



DARE TO DREAM

Autumn Series

Week Beginning October 17th

29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Before you begin, read this extract from 'Rule for A New Brother' (Author ANON)

What love is you can learn from Jesus.

He is the one who has loved most.

He will teach you to put the centre of yourself outside.

For no man has greater love than he who lays down his life for his friends.

He will also teach you to be unlimited space for others,
invitation and openness:

'Come to me, all who are weary and over-burdened
and I will give you rest.'

So be converted to love every day.

Change all your energies, all your potential, into selfless gifts for the other person.

Then you yourself will be changed from within

and through you God's Kingdom will break into the world.

Video - Watch and listen to Bishop Declan Lang

Prayerfully read this passage from the Gospel of Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

- Take some time to ponder on the words you have just read.
- Notice if there is anything, a word or phrase that stands out for you.
- Read the passage again and then reflect upon all or some of these questions: if you are doing this as a family or a group, make sure everyone is given the opportunity to speak.

Personal Reflections

- What strikes you most about the message in today's Gospel?
- Jesus is clear that to be great one must be willing to serve – where have you experienced true service in your own life?

Now thinking about your parish and local community

- What qualities do you think a good leader has?
- Who are the natural leaders in your community?
- What would help your parish to develop leaders, especially amongst the young?
- What is your vision of leadership in the Church over the next ten years?

Action

Leadership comes in many forms. In parish life, good leaders facilitate others. Take some time to reflect on the different opportunities in your parish where leaders are required. Are there people who would make very good leaders if they were given the opportunity to be developed? If you are a parish council, how do you ensure that the formation of leaders is a priority?

Finish with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit for the grace to respond.

