



Father Danny Murphy is a retired Pastor from Brooklyn NY. A gifted man with a God given talent to inspire and God's gift to us at Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach Florida. This is just one of his inspirational homilies.

Fr. Danny Murphy – Funeral Homily – September 13, 2016

After Mass we will hear from two family members who will share their remembrances and we will learn more about their father. Now we can apply the scripture readings that we have just heard read and then reflect on something I hope can enrich all of our lives. In our first reading from the Book of Wisdom, we heard: "The souls of the just are in the hand of God. No torment shall touch them ...and they are in peace..." Harry is in the hand of God, Harry is in peace. In our second reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians, we heard that: "we have our citizenship in heaven..." We pass through this life whether we're 89 years old or any number of years. We just pass through here because our hope is in heaven. We don't belong here, we belong THERE. While we pass through this life, our lives contain some sadness, some suffering, trials, tragedy. Certainly tears shouldn't surprise us, because

we don't belong here – we belong in heaven. Harry is home, he is home in heaven where there is no more sickness, sadness, trial, tears, tragedy. He's where he belongs, he's home! Someday, please God, we will join him there NOT because we're so good, but because GOD'S so good!! Now for something on which each of can reflect about how we live our lives. One day a traveler on a road meets an angel with a flaming sword in one hand and a bucket of water in the other. The traveler asked the angel why the angel was carrying those things. The angel replied: "With the torch, I will burn down all the mansions in heaven and with the water, I will extinguish all the fires in hell. Then all will know who really loved God because, you see, rewards and punishments might be motivations for children. The person who truly loves God is neither motivated by promises nor threats." A person who loves God lives a good, decent life for the reason that God made us that way.