

Sermon Summary
21st after Pentecost
21st October 2012

- This morning's gospel repeats the pattern of Mark 8 at Caesarea Philippi: a proclamation of Jesus' suffering followed by a rebuttal of the disciples.
- In Mark 8, Peter was identified as satanic in denying the possible reality of Jesus' suffering
- Here the rebuttal is for James and John who have asked for special places in heaven.
- This incident shows the persistence of a very human theme within the community of disciples.
- Jesus has put forward a model of leadership which is sacrificial and built on the service of others.
- James and John have not grasped this: they are thinking of leadership built on power and prestige.
- It is a very human way of thinking, but it is not Jesus' way.
- The passage reminds us, as did last week's, that worldly human behaviour may often continue to drive the way in which the church behaves.
- But what would we know of that as Anglicans with our bishops archdeacons, canons, priests deacons, lay canons etc etc etc.
- We constantly need to be aware of the danger of the default settings of fallen human behaviour re-asserting themselves, even within the life of the church.....

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