

NOVEMBER 16, 2014

Scripture Reflection

The traditional interpretation of this gospel parable is about using the gifts God has given us to build the kingdom until the second coming of Christ. Some interpreters have challenged this interpretation, arguing that the heart of the parable reveals economic exploitation by the master, who rewards the two slaves who double the value of the master's talents. In this reading, the third slave, who buried his talent, is the model servant because he refused to enmesh himself in this corrupt system. The master is not a figure of Jesus but of the masters in Jesus' day who became wealthy on the backs of slaves and the poor. The point of the parable is that one should challenge unjust economic practices just as Jesus did. It is a powerful reading of this parable, but the theme of Christ's second coming looms too large to replace the traditional interpretation entirely.

Such interpretations should make us question, however, what the talents stand for in this parable. Talents were money, and this is where newer interpretations remind us of economic realities. Do the talents represent simply the unique gifts that each individual has? Did the slaves who doubled their talents double their inherent abilities or worthwhileness? What is true worth for God? The thing of surpassing worth to God is people. To double the master's talents is to draw other people to God's kingdom.

The one who buries his talent misses not only his own value but the value of others. The slaves who double the talents understand not only their inherent value, but the value of all people. To keep awake and sober is to be vigilant in using our talents in spreading the good news, that message of surpassing value, by drawing other people to recognize their own immense value.

• **How are you using your talents to draw people to the Body of Christ?**

Calendar of Prizes 2015

Calendar of Prizes 2015 are being sold at the Cathedral Square door after all Masses. Like last year, each calendar costs \$20.00. There is a \$10.00 daily prize; an additional \$1,000.00 in special monthly prizes awarded throughout the year; and a grand prize of \$5,000.00 Family Trip or Cash Option. Due to the state regulations for small games of chance, it is necessary that all one thousand tickets be sold. Otherwise, the parish will lose money on unsold tickets. For this fund-raiser to be successful, all calendars must be sold. If you have a favorite three digit number, call the Parish Office (944-4603) to check on availability weekdays between 9:30 AM and 5:00 PM. Thank you.

HUNGER BANQUET

The Eighth Grade Class of Saint Rose of Lima School cordially Invites you to attend a Hunger Banquet in the Saint Rose Cafeteria Hall (5519 Sixth Avenue, Altoona) on **Thursday, November 20**, at 12:00 Noon. This event benefits Oxfam International and Sister Paula's Family Food Kitchen. A donation of the normal cost for your usual lunch will go to Oxfam America's annual *Fast for a World Harvest* campaign and please collect your family's loose change for Sister Paula. In order to prepare for this event it is extremely important that you call the school office (942-7835) by Monday, November 17. Thousands of people all over the world join in this annual event on the Thursday before Thanksgiving.

Catholic Charities

The largest social agency in our community reaching out to those in need is Catholic Charities. Jesus Christ has commanded us to care for the poor. Last year thousands of families and individuals came to Altoona-Johnstown Catholic Charities for emergency heating, shelter, rent, personal care items, medications, doctor visits and funerals. One in three of your neighbors are struggling to afford life's most basic needs. Next weekend there will be a special collection for Catholic Charities and a special envelope is included in our November packet for this collection. Please be generous. Your donation will help the truly poor and those in need of help. Catholic Charities serves everyone because we are Catholic. See the enclosed flyer!

The Church of Altoona-Johnstown
**THE CATHEDRAL
OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

ONE CATHEDRAL SQUARE, Altoona, Pennsylvania 16601-3315
Church Office: 814-944-4603

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

The process of formation for those seeking God through membership in the Catholic Christian community.

INFANT BAPTISM:

Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

CONFIRMATION:

Ninth, tenth and eleventh grade students are invited to participate in the Confirmation Preparation Process.

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday: 7:00 PM, Saturday: 12:30 PM.
Communal Penance Services: Advent and Lent.

ANOIDING OF THE SICK:

Communal celebration Easter Season.

MARRIAGE:

Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program.

DEVOTIONS:

Novena of the Miraculous Medal - Monday 7:45 AM.
Rosary - Wednesday 6:00 PM.
Charismatic Prayer - Monday 7:00 PM.
Evening Prayer within Eucharistic Exposition - Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter Seasons - Sunday 6:30 PM.
Eucharistic Day - Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM:

September through April: Pre-Kindergarten thru 12.
Sunday morning 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM
Pre-Kindergarten thru 8.
Sunday evening 6:15 PM - 8:30 PM
Grades 9 thru 12.

