

**FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY YEAR B 2024:**

**THE POWER OF TOUCH:**

The scene is near the Sea of Galilee in that hot weather like Kenyan mini scorching summer of February, Jesus and the apostles had taken refuge near the trees there, Peter complaining of hotness thus taking out his robe. The unnamed man was following them from a distance and getting closer. Jesus watched the dirty robbed man, with uncombed shaggy hair long unattended beards approaching him. He stopped, directly facing Jesus gasping for breath, his body was all sores and scales indicating the struggle with this killer disease. The poor unnamed person **was tense, fearful, anxious with unnamed expectations of the of what will come out from this healer Jesus. Is he going to listen to him?** Jesus looked at him with pity, already the apostles had taken off and watched from a distance on their master! Jesus remained seated as he looked at the leper boldly stepped closer to him and then kneeled before him in reverence. Jesus looked at the man with pity. He looked into the eyes of Jesus and **pleaded "if you will to do so you can cure me". Without hesitation Jesus reached out and put his fingertips directly on the man's sores I do will it Be cured.** The man got cured of the disease.

Throughout the history and in all the cultures, leprosy has been feared more than any other disease. HIV-AIDS, coronavirus obviously threatened humanity recently though there was and still have isolations of the sick from the family and the community but the level of fear is not as bad as the leprosy as the victims are considered **as outcasts.** In today's gospel Jesus broke those superstition and taboos of the old times and **reached out to this suffering unmanned person.** We see the **power of touch and healing in Jesus's action.** Jesus at a given time told his apostles to **heal the sick and cleanse the lepers.**

By that single **gesture,** he telling his church **to bring the gospel to all humanity, not to isolate anyone despite his or her condition, beneath that exterior of the person, there is too interior person loved by God, needs compassion, mercy and desire to be healed, we must be agents of that healing as followers Christ.** It is our responsibility to be close to such people, help them to recover. By that gesture, he reached out also to that interior person suffering not only isolation from society but also inside his soul. He is telling us not to **judge people by their look or appearance, color, political or even religious affiliations or the way they dress, there is a lot hidden on those expensive dressing.** we all have an inside and outside appearance. Let's not take care only of the

outside which people see and we don't pay attention to the **suffering inside of self,our soul.**

**Hate,anger bitterness,arrogance,envy,fear corruptions at all levels** are real sores of **modern leprosy in our different society.**They isolate us from the **love of God** thus making us strangers to our society.

The leper in today's gospel needed outside healing,we need the **healing on the inside.**Jesus has given us the power of his sacraments,the power of **confession,to bring his healing touch to a place where no doctor can operate,therapist can probe,where medication can soothe,where no friend can see deep within our souls,**the part of us that last forever is the place **where Jesus can reach only with his touch of love and compassion we need to have faith like the leper today.**

As we come to the beginning of Lent season this coming Ash Wednesday let us go to Him with all humility he is telling you and me today(***I do will it, be made holy***)

***NB:[Thank you for bearing with me over my vacation last month of January.Best wishes from Kenya,sorry for those I was not able to visit in Kenya,I had a crazy schedule including being a baby seater for a two and half baby!!!***