July 14, 2021 Gospel Matthew 11 25-27 Homily by Deacon Luis P. Villanueva for 8AM Mass on Wednesday, at St. Joseph Church, Devine, TX-Fr. Antonio Hernandez, Pastor-

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, amen.

Short Version:

This morning Jesus Christ teaches us and urges us to have a child's heart, that we may have the best disposition in order to understand the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. A hard, distrustful, and afflicted heart is more difficult to learn the things of God, or does not allow the Spirit of God to enter to fill it with His Wisdom.

A soft, tender, trusting, loving heart, full of joy, is the one that receives the Wisdom of God and teachings of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God and Eternal Life. The people with childlike faith, with a humble and contrite heart, repent and change their lives, for their hearts, their soil are ready and receptive to God's Holy Word.

Long Version:

Jesus continues to entrust us with the mysteries of his Kingdom that we may remain in Him and us in Him, following Him and bringing the Good News of Salvation to those around us. God bless you.

The mysteries of the Kingdom of God were hidden to all mankind up until Jesus was revealed as the Son of God, the Messiah, our Savior, who had been promised by the Lord from the beginning of time.

These mysteries of Salvation were revealed initially to the first disciples who believed and who after receiving the Holy Spirit began to preached them to all the world.

Some believed and others didn't as is the case even today. Those with childlike faith received and continue to receive the revelation of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God.

And if we are to have a childlike soul and attitude in order to understand the mysteries of heaven, repent of our sins, and move daily towards changes in our lives that will keep us on the right path, then we must guard our souls from outside influences that are damaging to our soul.

Jesus, in talking about childlike people understanding the mysteries of the Kingdom of heaven, was referring to the heart, the soul of people being in the right disposition to repent and to receive and accept God's ways and his message "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life", the Messiah, the New Covenant, that Jesus is our way to Salvation!

As adults we have all been influenced in some way by family, teachers, friends, church teachings, jobs, failures, traumatic incidents, lack of resources or opportunities and life in general. We are called to "listen" to God's Holy Word, receive it and act on it, receive the Sacraments and with the help of the Holy Spirit daily to help keep our souls in a childlike state.

Jesus was not condemning intellectual ability but intellectual pride. (explain pride which blocks God's message) The Scribes and Pharisees had become experts on the Law of God but had begun to lord it over the people they preached to...they had forgotten that God's main purpose of his Law was to help us to remain faithful to God, to guide our lives and receive the reward of eternal life.

Jesus and his message still encounters rejection today! Those that reject Jesus and his message would/will say "I'm doing ok, I'm fine, I don't need you to point out my way of life as sinful or contrary to God's laws, or making me feel guilty!"

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Esta manana Jesucristo nos ensena y nos urge que tengamos un Corazon de nino para tener la propia desposicion y entender los misterios del Reino de Dios. Un Corazon duro, desconfiado, y aflijido es mas dificil de aprender las cosas de Dios, o no permite que el Espirito de Dios entre para Ilenarlo de su Sabiduria- t-n Corazon blandito, tiernito, confiado, amoroso, Ileno de gozo, es el que recibe la Sanbiduria de Dios y ensenanzas del los misterios del Reino de Dios y la Vida Eterna. Que Dios Ios bendiga.