

Homily – Nov. 10, 2020: Memorial of Saint Leo the Great

By Fr. Kavusa Mulekya Hubert, osc

Many of you probably watched the vice-presidential debate that was held in Utah last month. What caught my attention was the last question from an eighth-grader--Brecklynn Brown is her name. The question was, "When I watch the news, all I see is arguing between Democrats and Republicans; when I watch the news, all I see is citizens fighting against citizens. When I watch the news, all I see is two candidates from opposing parties trying to tear each other down. If our leaders can't get along, how are the citizens supposed to get along?" Brecklynn concluded her question saying, "Your examples could make all the difference to bring us together."

Some might wonder why I chose to start this homily with those words. The reason why I reference Brecklynn's words is what we heard in the first reading. St. Paul invites those who are older to lead by example. "Show yourself in all respects a model of good works." That's exactly what Brecklynn is asking of her elder citizens. She is begging them to be more accepting of one another; she is begging them to be more understanding, more loving. She is calling them to teach love by loving. You cannot teach how to love unless you love; you cannot teach how to be tolerant or understanding unless you are tolerant and understanding.

Brothers and sisters, as Christians, we are called to lead by example. Our good example could make all the difference. And when we have done so, say, "I am worthless a servant. I have done what I ought to do."