

The last week in January in 1977, the TV mini-series *Roots* was broadcast. It sparked a lot of interest in genealogy among Americans. Many people wanted to research where they came from beyond the last couple of generations.

Although the craze for genealogy has died off, websites like Ancestry dot com continue. And people can see who their ancestors were.

The Prophet Jeremiah gives us two images. A barren shrub rooted in the desert in rocky soil, and a tree planted beside water. The first one is the person who is rooted in their own strength, while the second is the person rooted in God.

Oftentimes we take for granted what it might mean to be rooted in Christ. We spend our whole lives with our Faith as a thread that somehow connects all the scenes. But a root that is a thread is tenuous, and can snap. Our Faith should be a mighty tap root that anchors our life in Christ.

If we rely on our own power - or on worldly power and things - for our 'roots,' then we are seeking our consolation in the world or in ourselves. But when we take the plunge to truly give our lives over to Jesus Christ, then we are rooted in someone who is eternal and all-powerful.

As we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, let us pray that we may - day by day - become more deeply rooted in God and His ways ... and more and more deeply rooted in Jesus Christ ... the Way, the Truth, and the Life.