

Theme: **TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF GRATITUDE! 28th
Sunday in Ordinary Time!**

12 October 2025

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The story of the ten lepers in today's Gospel reading offers a profound lesson on the importance of gratitude in our lives. These ten men, marginalized by society due to their illness, came to Jesus with a plea for mercy. Jesus healed them, but only one returned to express his gratitude.

This story raises important questions about human nature, Why do we often forget to say thank you? Do we express gratitude from the heart or lip service? Why do we take the good things in our lives for granted? Is it because we're too busy, too proud, or too unaware of the source of our blessings? Perhaps it's because we think that we're the ones in control, that our achievements and successes are solely the result of our own efforts.

The one leper who returned to thank Jesus was a Samaritan, an outsider. Yet, he recognized that his healing was a gift from God. He fell at Jesus' feet, glorifying God and thanking Him for the blessing he received. His gratitude was not just a feeling; it was a choice. A choice to acknowledge the source of his healing, to recognize the goodness of God in his life.

Gratitude is a choice that can transform our lives. When we choose to focus on the good things in our lives, we begin to see the world in a different way. We start to appreciate the blessings we have, rather than focusing on what's lacking. We become more aware of the interconnectedness of our lives and the people who have touched us along the way.

The story of the ten lepers challenges us to reflect on our own lives. Are we like the nine lepers, taking our blessings for granted? Or are we like the Samaritan, overflowing with gratitude? Do we recognize the good things in our lives as gifts from God, or do we attribute them to our own efforts or luck?

When we cultivate gratitude, we open ourselves up to more peace, more love, and more abundance. We begin to see that even in the midst of challenges and

difficulties, there are still blessings to be found. Gratitude becomes a way of life, a way of living that brings peace, love, and abundance into our lives, and it's a way of sharing that love and kindness with others.

As we reflect on the story of the ten lepers, let's ask ourselves "What are the blessings in our lives that we're taking for granted? What are the good things that we've experienced that we should be thankful for?" Let's take a moment to reflect on our lives and see where we can cultivate more gratitude.

By embracing gratitude, we'll become more aware of the blessings in our lives, and we'll become more compassionate and emphatic towards others. We'll begin to see that we're all in this together, that we're all part of a larger community that's been blessed with gifts and talents. And as we share those gifts with others, we'll find that gratitude multiplies, and our lives become richer and more meaningful.

As Jesus said, "**YOUR FAITH HAS SAVED YOU,**" let's remember that faith is not just about believing in God, but also about trusting in His goodness and mercy. May we trust in His love and provision, and may our gratitude be a reflection of our faith. May our hearts be filled with gratitude, may our lives be a reflection of God's love, and may we spread kindness and compassion wherever we go. Amen!