

OCTOBER 11, 2015

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



WISDOM 7:7–11

PSALM 98:12–13, 14–15, 16–17

HEBREWS 4:12–13

MARK 10:17–30 OR 10:17–27

REFLECTION

How many times a day do you stop to thank your parents for something? Aside from birthdays, Christmas, or another special holiday or event, parenting can be a thankless job—but it's one filled with great joy. Everything that you are given is from the selfless love of another human being. Would you want to have a job, earn a decent amount of money, and then give up all your money to your friends? The love of a parent is a lot like the love of Jesus in today's Gospel.

Jesus is approached by ten lepers. Lepers were considered outcasts. Their disease caused people to shut them out of society. They had to beg for everything! But something in them made them call out to ask Jesus for help. This is faith! Jesus had pity and healed them. Of the ten lepers who were cleansed and healed, only one said "thank you." Think of your parents. Imagine that you and your siblings were given an amazing gift and only one of you says "thank you." The thankful leper senses the healing, immediately gives glory to God, and turns around to fall at Jesus' feet. By thanking God (or others), you acknowledge the goodness inside another and allow this same goodness to grow within you. This is why parenting is such a joy, your parents get to watch your goodness and love grow as they shower you with theirs.



"FOREVER"

CHRIS TOMLIN

[www.youtube.com/
watch?v=-2J9P9W97-U](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2J9P9W97-U)

ACTION

Write a thank you card to a different person each day this week. Make sure one is to your parent(s) for all the small things they do. Write one to a teacher who helps or inspires you, another to a friend who always is there for you, and maybe another to a grandparent. Whom else can you thank?

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- Who inspires you to be a happy person or to see the bright side of things? What makes this person so happy? How can you be more like them?
- The word *Eucharist* is a Greek word that means "to give thanks." What might you offer to God to give him thanks when you go to Mass this Sunday?