

Fr Ben's Weekly Reflection

26th Sunday Ordinary Time

Sep 27, 2026

You Were Made For More

"That's not fair!" is probably one of the most said things at school playgrounds or doing any activity with kids. Right and wrong, fair and unfair, legal or illegal are very black and white at that age. As adults, we may *say* that there are nuances, but no…the kids are right. Things are either right or wrong. Either your team got the first down on 4th and inches…or they did not. Then we spend the rest of the week arguing about camera angles or how much time was on the clock.

God gave us the commandments, the Law, and Jesus Christ Himself came to explain to us how God set for us to live because sin made us a bit "thickheaded." Jesus in turn gave the "instruction manual" to the Apostles who gave it to their successors who gave it to their successors through 2000 years in the Catholic Church to us today. Somewhere along the way, we, like the people Ezekiel addresses, decided we are the judge of right and wrong. "No, no, no God. You see,…this is what is **really** going on in my life. This is the more 'modern' approach."

Often it seems, being Catholic in my mind goes something like this: "well, I got Baptized, made my first communion, got confirmed, and went to confession once (but it was really scary so never doing that again). I get to Mass once a month or so (life gets really busy), I put a few dollars in the basket, and shook Father's hand. I think I'm a decent person, not as good as I want to be, but that's about it."

Speaking as a new pastor, and on behalf of other pastors, this attitude is something that breaks my/our hearts. You were made for more. God has called you (yes, you) to more! No one forced me to be a priest. I fell in love with God and serving Him and His Church. I am still human though and I go to confession because I sin. This is what it means to **live** and **love** our Catholic faith.

We call this the "moral life in Christ." Rather than saying "no, that's not fair, God," we take the approach of the child who does the Father's Will. And we do God the Father's will, not because He is a tyrant who will strike us with lightning if we disobey, but because we love Him. God loves us too and His law is for our happiness.