

June 14, 2008
Saturday of the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time

Readings of the day may be found on the following link:

<http://www.nccbuscc.org/nab>

1 Kings 19:19-21

Psalms 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10

Matthew 5:33-37

Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' □ Anything more is from the Evil One.

I prayed with this gospel for a week and nothing came to me. Then, in the midst of my struggle to understand how this gospel was speaking to me, I attended my grand daughter's dance recital and light began to break through the darkness.. As I watched all those little girls (and 2 boys) dance, I saw sheer delight on their faces. The recital was filled with unexpected events that could have put the damper on anything, much less the year long hard work of each of them for this recital. The lights failed and several classes danced in the dark. Many others had to dance with the stage lights off and the auditorium lights blaring. Then a threatening storm approached, creating the necessity to move the recital along quickly in order to get everyone home safely before the storm hit the area.. One class was moved off the stage as the next was being moved on, with nudging by their helpers to move quickly. In the midst of all that delight remained apparent. Some could say that these children showed the utmost professionalism. I like to think of it as the ability to live in the moment that they loved, and love for the moment in which they lived. That I think is the ultimate *yes* and life has taught me that each *yes* comes with a thousand *no's*. I watched my grand daughter say no to the ice cream her grandfather offered her because it would interfere with her ability to dance well. I watched her go to practice when she was tired, refusing to give in to the fatigue. I imagine the 2 boys had to draw from internal resources to do what they loved to do and not buckle to conventional beliefs. As I watched that evening, I began to see that there is not much difference between the cost of the *yes* these children and teens say to dance and the cost of the *yes* we say to Jesus.

□ *The power of man's virtue should not be measured by his special efforts, but by his ordinary doings.*

Blaise Pascal