

Homily – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, B

Rev. Bob Schramm, OSFS

**By chance, does anyone here tend to procrastinate?
There's a sense of URGENCY in all three of today's readings.**

**People of Nineveh are told they have 40 days left – PERIOD;
40 more days and Nineveh WILL BE DESTROYED!
They are not, it seems, being given the option to REPENT.
Now that's urgent!**

**God's mind about them seems to be made up,
despite that they decide to change their behavior.
The only one in the story who repents is God.
That gives a new kind of meaning to our word "repent."
That word for us conjures up revival meetings
and public acknowledgment of SIN.
Here, it implies God's changing direction.
New way for us to look at it. Not just saying you've sinned, but
DOING something about it.**

Christians of Corinth are told that time is running out.

**Word for time there is "KAIROS"
chronos – calendar, watch.
Kairos puts emphasis on opportunities/options,
not so much number of days, months and years.
Take advantage of the opportunities, the gifts at your disposal.**

**The Gospel begins with "After John's arrest"–
Great sense of urgency;
Evil must be confronted.**

This is the time (Kairos) of fulfillment – moment of opportunity

The Kingdom of God IS AT HAND – within your grasp.

**The word "KINGDOM" comes up a lot in Mark.
Kairos of grace –
Not a place (a country), or a group (a church), but
a way of being inside yourself, with others, in the world – ultimately with God.**

It's elusive, mysterious.

Laudato Si' – Urgency

A motto of the OSFS is “LIVE JESUS!” an acclamation, an exhortation, a proclamation –

Viva!

Thomas Friedman, writer for *The New York Times*, wrote “Thank You for Being Late” about a year ago.

It deals with unprecedented pace of change in the world today.

We’ve known nothing like it since the invention of the printing press.

**Change is happening because of three large forces on the planet
technology, globalization and climate change.**

ALL ARE ACCELERATING

**Jesus’ tactic in addressing the chaos (sea) all around is to chose ordinary folks
Peter, Andrew, James and John.**

He teaches them to fish for people with a very wide net,

breathe the breath of God into them, then send them out in his name.

Quite a strategy, tactic.

Surprise those who think they’re in charge.

Urgency – Don’t miss the opportunity, the Kairos moment.

Thank you for being late – taking the time to PONDER, reflect.

Urgency is not frenzied, but DETERMINED.