

Thoughts on the Daily Word

31st Week of the Year. Monday 4th November. *Readings: Philippians 2:1-4; Psalm: 130; Gospel: Luke 14:12-14.*

In the ancient world, meals were often public events. At a time of scarcity this meant that the rich could bribe the less well-off and show their power. We would often call them banquets. This is the root of the Eucharist as a meal open to all who want to hear and receive from Jesus. He is often invited to meals so that the provider can show off their position and wealth. The meal is the focus of much of the Gospel. Jesus emphasises that everyone should be invited to the meal. He even describes heaven as a banquet of the most welcoming kind, a wedding banquet, open to the whole village. The purpose is as Paul tells us, to draw everyone together, leaving no one out and helping us to become of one mind. United in love with a common purpose.