

The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ, October 17, 2021

BEING "SOMEBODY"

Today it seems everyone wants to be "somebody." In this Sunday's Gospel, we meet two disciples of Jesus who wanted to be "somebody." James and John approach Jesus and ask that when he comes to power in his kingdom, he puts them in positions of honor and prestige.

In response, Jesus tells them what they are asking would require them to drink the cup of suffering that awaited him.

When the other disciples hear what James and John ask of Jesus they become "indignant." Perhaps their annoyance is prompted not only by the naked ambition of James and John, but also by the fact they did not get their request in first. They all wanted to be "somebody."

Because of the desire of his disciples to be in positions of power and importance, Jesus tells them that those who are "somebody" in God's estimation are those who put themselves at the service others.

Today it seems that everybody wants to be "somebody." But not everyone realizes that the greatest "somebody" who walked this earth, became so, not by doing what the world requires of its "somebodies," but rather by giving "his life as a ransom for many."

Those who want to be "somebody" need to learn from his example. Be like Jesus, be of service to others. Then you will be "somebody."

In your service, prayerfully.

Father John Carlos