

Daily Homily
Week Twelve in Ordinary Time, Thursday
25 June 2020
[USCCB Daily Reading](#)

Jesus is dabbling in engineering. Foundations. What are we built upon?

The founding Fathers of our country established a foundation in which they established this New World of ours. Individually those men and women had their flaws. They were human. Individually they responded to their circumstances and the situation and issues of their times and their days. How they reacted to their 1776 issues will be very different than how we, in 2020, would react. We have come a long way. The foundation they established for our nation, however, is set and in place. The foundation is immovable ... all are created equal, endowed by the Creator by unalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

How about the foundation of our faith? Our Catholic faith goes back over 2,000 years. The shoulders we stand on, the principals we adhere to, the history that is our – both stellar and embarrassing – all encompass a foundation on which we steadily stand. The saints, great examples of Christian life, hold us in place. Our religious education, priests, sisters, teachers, catechists, peers, great grandparents, grandparents, parents who taught us and formed us and showed us how to be Christian, they have built our foundation in faith. They have done so, not just with catechisms and concepts, not just through helping us to know stuff and learn things. They have done so by introducing us to and encouraging that one relationship, a relationship to Jesus.

Knowing about Jesus is never enough. Every Buddhist in the world knows about Jesus, it does not make them Christian. What is necessary is to know Jesus. Jesus risen and alive and whose Spirit continues to dwell with us and within us today. What is necessary is that we relate to him and that we are in a relationship with him. This is our foundation. This relationship grows through time with him, called prayer. We know him through Scripture and through our Sacraments. We know him through his ongoing work and activity in the Church and through the Church. We know him in service to those whom he loves the poor, the down-and-out, the suffering, the sick, the elderly. This is our rock foundation. It is important to have.

Being Christians, being followers of Christ, does not guarantee an easy life. It does not guarantee that every storm will pass over us, that every trial and tribulation will not come our way, that we will be exempt from personal tragedy and upset. Our life in Christ actually shines brightest in these moments. Look to St. Paul who was battered in so many ways. Look to the martyrs. Look to the persecuted Christians in various parts of the world even in our times today. As long as the foundation is there, as long as it is strong, stable and steady, Christians endure, and we are resilient.

Sand, however, our greatest enemy. Wishy washy. Luke warm. Cafeteria faith. Our own personal agendas. Nothing can stand on sand. Storms will come. They are bound to come. Sin, scandal, pandemics, counter cultural tensions all of this will blow against the Church and even within the Church. Our foundation, however, is rock solid... not just an institution, not just another “ism” (Catholicism), not just another group in the books of history... our foundation is a person, our rock, Jesus Christ.

How is Jesus your foundation in all that you do?