

Donnybrook

24 November 2021

Welcome

Our two readings today might seem very different at first glance. Both, however, are about times of crisis. In both, we find the gifts of eloquence and wisdom. In both, there is a call to resilience.

Topic

Some people are naturally resilient; but there is also a Christian resilience which will see us through difficult times.

Steps

There is the resilience of faith. We know deep down that God is absolutely faithful. We in turn are called to faithfulness. This means being faithful day after day in our own lives in our commitments to the key relationship,, to family, to vocation, to the kind of person God wants each of us to be.

There is the resilience of hope. Being naturally optimistic is not quite the same as being hopeful. As St Paul says,

For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? (Romans 8:24)

And finally, there is the resilience of love. We know that God's "yes" to us in Jesus is literally everlasting – nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Even more, the love of God has been poured into our hearts through Holy Spirit. This gift and this call of love will support us when even more generosity is asked of us. This happens, as we all know.

Conclusion

Our Christian resilience is not simply a matter of endurance. Instead, it is grounded in God and is lived in the spirit of faith, hope and love.