

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John  
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,  
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**WORDS AND ACTION**



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us that words and beautiful promises are of little use if they are not implemented in actions: good intentions are not enough, they must be turned into works.

Jesus tells this parable to the chief priests and the elders of the people who lived in hypocrisy. They honored God with their lips, but their hearts were far from Him. Despite this, they were convinced they were good. Jesus does not approve of his way of proceeding.

Assiduously, Christians fall or may fall into the same mistake. We participate in Sunday Mass, we say our prayers ..., but our faith, our celebration, is not "noticed" in our daily lives. We reduced the Christian identity to a series of practices that we carry out in intimacy and at certain times, never being the core of our life.

Our celebrations, in addition to leaving a series of ideas, should also leave a mark on the hearts of the faithful. Experiencing that God loves us, that He wants to save us, perceiving the splendor of the divine life ... will be the best way for faith to transcend the word into works, that is, for faith to stop being just a series of ideas that we believe , but also to become a way of life.

Let us not forget to pray for each other,

Father John Carlos