

‘What is this world coming to?’ How often do we hear this phrase in a week? I think that the answer might be a lot higher than one might think. Whenever this phrase is used and for whatever situation it might be, there is always one common factor; the ‘it’s all about me’ attitude.

“Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice.”

James 3: 16

Everything that is ugly in this world, is a result of the selfish attitude “it’s all about me”. My needs are more important than anyone else. My goals, my career, my way, my possessions, my, my, my... Our society encourages us to be people who are concerned first and foremost about ourselves and then if we choose, then we can be concerned with others. But the teaching of Christ is to put everyone else before our own self. When we lack the care for everyone else, our world falls into a cycle of selfishness that lacks in compassion.

But this should not discourage or make us feel hopeless. As Christians we are called to be the shining example for the rest of the world. So rather than ‘what is this world coming to?’ (for the bad), let’s make it ‘look where our world is headed!’ (for the good). If we believe in the power of Christ’s death and resurrection...why should we fear? Why should we wince at the thought of meeting the problems of the world head on, when we have Christ? There is no fear in love, no matter what the outcome. For the promise of Christ is beyond all fear and the hope of resurrection is a reality.

“Following Jesus, means taking up one’s own cross to accompany him on his journey, a path that ultimately leads to true freedom, freedom from selfishness and sin. To accompany the Lord means rejecting the worldly mentality that puts the “self” at the center of existence, instead of following what is renewed and authentic.” Pope Francis

Let us stand strong in the humility of our faith in our risen Savior. Let us be bold in confronting the evils of this world, with the sincere kindness of our hearts. Let us speak in one voice proclaiming the Good News of life eternal. Let us reach out to those who are most in need and let us defeat the spirit of ‘all about me’ attitude with our compassionate embrace of one another. Let us become Christians by example and not by name alone.

*Jesus,
Inspire within us
a sense of the big picture.
To live beyond ourselves
and embrace the being of others
as our reason to live.
Teach us to be like you
in word, thought and action.
May we never forget that we belong to
each other and are bound together in
the love of Your death and resurrection.*

AMEN