

Today is Friday the 19 July, in the Fifteenth Week of Ordinary Time.

Salt of the Sound sing ?Turn your eyes upon Jesus? and the things of the earth will fall strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.?

Today?s reading is from the Gospel of Matthew.

In this slightly disconcerting story, Jesus confronts His listeners with the Son of Man, in other words, with Himself. He doesn?t give them rules or criteria for correct ethical behaviour, even less a political system. Just Himself. We cannot remain neutral about Him. We either accept Him on His own terms or we don?t. Take a few minutes now in silence to check out how you react to Jesus, the Son of Man... don?t try and force yourself to think the ?right thing? ? just see what comes as you look at him, say his name...

Perhaps I can ask myself, what am I really looking for in life?... something other than Jesus? A legal contract with God? A guarantee of a trouble-free existence? Or friendship with the Lord of life?

Listen to the encounter again. In the light of what has come up for you, you might like to imagine yourself as someone in the scene ? a Pharisee, a disciple or an onlooker ? go with whatever seems right ? let the conversations develop freely and spontaneously...

The conversation with Jesus about who He really is never comes to an end... even when we think we have come to final clarity there is still more to discover... notice where you are on your journey with the Lord now, without judging yourself, and see what you want to say to the Lord in the last moments of this prayer time.