EUCCHARIST:

Sunday:	5:00 PM (Vigil)	Holyday:	5:30 PM (Vigil)	Weekday:	6:45 AM
	8:00 AM		8:00 AM		8:00 AM
	10:00 AM		12:00 Noon		12:00 Noon
	12:00 Noon		5:30 PM	Saturday:	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM				12:00 Noon

Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop
Reverend Monsignor Robert C. Mazur, Rector
Reverend Father Dennis M. Kurdziel, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Father John J. Slovickovski, In Residence
Deacon John E. Rys
Deacon James F. Leap, Senior Deacon
Deacon John J. Szwarc, Senior Deacon

CHRISTIAN INITIATION TEAM - 944-4603

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - 944-4603

ALTOONA CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Web: www.altoonacentralcatholic.com
Elementary - Pre-K thru Grade 5 - 381-7011

BISHOP GUILFOYLE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Web: www.bishopguilfoyle.org - 944-4014

DIRECTORS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Chris Laraia - Pre-K thru 8 - 312-7317
Jean Koury - 9 thru 12 - 949-2777
Religious Education Office: Sundays - 943-7424

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Kevin J. Luke - 944-2044

Web: www.altoonacathedral.org
Fax: 814-942-4337
E-MAIL: altcathedral@dioceseaj.org

Serving the People of God in the City of Altoona Since 1851

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 16, 2014

Readings: Prv 31:1-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30

Mass Intentions

November 17, Monday: Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, rel.

Readings: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Lk 18:35-43

6:45 AM Jean Wilk (McElheny Family)
8:00 AM Peggy and Bernie Joyce (Family)
12:00 PM Connie Mitchell (K. Detiwiler & P. Colello)

November 18, Tuesday: Saint Rose Philipppine Duchesne

Readings: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Lk 19:1-10

6:45 AM Walter R. Schmitt (Cathedral Parish)
8:00 AM Health of Linda VanOrmer (Alley Cats)
12:00 PM Jack Leiden (Tom & Patricia Forr)

November 19, Wednesday: Weekday

Readings: Rv 4:1-11; Lk 19:11-28

6:45 AM Frank & Mary Grace Ackerman (Family)
8:00 AM Jubilee Blessings - Msgr. Panza (Harris)
12:00 PM Robert Smithmyer (Barr Family)

November 20, Thursday: Weekday

Readings: Rv 5:1-10; Lk 19:41-44

6:45 AM Special Intention (Mary Shea)
8:00 AM Dave Lysinger, Anniversary (Mary & Family)
12:00 PM Amandus Gallagher (Val & Kayla Moschella)

November 21, Friday: The Presentation of Mary

Readings: Rv 10:8-11; Lk 19:45-48

6:45 AM Herman & Marie Ceresa (Family)
8:00 AM Kevin Hanlin, Birthday (McAndrew Family)
12:00 PM Camille McMullen, Anniv. (Daughter, Connie)

November 22, Saturday: Saint Cecilla, virgin, martyr

Readings: Rv 11:4-12; Lk 20:27-40

8:00 AM Francis & Eileen Lytle (Family) - Crypt Chapel
12:00 PM Jim Roland (Theresa Vaughn)
Vigil: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Readings: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46
5:00 PM Rose Grillo Skupien (Dave, Karen & Family)

Mass In The Crypt Chapel

On Saturday (November 22) 8:00 AM Mass will be celebrated in the Crypt Chapel. Accessible from Cathedral Square (steps) or alley entrance (street level).

Rest In Peace - Please remember in prayer Robert Maloskey who died and was buried from the Cathedral this past week. May he rest in peace.

Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance

Those planning to join the Catholic Church will celebrate the Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance on **Sunday, November 23** at the 10:00 AM Mass. **Inquiry Sessions continue** every Sunday morning at 11:00 AM in the Seton Suite.

BISHOP MARK ON POPE FRANCIS

Bishop Mark Bartchak will be the keynote speaker at an ecumenical gathering on **Tuesday, November 18**, at 7:00 PM at St. John the Evangelist Church in Lakemont. The conference is entitled **Pope Francis: His Witness and Our Response**. Following Bishop Mark's address on the witness and teaching of Pope Francis, representatives of other Christian denominations will offer their insights. There will then be a question and answer session, followed by a social. This event is sponsored by the Ecumenical Conference of Greater Altoona. A warm invitation to all!

