

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Wednesday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time

*Saint Angela Merici, Virgin*

“Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear.” There is a new religious program, privately funded and available through the internet called “The Chosen.” I was given a DVD of the first season and episode three features Jesus and the children. In that segment, children gather around Jesus and he asks them if they can recite the most common prayer in Judaism, called the Shema. The children diligently respond and Jesus is very pleased to listen to them. Shema means “listen” or “hear”, and it comes from the book of Deuteronomy (6:4f).

The parable of the sower is explained by Jesus, so there is no misunderstanding among the disciples. Yet, the key is listening, as we know that St. Paul reminds us that faith comes through listening (see Romans 10:17). Jesus sows the seed, the Word of God, into our hearts and the fruit of this seed is love. God is love and the Good God can only plant the seed of love so that the tree grows and produces fruit, which is love. Jesus is the Word and from the tree of the Cross comes the fruit – love for all humanity!

Saint Angela Merici knew the importance of spreading that seed of love and taught poor young girls the love of Jesus. She saw the need to re-evangelize families back in the sixteenth century, therefore she taught her girls, as future wives and mothers, this fundamental role in transmitting the love of Jesus in their families.

Saint Angela Merici, pray for us!

God Love You!

*Fr. Jim Starasovich*

