

King's restaurant in eastern Ohio has as their signature dessert a chocolate brownie. What's different about their brownie is that each piece has a face drawn on it with frosting. Not just any face – a sad face. Actually, it's more of an angry face. And it's not called a brownie – it's called the Frownie.

The Frownie has a little speech bubble coming out of its mouth, and as only a movie character tough guy could say it, the words are: "You want a piece of me?"

In today's readings, we hear Psalm 40 in both the Letter to the Hebrews and the Psalm response:

*Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, ...
in burnt offerings and sin offerings you took no delight.
Then I said, ...
Behold, I come to do your will, O God.*

Israel showed their devotion and worship of God by giving sacrifices – grain, animals, money.

Yet in this psalm we hear that God not only did not desire these things, but he took no delight in them.

Rather than "a piece me," God desires "all of me."

And, it's not that Billie Holiday is a prophet, but the first verse of his song "All of Me" is something to take to prayer:

*All of me
Why not take all of me
Can't you see
I'm no good without you
...
You took the part
That once was my heart
So why not take all of me.*

God desires our all ... everything. Our minds, our hearts, our wills ... everything.

In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of his mother and brothers and sisters as

whoever does the will of God

He is not taking away from the Blessed Mother, rather – he is saying that it's not because she is his mother that she is blessed – but rather because of her total surrender to the will of God.

So let us take all of our selves, and offer them to God – just as Our Lady did. Let us offer her prayer, "Let it be done to me according to God's will," and in giving of ourselves – surrendering "all of me" to the will of God in Christ Jesus through the action of the Holy Spirit.