

20<sup>th</sup> Sunday – B August 16, 2009

A. Life-lines ... those things that nourish and sustain us on the journey

B. A key life-line for our Christian journey: the sacraments

- those moments when Jesus is made present and manifest in words and signs
- baptism – confirmation – reconciliation – marriage – anointing – ordination
- Eucharist: here ... Jesus gives us himself ... real food, real drink ... himself
- E.G. my niece Kathy – triplets in the womb
- like a mother with a baby in her womb: “eat and drink of me
- here is my flesh ... my blood”
- gathered to be nourished .... but also to be sent

C. So second life-line: wisdom ... to know what is important ... pleasing to God

- Wise person: knows what is necessary and what is unnecessary
- Poet: Mary Oliver: “I am done with unnecessary things”
- Poet: Wu-Men

Ten thousand flowers in spring, the moon in autumn,  
A cool breeze in summer, snow in winter.  
If your mind isn't clouded by unnecessary things,  
this is the best season of your life.

Wu-Men (1183-1260)

- Here at Resurrection:
- on Wednesday EPH: provide transitional housing for families
- Mississippi ... working on an educational program / Haiti
- wisdom ... to educate ... new initiative ... building of school in Ethiopia: holding out a life-line to those children ... give them a chance in life

D. Third life-line: sacraments / wisdom to serve / third: health life-style

- St. Paul : watch carefully how you live ... don't be foolish
- study group: studying ... world religion ... learned something about Buddhism: five major precepts.
- reverence for life
- generosity
- responsible sexual behavior
- speaking and listening deeply
- ingesting only wholesome substances

E. Eucharist: our life line to grace ... hang on with both hands