

Daily Homily
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
Memorial
33 Week, Ordinary Time, Thursday
17 November 2022
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The Gospel ends with that word “visitation.”

Do you remember the other visitation that is at the beginning of the Gospel? The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth? It’s a much different scene. After the visitation of the angel to Mary... she goes in haste to see her cousin, Elizabeth. When these two women come together, when they meet, they recognize with great joy the work that God is doing within them and through them. Even the child within Elizabeth’s womb leaps for joy. That was quite a visitation.

Now we are at the end of the Gospel and hearing about a much different visitation. In Scripture whenever you hear “Jesus is going to Jerusalem,” we should keep in mind... Jesus is going to the cross. In this scene He is outside the city walls of Jerusalem ... there is no joy or leaping in this visitation of this city and center of faith. Only regret. He wasn’t recognized. His peace was not passed on. His presence could not “fit in.” Trouble for the city is coming. Jesus weeps over the city because of regret.

Another visitation is happening in this Mass. In this Eucharist Jesus is coming to visit us. He’s been in both places, joy and regret. When you approach him today, if it’s right, approach him with joy and gladness. Give that to him. However, he shared everything with us – except sin – regret is not a sin. If you have regret in your life, bring that to Him as well. He knows about regret too. Give that to Him. Weep with Him even. And unlike the city of Jerusalem, may His peaceful presence be felt and recognized, as He weeps with you.