

**HOMILY OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR C BY FR. SHADRACK MALO**

**CHIGA PARISH 16/02/2025**

The readings for the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time emphasize that true happiness, or beatitude, lies in recognizing ourselves as children of a loving Heavenly Father and sharing our blessings with others. Contrary to popular belief, wealth, health, power, and influence are not sources of true happiness. Instead, true happiness is found in trusting God and living according to His teachings.

Jeremiah's Teachings: In the first reading, Jeremiah contrasts the wicked and the just. He teaches that those who trust in God will be blessed, while those who rely on human standards will face misery. Jeremiah uses the imagery of a barren bush in the desert to represent the wicked and well-watered tree near a running stream to represent the just. This highlights that true happiness and security come from trusting in God and hoping in His promises.

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that poverty, hunger, sorrow, and persecution can lead to true joy and blessings. These Beatitudes call for a commitment to help the needy and oppressed. Jesus emphasizes that experiencing these miseries opens the way for us to receive true riches, food, comfort, and acceptance that can only be found in God's love and presence.

We are called to respond to the challenge of the Beatitudes in our daily lives. It encourages us to help the needy, the sick, and the oppressed, sharing with them a foretaste of the promises of the Beatitudes here and now. Additionally, it calls for us to choose our way wisely, following the way of Jesus and rendering loving service to God by serving our brothers and sisters.

In essence, the main point is that true happiness is found in trusting God, sharing our blessings, and living according to the Beatitudes, which guide us to help those in need and live a life of true joy and fulfillment.