October 3, 2026, Saturday

Your Name Is Written in Heaven

Saturday of the Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel: Luke 10:17–24

My dear brothers and sisters,

A little boy returned home proudly carrying a trophy he had won at school.

He held it up and asked his father, “Are you proud of me because I won?”

His father embraced him and replied, “I am happy about your trophy, but I am proud of you because you are my son. Even without the trophy, you would still be precious to me.”

Sometimes we measure our worth by what we accomplish.

We feel important when people praise us, when our work succeeds, or when others notice our gifts. But when we fail or receive no recognition, we may begin to doubt our value.

In today’s Gospel, the seventy-two disciples return from their mission filled with excitement.

They tell Jesus:

“Lord, even the demons are subject to us because of your name.”

They are amazed by what they have accomplished. Jesus recognizes their success, but He directs their joy toward something much deeper:

“Do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”

Jesus is teaching them that their greatest joy should not come from what they can do, but from whom they belong to.

Our achievements may change.

Sometimes we succeed, and sometimes we fail.

People may praise us today and forget us tomorrow.

But God's love does not change.

Your greatest dignity does not come from your position, talents, possessions, or accomplishments. It comes from knowing that you are a beloved child of God.

Jesus then praises the Father for revealing the mysteries of the Kingdom to the childlike. A childlike heart does not depend upon status. It trusts, receives, and rejoices in being loved.

Today's challenge for us is…

Do one good deed without telling anyone or seeking recognition.

Then quietly thank God—not for what you have accomplished, but because you belong to Him.

Pray:

"Father, free me from the need to impress others. Help me find my deepest joy in knowing that I am Your beloved child."

Success may give us temporary happiness, but our lasting joy comes from knowing that our names are written in heaven.

Have a blessed Saturday.

Until tomorrow, keep encountering Jesus. Amen.