



The Cathedral Courier

Weekly Bulletin for the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Wheeling, West Virginia

Vol. 6, No. 52

November 19, 2017 | THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

It is no surprise that the issue of our readiness for Christ's Coming is again a focus of the Gospel on this Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, as Advent is imminent (two weeks away). Advent is often perceived as getting prepared for the birth of Christ at Christmas, but it is equally a time when we should be concentrating on preparing for Christ's Coming.

Last week our First Reading was from the Book of Wisdom, and Proverbs is in part an extension of that seeking truth and wisdom. It is in fact an example of the Biblical wisdom tradition as it raises questions of values, moral behavior, the meaning of life, and what is proper conduct. God acquired wisdom before anything else. Seeking truth and wisdom might also be defined as the essence of human life.

The First Reading from Proverbs deals with a description of a virtuous woman. Often people focus on the general aspects of this description rather than the specifics that are included within it. Included is the statement that "...her value is far beyond pearls," as well as "She reaches out her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy." This second statement is in effect a stewardship statement and one that we all need to take to heart. In fact, this is applicable to our entire parish community. Our Holy Father Pope Francis stated something quite similar when he said, "Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society. This demands that we be docile and attentive to the cry of the poor and to come to their aid."

The focus of St. Paul's message to the Thessalonians, from which our Second

Reading comes, is most definitely about our readiness for Christ's Coming. Paul points out that we are "children of the light and children of the day," not "of the night or of darkness."

The Second Reading closes with an exhortation from Paul "...let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober." You may recall Paul used the word "sleep" to describe death at another point in this letter. However,



here he uses a completely different word that is also translated as "sleep." He is addressing our spiritual preparedness for the Coming of Christ. Spiritually we need to be "awake and sober." For Paul sleep implies that as Christians and disciples of Christ, we need to be different. Sleep for Paul means ignorance, insensibility, and inactivity. Being awake spiritually is part of being a good steward, of being alive and active and participating in the life of the Church, living out Jesus' call.

Of course, the heart of our Scriptural Word this week is found in the

Gospel Reading from St. Matthew. Again Jesus utilizes a parable to teach us what He means, and this particular parable, The Parable of the Talents, is as strong a teaching of stewardship as Jesus ever offered. The basic story is of a master who departs on a long trip and he entrusts his servants with certain talents, not all equal, but all of equal importance. The word "talent" certainly gets our attention because of our traditional stewardship identification of time, talent, and treasure. However, in this case it is strictly about treasure. The Hebrew term for "talent" was *kikkār*, meaning a round gold or silver disk, or disk-shaped loaf. In the Greek language the word comes from *tálanon*, a large monetary measurement equal to 6,000 drachmas or denarii, the Greek and Roman silver coins.

Of the three servants two take the money they are given and increase its value in the master's absence, but the third chooses not to risk it and merely preserves it. To both of those who returned it to the master with increase, the master says, "Well done, good and faithful servant." That is not, however, his response to the third servant. It should be

obvious to us that the master is God, and we are the servants. Everything we have comes from God, gifts from God. The stewardship question is "What do we do with the gifts God gives us?" Do we use them, share them, increase them, and return them to the Lord, or do we merely, as the third servant did: "I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back." God wants more from us than a return of our original gifts. He wants a "return with increase." To accomplish that we need to work at it and we need to practice stewardship as a way of life. ❤️

This Week

At The Cathedral



SUN 19 **THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 (Sat) 6:00 PM Mass for Joseph Paytash, Jr.
 8:00 AM Mass for Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery
 9:15 AM First Communion Classes (*Parish Offices*)
 10:30 AM Mass for the Parishioners

MON 20 **Weekday in Ordinary Time**
 12:05 PM Mass for Thomas Flatley
 7:00 PM Infant of Prague Novena

TUE 21 **The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
 12:05 PM Mass for Margie Burke

