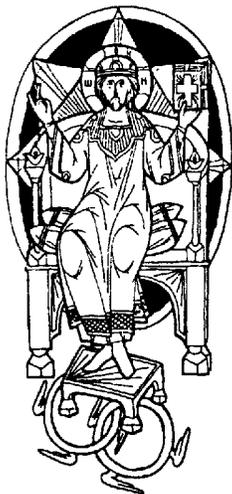


Fifth Sunday of Lent

True Greatness



Should a person try to become great? How should we go about becoming great? Someone said, “If you wish greatness, seek truth and you will find both.” On the fifth Sunday of Lent the Gospel reading deals with the theme of greatness in the light of the Christian faith. The disciples of Jesus were interested in greatness in a way familiar to most of us. Jesus was speaking to them about the end of His mission - His passion, death, and resurrection. But James and John didn’t really understand what Jesus was saying. They could only think about how great they would be with places of honor next to the Messiah sitting on His throne of glory. But Jesus was thinking about His sacrifice - His death on the Cross, not about tokens of glory. What a contrast between the mind of Christ and that of the

Read Mark 10:32-45 the Gospel for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

1. *Of what was Jesus speaking to the disciples on the road going up to Jerusalem (vs. 32)?*
3. *What did James and John request from Jesus (vs. 37)?*
4. *What did Jesus teach the disciples about true greatness (vs. 43, 44)?*
5. *What was Jesus’ own example about greatness? (vs. 45)*



Saint Mary of Egypt

The fifth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to a most amazing young woman who became one of the most penitent Saints in the Orthodox Christian Church. She lived in Egypt during the reign of the Emperor Justinian (527-565). During her young life, Mary of Egypt was an unbeliever and spent much of her time in pursuing the pleasures of life. She was a very beautiful young lady and was much sought after by the young men of Egypt. One year she visited Jerusalem on September 14th (the feast of the Cross) accompanied by several of her admirers. As she was about to enter the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (the place where Christ was buried) she suddenly discovered that it was impossible for her to enter. An unseen power kept her from entering the Holy Shrine in Jerusalem. A sudden change came over Mary of Egypt and she realized that she was not worthy of entering the Holy Church of Jesus Christ. She repented of her sins and begged the Blessed Virgin Mary to help her. Mary of Egypt became a nun in the Church and remained for 40 years in the desert near the Jordan River. Her fame spread through the land as the penitent Saint of the Church, and she became known for her inner spiritual beauty. The Church dedicates this Sunday to her memory to remind us of the wonderful Christian virtue of repentance.

**Saint Mary of
Egypt**

Jesus Christ on His Throne

Mark 10:32-45

the Gospel for the Fifth Sunday of Lent



Jesus is sitting on His Throne in Heaven because He is the Son of God.

One day Jesus was walking down the road with James and John. They asked Jesus for a favor. They asked Him to give them a seat next to His throne in Heaven because they wanted to be great. Jesus told them that if they really wanted to be great they had to do good things for other people, just like He does.

Jesus wants us to love God very much. We show that we love Him when we do good things for other people.