



A weekly reflection by members
of the Precious Blood Community

July 31, 2024

Fr. Steve Dos Santos, C.P.P.S.

*When he finds a pearl of great price,
he goes and sells all that he has and buys it. (Mt 13:46)*

I have a friend who is quite a collector of Star Wars paraphernalia. Over the years he has amassed quite a collection. He is always on the lookout for new and/or rare items to add to his collection. No one would ever accuse me of being spartan, but nothing has ever captured my attention and imagination such that I have become obsessed with creating such a collection. Yet that is precisely what today's readings suggest should be our response to the Word.

Jeremiah recalls becoming obsessed with the words of Scripture, and Jesus invites us to see in our relationship with Him, the living Word, a treasure worth more than everything else. Our relationship with Jesus truly is more valuable than anything else, yet it is so easy to lose sight of it. When I was younger, love of the Word meant multiple translations of the Bible in order to better study Scripture. As I got older the focus shifted slightly to commentaries. But none of that was the real depth to which we are called, they were small collections distracting me from the real treasure, Jesus Himself.

Relationship with Jesus is the pearl of great price. Jesus, the Word made flesh invites us into deep relationship with Himself. He desires that this relationship be the most important thing in our life. Love of Jesus can become our all-consuming passion. When we dive into it with our whole self we come to know that our worth is found in the Precious Blood of Jesus spent for our sake. But it doesn't end there, because when we abide deeply with Jesus, we realize that everyone else is also worth the Precious Blood of Jesus. The pearl of great price becomes not an object or even a privileged individual relationship with Jesus, but a reality of graced communion in which we are all loved and nourished by the very Word made flesh. The one who saw in each of us a treasure worth everything He had.

Fr. Steve has been an incorporated member of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood since 2006. He has served the community in many capacities. He currently serves as the Pastor of St. James the Less Parish in Columbus Ohio. You can visit their website at: www.stjames-cpps.org

This weekly reflection is made available to all who are part of our Precious Blood family. Feel free to share it with others. Would you be willing to write a reflection? If so, please contact Vicky Otto at votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org