

Dear Spa Family,

Every day we hear about various difficulties in which human suffering is especially dominant. Someone has lost their job unjustly, war breaks out elsewhere, and another shooting took place in our country. Disease is also among these difficult and suffering matters. Long-lasting, painful, severe, incurable diseases. Various foundations, different people try to help a sick, needy person.

It was no different in the time of Jesus. Leprosy was such a terrible disease for many reasons. First, because of great suffering. People suffering from leprosy lost feeling and experienced numerous degenerations. Their body was devastated by the bacteria and their appearance became repulsive. They were rejected by people because of the fear of getting infected and becoming unclean.

Jesus restored the health of ten lepers. He restored mostly their dignity, gave them a better tomorrow, restored their lives. Jesus showed people His great mercy once again. And we've experienced this merciful love many times in our lives. Because we've also suffered from many diseases, both physical and spiritual. Every sin is our spiritual disease. We often experience healing from our sins, from our spiritual infirmity, from what distances us from God and from other people.

Gospel about ten lepers wants to teach us to be grateful. Grateful for all that we've received in our lives from God. Because, unfortunately, we are often like those healed from the Gospel. We receive from God, we ask, and sometimes we forget the attitude of gratitude. Only a grateful person is able to witness true mercy.

Let us listen to the teaching of St. John Paul II, who many times called us to an attitude of mercy. He said that it was mercy that should be the center of the Church's ministry, and therefore each of us. Pope called us to be able to forgive, to reconcile with our neighbor, to help them rise from the spiritual decline, but also to take care of these ordinary human matters: to care for the poor and the poorest. He taught us:

The whole Church is directly called to render the service of love: "And as, at the dawn of her history, the Holy Church, when she joined the Eucharistic Supper with the Agape, showed herself to be completely united by the bond of love around Christ, so always she is recognizable by this sign of love as her duty and inalienable right. That is why the Church places special honor on mercy towards the poor and sick, and on the so-called works of mercy and mutual help, aimed at bringing help in various human needs."

Today, let us learn to be grateful to God for His mercy. But let us also learn to share this mercy with other people who often live close to us. And when participating in the Eucharist, let us ask that we know how to practice merciful love in our daily lives. Have a blessed week. Fr. Chris Ciastoń

