adultery: we must purify our desires; it is not enough to speak truth with our lips: our hearts must also be truthful. When Jesus speaks about plucking out an eye or cutting off a hand, He uses strong language to wake us up. He is not asking us to harm or mutilate our bodies; He is asking us to act decisively against sin.

If someone struggles with gossip, Jesus does not demand that you “Cut off your tongue.” He is saying: Cut off the habit. Cut off the desire. Cut off whatever feeds it. Sin must be confronted seriously, because sin is never harmless. Jesus reminds us that sin begins in the heart. Anger wounds love. Lust distorts dignity. False words or lies damage truth. This is why we cannot negotiate with sin. We must remove, not parts of our body, but the habits, attachments, and occasions that slowly pull us away from God.



Here, the wisdom of Saint Augustine helps us deeply. He teaches that the real battle against sin is fought in the heart and the mind. Unless the heart is healed, the Law remains external; written on stone and not written within us. The commands of Jesus may sound demanding, but they are actually life-giving. The Law of God was never meant to be a burden; it was given as a path to freedom. Jesus calls us not to a divided life where one is a certain way on the outside and another way on the inside; but to have an undivided heart. The Gospel invites us to interior holiness: purity of heart, integrity of intention, and truthfulness of speech. To live this way requires self-mastery, vigilance over our thoughts, and courage to make difficult choices. True freedom is not doing whatever we want. True freedom is having the strength to choose what leads to life. So today, the Gospel asks each of us:

Where do I compromise with sin?

What do I tolerate that slowly hardens my heart?

What must I remove so that I may live in freedom?

Dear brothers and sisters, let us ask for the wisdom that comes from above—the wisdom that purifies our intentions, disciplines our desires, and strengthens our love. The Law of God is not a heavy burden. It is a guiding light. In Christ, we do not lose freedom; we gain it. We gain joy, peace, and the promise of eternal life. May the Lord pour upon us the Spirit of Wisdom, give us the courage to turn away from sin, and grant us the grace to live fully in His Holy Law.