November 2, 2019

Scripture

**John 6:37-40**

Jesus said to the crowds:

"Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me.
And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day.
For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day."

Our Scripture Reflection

Today we commemorate the feast of All Souls. At this feast we remember and pray for our loved ones who have died. Today's Gospel from John reminds us of two important points for the person of faith:
The purpose of Jesus: "I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me….to not lose anything (anyone)"
Our purpose: "to see the Son of Man and believe in Him"
In the distracted busy-ness of life, do we not forget this most important point? May today's Gospel and feast help you get your priorities in the proper order.

Food for your Journey
The Resurrection is not a one-time miracle that proved Jesus was God. Jesus’ death and resurrection name and reveal what is happening everywhere and all the time in God and in everything God creates. Reality is always moving toward resurrection. ... This is why I believe in the physical resurrection of Jesus, even if it is a new kind of physicality which Paul struggles to describe (see 1 Corinthians 15:35).

Resurrection is not an isolated miracle as much as it is an enduring relationship. The best way to speak about the Resurrection is not to say “Jesus rose from the dead” — as if it was self-generated — but to say “Jesus was raised from the dead” (as many early texts state). The Eternal Christ is thus revealed as the map, the blueprint, the “promise,” “pledge” and “guarantee” (Paul’s metaphors) of what is happening everywhere, all summed up in one person so we can see it in personified and singular form.

I think this is why Jesus usually called himself “The Son of Man,” as in the Archetypal Human. His resurrection is not so much a miracle that we can argue about, believe or disbelieve, but an invitation to look deeper at the pattern of death and rising in all that is human.


### A Prayer from the Heart

Dear God, You created me and gave me a place in this big, beautiful world that You also created. You have given me a purpose, which is to love You, know You and serve You. May I use the time You have given, however long that may be, to give You glory and praise. Amen