

Oct 14 - 09

REFLECTION ON THE DAY OF THANKSGIVING FOR FRANÇOIS VAUTOUR

Oh Lord, you have wondrously made me (Psalm.....) and I remain the work of your hands. My very being is a mystery and my being alive each day remains a mystery. You take care of me while I sleep and you sustain me with food, drink and air which are all gifts of yours. Strengthen me to acknowledge the miracle of life and all you do to keep me live and healthy. Make me aware that life is beyond this terrestrial existence and that the blessings that are bestowed on me in this life should point to a higher goal, viz. reaching You, my Creator, at the end of this earthly pilgrimage. What profit will it be for us to gain the whole world and lose our soul!

Today, we gather in worship and praise and offer the perfect form of thanksgiving, i.e. the celebration of the Eucharist, for François, his family and friends, for what The Almighty God did for him on Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at his Summer Home by the Grand Lake, through the Sacrament of Anointing and Prayers of Intercession. The transformation that occurred to him is beyond any human imagining and I believe that he and I and those who were privileged to be witnesses to that extraordinary event will never forget it for the rest of our lives. The medical Doctors who were to conduct the surgery on Monday October 5, 2009, are themselves at a loss as to what happened to him on the day in question (September 30) and asked him to go home and thank his God.

We are here to thank God for the following of reasons:

1. Healing François in a way no human being can explain scientifically and giving him a new lease of life.
2. Making him and, I believe, all of us aware of the fact that with God all things are possible and that we should never lose hope and faith in God in the face of adversity, sickness or tragedy.
3. Using me, (Rev. Paul Erzoah-Bebodu), a sinful and unworthy servant of His as His instrument in giving new life to François in a very challenging situation and reminding me of the importance of allowing Him use me His way. I will forever treasure this special day in my priestly ministry and intensify my prayer life as I reflect everyday on the treasure of the priesthood.
4. Making all of us aware of the healing ministry of the Church which continues to this day. We take clue from this extraordinary event and look up to our God each time we face problems beyond our solution.

Thank you, Lord Jesus. May the good Lord help all of us here present gather comfort in what we are celebrating today and remain steadfast in our faith in the living God. Amen. God bless you for coming to share the joy of François and his family and joining in this Eucharistic celebration!!

Rev. Paul Erzoah-Bebodu