WED 22 **Saint Cecilia, virgin, martyr**
 12:05 PM Mass for Cornelio Lauron

THU 23 **Thanksgiving Day;
 Saint Clement I, pope, martyr;
 Saint Columban, abbot;
 Blessed Miguel Pro, priest, martyr**
 9:00 AM Mass for Most Rev. John J. Swint
- Anniversary of Death (1962)

FRI 24 **Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, priest,
 & Companions, martyrs**
 11:15 AM Confessions
 12:05 PM Mass for Dr. Adiel Anghie

SAT 25 **Saint Catherine of Alexandria, virgin, martyr**
 9:00 AM Mass for Katerina Bolcek
 9:30 AM Rosary
 5:00 PM Confessions
 6:00 PM Mass for the Parishioners

SUN 26 **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**
 8:00 AM Mass for Ginny Felton
 9:15 AM First Communion Classes (*Parish Offices*)
 10:30 AM Mass for Greg Sacco



Thanksgiving Day - November 23

When you gather with family and friends this Thanksgiving holiday, remember to give thanks to God for all of the many blessings you have received. In sharing our abundance, it is most fitting to remember those who do not have the basic necessities of life. Consider using this prayer at the table:

**Lord, we thank you
 for the goodness of your people
 and for the spirit of justice that fills this nation.
 We thank you for the beauty and fullness of the land
 and the challenge of the cities.
 We thank you for our work and our rest,
 for one another, and for our homes.**

We thank you, Lord:
(pause to add your own prayers of thanksgiving.)

**For all that we have spoken
 and for all that we keep in our hearts,
 accept our thanksgiving on this day.
 We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen.**

INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE NOVENA at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph



Encountering Christ in His Miracles

**Week IX - November 20
 Closing Evening
 "The Word Dwelling Among Us"
 Rev. Msgr. Kevin M. Quirk**

**Monday at 7:00 p.m.
 Please join us!**

"The more you honor me, the more I will bless you."

**2017
 CHRISTMAS
 PROJECT**

ANGEL TREE
 The Angel Tree will be in the church beginning:
Saturday, November 25

Please return the gifts no later than December 3
 All gifts are delivered that week and it is important
 we receive your gift and tag by the due date.

Weekly Collection

November 12, 2017

Envelopes: \$3116 Loose: \$939
 Online: \$283

Thank you for your generosity and support!



This Week with the Saints



November 22 - According to legend, **Saint Cecilia** († 3rd c.) was beheaded because she would not forsake her vow of virginity and would not make sacrifices to the gods. Her association with music is most likely related to a line from her *Passio* (an account of her holy “passion,” her martyrdom), where she is said to have sung “in her heart to Christ” as the musicians played at her wedding. Upon its foundation in 1584, the Academy of Music in Rome declared her the patron saint of musicians. St. Cecilia’s popularity grew so much that several hymns were written in her honor, and her life is referenced in Chaucer’s *The Canterbury Tales*. *Patronage*: musicians; singers; poets

November 23 - **Saint Clement I** († c.100) was pope during a rather tumultuous time, when the early Christian communities were experiencing growing pains. He is most remembered for a letter referred to as 1 Clement, which was written to the Christian community at Corinth. His letter addressed division within the community, urging its members to live in charity and unity. According to legend, Clement was martyred by being tied to an anchor and thrown from a boat into the Black Sea. *Patronage*: boatmen; marble workers; mariners; sailors; stonecutters



The most famous of Irish monks, **Saint Columban** was born around 525-530. Well educated and desiring to be a “pilgrim of God,” Columban traveled to France and founded several well-disciplined monasteries as centers of religion and culture. Because of difficulties he decided to return to Ireland. A shipwreck directed him towards Rome and to the founding of his final monastery, at Bobbio in Italy. The aged Abbot died in 615.

Miguel Pro was born in Guadalupe, Mexico, in 1891. The Mexican government began a major persecution of the Church in 1911. Fr. Pro completed his studies in Belgium and was ordained a Jesuit in 1926. He returned to Mexico and performed his ministry heroically until November 23, 1927. He was caught and condemned for being a Catholic priest. Fr. Miguel Pro ended his life facing the firing squad with his arms outstretched until he became a living cross. He called out the words, *Viva Cristo Rey!* as his body was wracked with a hail of bullets. He was proclaimed “blessed” by Pope John Paul II on September 25, 1988.



