

“If you believe you will see the glory of God.” These words were spoken by Jesus to Martha just before He rose Lazarus from the dead. Jesus is speaking these same words to you in today’s Gospel; “If you believe you will see the glory of God.”

In the Gospels Jesus tells us more about faith, about believing, “...everyone who believes will not perish but will have eternal life... whoever believes in him will not be condemned.”

It’s not simple to believe; it can be difficult. We live in a world where there is so much confusion, so much evil, so much fear and violence, lies and wars. And science is growing by leaps and bounds. Will science take over? Isn’t it more difficult to believe now a days?

But here is Good News! Your faith, your belief does not depend entirely on your power to reason, on your intelligence. There are and have been millions of people who could neither read or write and yet have profound faith. I have been inspired by the great intellectuals who have faith but also by illiterate people who believe deeply in Jesus, who trust Him.

So what is the central source of our faith? It is by the power of the Holy Spirit that we believe; the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit living within each one of us is the source of our belief.

So if it seems that some times your faith is shaky or weak, if the reasons you believe don’t seem to be there, don’t panic. The Spirit of God lives within you. The Holy Spirit is the deepest source of your faith. Just turn in prayer, turn to the Holy Spirit. You will see the glory of God; you will not perish.

A few days ago I saw the movie about St. Mother Cabrini. She faced so many obstacles, so many hardships. Without her faith she would have collapsed but her faith carried her through “to do something beautiful for God.”

Surely many of you are facing burdens which may be heavy, where your faith may be tried. But in the words of the song, “walk on with hope in your heart and you’ll never walk alone.” Find strength in the Holy Eucharist. The Spirit of God lives within you.