In May of 2016, a Special Olympics event was held at North Rose Wolcott High School in New York. Two friends, Max and Marvin, were competing against each other for the first time in the 50 metre dash. When the starting pistol sounded, Max took off like a flash, establishing an early lead. Marvin was running considerably behind. When Max glanced over his shoulder and saw Marvin way behind, Max ran back to Marvin. They joined hands and they finished the race together.

When asked why he had done that rather than win the race, Max replied, "I run with Marvin.'

Sometimes we just do what is right, even if it means we don't win the race, even if it costs us something.

When we see someone being bullied, we can refuse to just walk away, and we can say that the bullying should stop. When we think we are too busy to phone someone we know is lonely, we can refuse to accept busy-ness as a norm and make the call.

Sometimes, we do what we know is right, even when it means we lose the race. Jesus said that those who seem to end up last, may be first in the sight of God.

Let us pray: God, give us courage to do what is right. Give us courage to befriend those in need. Give us courage to love others, as Jesus loves us. AMEN