



Daily Reflections

January 7, 2017

Scripture

John 2:1-11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee,
and the mother of Jesus was there.

Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

When the wine ran short,
the mother of Jesus said to him,
"They have no wine."

And Jesus said to her,
"Woman, how does your concern affect me?
My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servers,
"Do whatever he tells you."

Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings,
each holding twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus told them,
"Fill the jars with water."

So they filled them to the brim.
Then he told them,
"Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter."
So they took it.
And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine,
without knowing where it came from
(although the servers who had drawn the water knew),
the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,
"Everyone serves good wine first,
and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one;
but you have kept the good wine until now."
Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee
and so revealed his glory,
and his disciples began to believe in him.

Our Scripture Reflection

And the headwaiter said, "You have saved the good wine until now." Jesus' miracle at Cana is loaded with meaning:

1. He illustrates that when God provides, He gives the best and in abundance
2. Jesus came to replace the traditions and teachings of old with His very life, His way

This wonderful text calls us to open up our lives in trust to Jesus and His way. If we do, be prepared to be transformed.

Food for your Journey

Something old, something new, something borrowed, something ... to go wrong! Really, couples ought to update that traditional list of wedding essentials: because, whether or not they make the revision, something is most emphatically bound to go wrong.

It has to. It's the law of averages. With so many details, and so many people involved -- some of whom barely know each other -- it's inevitable that something (or someone) will be forgotten, neglected, backwards or late.

Always there's that slip-up, that mishap, that stumbling over words (or over something more substantial).

Not to worry. Chances are excellent that the very thing that goes wrong will turn out, years in the future, to become the centerpiece of the couple's favorite wedding story.

At the marriage at Cana, something does go wrong. Only this is no minor faux pas. According to the customs of the day, it's a social disaster.

The wine runs out. Don't the rabbis teach that "without wine, there is no joy?" And is it not true that, at a wedding, the sacred laws of hospitality are especially precious?

Crestfallen, the bride's parents regard each other in dismay. The bride looks over at them, too, tears flooding her eyes. Then she looks to her new husband, who's turning red with embarrassment. His eyes won't even meet hers. The whispering has already started: "They have no wine."

Then, across the room, two mothers' eyes meet: the desperate mother of the bride and Mary, mother of Jesus. In that instant, Mary knows what she has to do.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, At Cana You transformed a desperate situation into something marvelous and new. Pour forth Your Amazing Grace upon me to transform me into the person You want me to be. Amen.