

## The Homily for the Second Sunday after Epiphany

[Fr Augustine Koluti – Vicar General]

✠ *MAY THE WORDS OF MY MOUTH AND MEDITATION OF ALL OUR HEARTS BE NOW AND ALWAYS ACCEPTABLE IN THY SIGHT, O LORD OUR STRENGTH AND OUR REDEEMER. AMEN.*

THEME : WHAT IS YOUR NEED TODAY ?

In putting today's Homily into context, I believe, it is wise firstly to define EPIPHANY, as given in the Oxford South African Dictionary as:

1. The manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles (world) as represented by the Magi.
2. A moment of sudden and great revelation.
3. Others will see Epiphany as that "Aha" moment.

To understand John's approach/ purpose/ emphasis on his Gospel, (compared to other Gospels) it is designed to cause people to come to believe that, "*Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God and that through this belief you may have life in His name.*" (John 20:31)

John captures his purpose around the 7 signs or miracles or *Aha* moments, the first of which is: Jesus turning water into wine – our Gospel today.

In today's Homily, we are focussing on the first miracle/ sign that Jesus performed at the Wedding in Cana, where He changed water into wine.

Mary, (Jesus mother) was present as a relative to the bridegroom and Jesus and His disciples were invited as well to the wedding.

Mary on observing that they ran out of wine, made an attempt to avert the crisis by reporting it to Jesus. Jesus performed the miracle of changing water into wine and all was fine.

By this miracle, He manifested His Glory, and entrenched His divine authority and the power to do the miracles.

Lastly, the result of this manifestation was that His disciples believed in Him.

What are we to learn from this miraculous event captured in the Gospel of today is very helpful to our modern lives.

Whenever we are confronted with problems or pressing needs, we should without hesitation take them to Jesus, just as Mary did.

Jesus is the only one who truly sees our needs and feels our pains. He is the only one who completely understands our needs and sorrows. Once we have brought our needs to Him, ours is to trust and believe Him. When we take our burdens to the Lord, we are guaranteed that He will deliver. That was what Mary did and the problem was solved. (John 2:5 – 10)

Jesus is ready and prepared to change any situation of our lives if we are open for Him to do so.

Once Jesus changes your 'water', he will give you the best 'wine'. (His new wine surprised the master of the wedding feast – Jn 2 9-10)

And that 'Aha' moment, that sudden and great moment or epiphany, that God revelation, you will never forget, for your life can never be the same.

You will, in fact, become like His disciples who "believed in Him" ( Jn 2:11)

In conclusion, our Gospel tells us that God cares about us. In any difficult situation we may face, He is ready to lessen our burden and minister to us.

Waste no time – bring all to Jesus and your worries will be over! Jesus of Nazareth is waiting for you ; take your needs to Him now!

May God bless you today

*In the + Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen*

*The Wedding at Cana in Galilee*

