

Theme of the Week - Do whatever He tells you

In the Gospel of John, the account of Jesus transforming water into wine at the wedding in Cana of Galilee offers profound lessons for real-life application. First, it underscores the importance of believing in the limitless power of God, as demonstrated in the miraculous transformation. This act reminds us that what seems impossible for humans is entirely possible with divine intervention.

Second, the story emphasizes the value of obedience to Jesus' instructions. The disciples exemplified this obedience when they acted upon His commands, prompted by His mother's trust in Him. Their readiness to follow without hesitation serves as a model of faith in action. Finally, the narrative teaches the principle of asking in faith. It suggests that through prayer, faith, and adherence to His guidance, one can experience blessings that surpass expectations. Even in circumstances that appear insurmountable, God's provision is abundant and sufficient. This event reassures believers that Jesus, as a caring provider, will always find a way to meet the needs of His people.

The transformation of water into wine symbolizes Jesus' power to bring joy, abundance, and transformation. It reveals His identity as God (divinity) and foreshadows His mission to replace the old covenant with the new. This miracle also shows His care for human needs by preventing social embarrassment at the wedding, affirming His compassion for both practical and spiritual concerns.

The gospel passage from John connects to many virtues from our Pupil Profile, including being **Learned** and **Wise**:

The servants exemplified a teachable spirit by following Jesus' instructions, even though the request to fill ceremonial jars with water may have seemed strange. Their willingness to trust and act enabled them to witness and **learn** from the miracle. Similarly, the disciples grew in their understanding of Jesus' divine nature through this event.

Being "**learned**" also involves seeking deeper meaning in events and situations, as this story invites us to reflect on how God works through everyday circumstances to reveal profound truths.

Wisdom in this Gospel is highlighted in Mary's confident instruction to the servants: "Do whatever he tells you." Mary demonstrates spiritual insight, recognizing the importance of trusting Jesus even before He performs the miracle. **Wisdom** here is the ability to discern the right course of action, even when the outcome is not immediately clear.

The story also illustrates that **wisdom** involves humility and obedience. The servants' actions, though simple, required trust in something greater than their own understanding. True **wisdom** involves not only knowledge but the discernment to act in alignment with God's will, even when it seems unconventional or counterintuitive.

Do whatever He tells you

Weekly Reflections
19th January 2025
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



From the Gospel of John (2: 1-11)

At that time: There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus also was invited to the wedding with his disciples. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

Now there were six stone water jars there for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding seventy or one hundred litres. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, 'Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.' So they took it. When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.'

This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father, At Cana, Your son turned water into wine, showing Your power and care.
Help us trust in Your timing, obey Your word, and believe in Your abundant blessings.
Transform our lives as You did the jars, and reveal Your glory to us.

Through Christ our Lord

Amen

Day 1

What can we learn from the way the servants trusted and obeyed, even when they didn't fully understand what Jesus was doing?

How can we apply this lesson to situations where we are asked to step out of our comfort zones?

Day 2

What does the transformation of water into wine symbolize about who Jesus is and what He came to do?

How does this miracle reveal both Jesus' divinity and His care for human needs?

Day 3

Mary told the servants to "do whatever He tells you." How can we cultivate the **wisdom** to listen to and follow good guidance in our lives?

How can you use the knowledge (**learned**) you gain in school to make **wise** decisions?

Catholic Social Teaching - Dignity of Work and Participation

We respect the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Church teaching has upheld the dignity of work and participation. The human person should always come before the pursuit of profit. Workers have the right to join trade unions, to a just wage, to spend time with their families and to rest. Work is an essential part of our human dignity and everyone has the right to participate.

"It is essential that we continue to prioritise the goal of access to steady employment for everyone, no matter the limited interests of business and dubious economic reasoning" - Pope Francis

How this half term can you promote the Dignity of Work and Participation in all that you do in St Joseph's and society?