

All of the above readings for this Sunday extol or show the abundant, merciful love God has for humanity. Isaiah says it in imagery “as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so shall your God rejoice in you.”

The letter to the Corinthians extols the enormous blessings and gifts the Spirit distributes “to each person as He wishes.”

It would be advantageous for us to re-read and ponder that passage. The letter to the Corinthians leaves no doubt that the Spirit distributes gifts to **each** person. Do we recognize our gifts? Are we grateful for them? Do we show our gratitude by using our gifts for the good of others?

When Jesus changes water into wine it shows the deep compassion and mercy He has for anyone in need. If only our need is brought to His attention! And who can present it best but His own mother? Obviously, Mary recognized the need before it became public and intervened by going to her Son.

It seems Mary recognized the need before it became embarrassing to the bridegroom. Or did the bridegroom let Mary know verbally or by his actions?

What we do know is that Mary went to her Son for help and assistance knowing that He could remedy the situation.

It seems that Jesus was unwilling to help since “My hour has not yet come”. But Mary knew Him better than anyone else at that time, so she directed the servants to “do whatever He tells you.”

I believe that Mary’s words can be addressed to each and every one of us. When we go to her to intercede with her Son on our behalf, she is sure to say to us “Do whatever He tells you.”

It is up to us to listen for His words. Listen to His gentle whispering through our conscience, through the reading of the Gospels, through the deficiencies of the needy.

God speaks to us in many ways. It is up to us to attune ourselves to the frequencies of His broadcasts. It requires us to want to listen, to actually listen and mostly to listen to what He says in Scripture. Do not just listen but try to understand through reflections and ponderings as Mary often did. It takes an effort to listen. It means:

- Being in a quiet prayerful place
- Don’t think of what you’d like to say or do
- Quiet your other every thought
- Read a short passage about His words or actions
- Think about it
- When distracted (you will be) don’t fight it; put it aside and return to the written word
- First of all start with a prayer to the Holy Spirit to enlighten you to hear the word of God
- Then follow wherever it leads