NOVEMBER MEETINGS

Ministry for the Home-bound/Elderly - Tuesday, November 18, 6:30 PM, Saint John Room.

ACCS School Council - Wednesday, November 19, 6:30 PM, Saint John Room.

Parish Liturgy Committee - Thursday, November 20, 12:45 PM, Seton Suite.

Healing Mass

There will be a Healing Mass on **Monday, November 24**, at 7:00 PM, at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr. Bill Kiel from the Diocese of Greensburg, will be the main celebrant. All are welcome, especially those in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing, and those who support and care for them as well. Music for the Mass will be led by the Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group Music Ministry. The Mass is presented by the Cathedral Charismatic Prayer Group. For more information, call 941-3832.

Charismatic Prayer

The Charismatic Prayer Group will meet today, Sunday, November 16, at 7:00 PM in Cresson with the parishioners of Saint Aloysius for a Eucharistic Festival of Praise. All are welcome. There will be no Prayer meeting on Monday, November 17 at the Cathedral.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Sunday, November 9 - \$9,373.00

Total Collection For ACCS - \$2,055.00

Cathedral Christian Mothers

The Christian Mothers from Cathedral Parish are conducting their annual drive to help the poor and needy of our parish and community for the Holidays this weekend, **November 15 and 16**. Please be as generous as possible.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

November 16, Regular classes for Pre-K through Grade 8, 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM and **F.I.R.E. Groups** in Cathedral Hall from **6:15 PM - 8:30 PM** for (Religious Ed and Home-schooled) students in grades 9-11 accompanied by parent or guardian **November 23**, Regular classes for Pre-K through Grade 8, 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM in Cathedral Hall. Pre-K and Kindergarten gather in the Music Room.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Tenth Grade Fall Session - Sunday, November 23, following the 5:00 PM Mass, **6:15 PM - 7:15 PM** in Cathedral Hall. This is a mandatory meeting and will last only one hour. All 10th Grade Cathedral Parishioners: our Bishop Guilfoyle High School sophomores, those students in 10th Grade Religious Education (F.I.R.E.), and any Home-Schooled students at 10th grade level are expected to be in attendance with a parent or guardian. The subject will be "Scripture-Reflecting on the Living Word".

Please remember our sick in your prayers.

Liturgical Reflection ...

Constitution

50th

on the

Anniversary

Sacred Liturgy

The more complete form of participation in the Mass by which the faithful, after the priest's communion, receive the Lord's Body from the same sacrifice, is strongly endorsed by the Second Vatican Council. The Church encourages that the communion received by the faithful ideally come from the altar where at that Mass bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. The Church strongly endorses that consecrated hosts normally not be brought from the tabernacle for communion distribution at Mass. The fuller sign of liturgical participation is that the Body and Blood of Christ on the altar be distributed among all participants at that Mass.

Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Number 55.

2014, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office, 925 South Logan Boulevard, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania 16648.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES REVIEWS!

+++ **Saturday, November 22: Altar Servers** in the Cathedral 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. If you or your children would like to join this ministry please call the Parish Office at 944-4603 to register for this final session of ministry review. Here in Cathedral Parish many volunteers are needed, at least fifty-eight on an ordinary weekend, and that is not counting our Music Ministers; cantors, psalmists, choir and organists. We are blessed with much sharing of Time and Talent! Please consider offering your stewardship.

All **Altar Servers** and those considering joining this ministry are reminded that next Saturday is your review, the third and final of the series of ministry workshops being offered by Msgr. Mazur in the Cathedral Church. On this Saturday morning we conclude our preparation for the new Liturgical Year that begins on November 30th, the First Sunday of Advent. Parents please be sure your children are present for this time of review. Adults may also join this ministry and would be especially helpful for Funerals and Diocesan events.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS PLEASE NOTE:

A new liturgical ministry schedule for the Advent and Christmas Seasons (November 29/30 through January 10/11) is being prepared. All are asked to submit a written list of unavailable dates and any changes of addresses, phone numbers, Mass preferences, etc. by November 21. Thank You.

BAPTISM - Our next Baptismal Preparation Class will be held on **Tuesday, December 9** at 7:00 PM in the Seton Suite. This class is offered every other month.