

Much more than Taste

Salt provides something "extra" to our food and enhances its taste. It is a much appreciated condiment that adds a great deal to our dishes. However, it was not concerning taste that it was significant when Jesus said to his disciples: *You are the salt of the earth.* Christ also said: *You are the light of the world.* He invited his disciples to be the landmarks in the night. Their mission was to improve the *earth* and its inhabitants' lives. The story continues.

Referring to Jesus' salt citation, its use was essential and far beyond just seasoning. The tangy taste that it added to food also had an important secondary effect. Salt was a product used to preserve food, particularly meat and fish. Salt prevented food from spoiling and rotting. This was the function that Jesus wanted his disciples to understand. Their vocation was to bring more than a spiritual supplement to the world. The disciples were destined to collaborate in preventing the world from self-destruction and from distancing itself from our Creator? Let's examine the earth from the aspect of our common home. It is currently in crisis and experiencing danger. Yet fat too often, ecological discussions is only taken seriously by children, poets and politicians heading into elections. To the climate-change deniers, we can add those who say this not a Christian's place. While it may be true there are other battles to fight, it is also evident that life, as we know it, is being affected. We can see that life in all its forms is often menaced by injustice, hunger, war and all aspects that affect the survival of our planet. We remember that Christ referred to his disciples as the salt of the earth as well as the *light* that would help people to see things clearly. We remember the reference in Psalm 112: Light rises in the darkness for the upright. But as during the night, this disciple is light, he or she is also salt which prevents spoiling and decomposition. Referring to salt means much more than enhancing flavor and taste. The world and our earth hope and wait for the upright to take the lead.

Father Jacques Houle, c.s.v.

Translated by Honore Kerwin Borrelli



SENIORS LUNCHEON: The February Valentine luncheon will be held on Friday, February 14 at 12:30pm in Room Salon A at the Sarto Community Centre. **Menu**: Sandwiches, Veggie Plate and Dessert, Coffee, Tea and Soft Drinks. **Cost of ticket:** \$10.00. Tickets are on sale **after all masses this weekend**. **Speaker:** Gail Warren, librarian. **People Helping People**. Juice. Membership questions should be directed to Henny Rabôt at 514-631-4003