

“...strive to enter through the narrow gate... .”

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(I will be succinct and to the point, so, please, pay close attention!)

Once upon a time, someone said there are 3 kinds of Christians:

What **are** the 3 kinds of Christians, you ask.

Well, I am glad you asked that question!

1st, Tugboat Christians ...are people who follow Jesus, not only in sunny weather, but also in stormy weather. They follow him in good times and in bad.

2nd, Sailboat Christians ...are people who follow Jesus when the wind and the tide serve them. They follow him only in good times.

3rd, Raft Christians ... are “CINO’s,” “**Christians in name only.**” They don’t really follow Jesus at all. If they go in his direction, it’s only because someone pushes or pulls them there.

Today’s Gospel invites us to ask ourselves what kind of Christian we are.

Are we prepared to ‘tug-our-way’ through the ‘narrow gate?’

*I close with this prayer;
perhaps you will recall it, as I have used it before:*

**“To every person there opens a way:
A high way, a middle way, and a low way.
And the ‘high-soul’ takes the high way;
and the ‘low-soul’ takes the low way;
And in between, on the misty flats,
the rest drift ...to and fro.**

But, to every person, there opens a way:
A high way, a middle way, and a low way.
And ...every person decides...
the way ...his/her ...soul ...shall go.”

May almighty God, our Abba, bless you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.