November 24 - **Saint Andrew Dung-Lac** (1785-1839), a Vietnamese priest, is one of 117 martyrs canonized in 1988 who died trying to establish and spread the Catholic faith in Vietnam. This effort, which began in 1533 and continued well into the nineteenth century, was fraught with periods of persecution. Although St. Andrew was born into a Buddhist family, he was raised Catholic. His priestly ministry involved evangelization, parish catechesis, and service to the persecuted. Living under a particularly oppressive edict, St. Andrew was killed because he would not renounce his Christian apostates and succumb to idolatrous ritual.

November 25 - **Saint Catherine of Alexandria** (287-385), lived in Alexandria, Egypt, during the reign of the Roman emperor Maxentius. Legend says that Catherine bravely confronted the emperor about his pagan beliefs. Maxentius gathered fifty pagan philosophers and challenged her to a debate. Her arguments were so convincing that many of the philosophers converted to Christianity. He then threatened to kill her unless she renounced her faith and married him. She refused and was condemned to death on a spiked wheel, but the wheel fell apart when she touched it. She was then beheaded, and legend says that angels carried her to Mount Sinai. She has been venerated since the tenth century. *Patronage*: philosophers; preachers; librarians; young unmarried women



Scripture Readings

The readings are included each week so that those who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

Week of November 19

Monday

1 Micah 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63
Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158
Luke 18:35-43

Tuesday

2 Micah 6:18-31
Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Luke 19:1-10

Wednesday

2 Micah 7:1, 20-31
Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15
Luke 19:11-28

Thursday

1 Micah 2:15-29
Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15
Luke 19:41-44

Friday

1 Micah 4:36-37, 52-59
(Ps) 1 Chr 29:10, 11-12
Luke 19:45-48

Saturday

1 Micah 6:1-13
Ps 9:2-3, 4, 6, 16, 19
Luke 20:27-40

Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Matthew 25:31-46

Weekly Devotions at the Cathedral

The following devotions are prayed each week following the 12:05 pm Mass:

Miraculous Medal Novena
Monday

Litany of Saint Joseph
Wednesday

Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Fridays

The Holy Rosary
Saturdays after the 9 am Mass

Join Us For
Thanksgiving Day Mass
9:00am

Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center
Volunteers are needed to serve people in need at the **Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center** on 18th Street in Wheeling, WV. For more information, contact Grant Coleman at 304-232-7157 Ext. 7.

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph

Parish Mission Statement

Saint Joseph Cathedral Parish is called to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a community. We are committed: to our urban neighborhoods, to being the Cathedral of the diocese, and to fellowship, formation, sacrament, and prayer.



Parish Offices:
1218 Eoff Street
Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 233-4121
www.saintjosephcathedral.com

CLERGY

Most Reverend Michael J. Bransfield
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston
PASTOR

Reverend Monsignor Kevin M. Quirk, J.C.D., J.V.
RECTOR OF THE CATHEDRAL
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CUSTODIAN

PARISH LEADERS

Mrs. Judy Miller
PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. James Carroll
FINANCE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. John Petrella
LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULER

Masses

Sundays: 6:00 p.m. (Saturday)
8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Weekdays: 12:05 p.m. Monday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. Saturday

Holy Days: Please consult the bulletin

Confessions

Friday 11:15-11:45 a.m.

Saturday: 5:00-5:45 p.m.
or by appointment

BAPTISMS / INITIATION

Both Baptism and the Rite of Initiation for Adults can be arranged by contacting the parish office.

MARRIAGE

Engaged couples who are members of the Cathedral parish should contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK / COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Please call the parish office to arrange for a visit.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms can be obtained through the parish office. Please notify the parish office of address changes through the parish office or by visiting the website.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Announcements for the Courier must be submitted to Debbie Fahey by email to dfahey@dwc.org by noon on Monday (5 days prior to publication).

