



Daily Reflections

November 3, 2018

Scripture

Luke 14: 1, 7-11

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully. He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honor. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, 'Give your place to this man,' and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place. Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Our Scripture Reflection

Rather than simply teaching His disciples table etiquette, Jesus is given them a lesson on humility. People who are humble are neither arrogant nor presumptuous. They do not presume that they are held in high esteem by others nor do they consider themselves worthy and owed such an honor. The humble person lowers himself before others, and especially before the Lord. True humility is the result of surrendering one's life completely to the Lord.

Food for your Journey

Not every athlete is noted for brash self-promotion. On September 6, 1995, Cal Ripken, shortstop for the Baltimore Orioles, became baseball's new "Iron Man," breaking Lou Gehrig's all-time record of 2,130 consecutive games played. Ripken had not missed a game since May 30, 1982.

While a superb athlete, Ripken's Iron Man record is not based on flashy, prima donna behavior on or off the field. Players don't rack up a statistic like that unless they place very high value on faithful service, training and teamwork.

On the night when he broke the record, Ripken said: "Tonight I stand here, overwhelmed, as my name is linked with the great and courageous Lou Gehrig. I'm truly humbled to have our names spoken in the same breath."

What's more, everyone who heard Ripken say that they believed it.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, In humbling Yourself and accepting suffering and death on the Cross, You became the model of humility for Christians. In a society where high self-esteem is prized, help me to choose Your way instead, the way of lowliness and humility. Amen