

The Work of the People

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

We live in times that might seem to some to be filled with signs of the end of time, but we are reminded on this Sunday that we know neither the day nor the hour of our own passing from this life to eternal or the Second Coming. These last few days have demonstrated that even the regularity of the seasons may not be so regular as we have experienced record-breaking high temperatures this past week. Whatever the case, God is certainly with us caring for us in this time of uncertainty and change.

This is the final Sunday before the Solemnity of Christ the King. One might wonder why the First Reading is the selection from Proverbs about a worthy wife. The woman's fear of the Lord is an example to us. Her works demonstrate how to respond faithfully to the God's call. Her reward for life well lived is entrance into the heavenly Jerusalem.

The Second Reading begins with Paul affirming that he really does not need to write the Thessalonians about anything related to the times and seasons, especially the time when Christ will come again. As a people of faith, they know, Paul says, that Christ will come like a thief in the middle of the night. The timing of Christ's coming will be unexpected. The Thessalonians are children of the light, not of the dark, so the unexpected nature of Christ's coming will not leave them behind. Children of the light stay awake for the coming of Christ.

The well-known parable of the talents is the Gospel on this final Sunday in Ordinary Time before Christ the King Sunday. This parable is about the kingdom of heaven, and who is in and who is out. One could incorrectly get the sense from this parable that what we do with the gifts God gives us determines our entry into the kingdom of heaven. Yet, the parable is not about us earning our salvation, but rather about how responsible we are with all our generous God gives us, including salvation. God calls us to imitate his generosity to the best of our ability, for in doing so we accept God's invitation to share the Master's joy.

The reflection for this Sunday is from Kimberly Hope Belcher who is a married mother of three children and a professor of theology and liturgy at the University of Notre Dame.

At the end of the year, the Church also looks to the harvest of time: the final fulfillment of the work that Jesus began in his life, death, and resurrection. Although he does not need us to complete his work, the Lord has chosen to entrust his heart to us as his human family. As his worthy spouse, we work with God for the healing of the world. We are now God's betrothed, who, like the king's wife in Proverbs, do our work with loving hands, moved by thankful fear of the Lord.

The third servant in today's parable understands something about the master of the universe that we may forget: God is not ashamed to harvest where another has planted and to gather what someone else has scattered. God has the audacity to take even the evil planted by the enemy and turn it into a rich harvest of good—to see in misshapen fruit, rich food for the hungry, or in this year's rotting vegetables, next year's compost. God sees our future in the wounds of our past.

In place of the servant's fear of wrath, we should pray for the fear of the Lord, which is the gift of hope. Looking to the harvest with hope instead of fear, we become children of the day. Instead of counting up blemishes, we reach out our hands to the poor and extend our arms to the needy. In this way, the chosen people will become a fitting bride for Christ, the King of Creation.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rv. 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Lk. 18:35-43
 Tuesday: Rv. 3:1-6, 14-22/Lk. 19:1-10
 Wednesday: Rv. 4:1-11/Lk. 19:11-28
 Thursday: Rv. 5:1-10/Lk. 19:41-44
 Friday: Rv. 10:8-11/Lk. 19:45-48
 Saturday: Rv. 11:4-12/Lk. 20:27-40
 Sunday: Ez. 34:11-12, 15-17/1 Cor. 15:20-26, 28/Mt. 25:31-46

St. Bernadette Mission is still looking for someone to clean the church one day a week. If interested please call St. Anthony Rectory Mon, Tues, Thurs or Fri from 9 am - 3 pm.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: As the man in today's gospel entrusted his servants with his money, so God has 'entrusted' our family to us. Like the good servants we are expected, not to play it safe, but to selflessly and totally invest ourselves in each other.

#iGiveCatholic

The #iGiveCatholic giving day is just 3 weeks away (December 1) and the advanced giving window starts November 16-30.

Please participate in the #iGiveCatholic giving day on December 1 to support our parish. Visit <https://erie.igivecatholic.org/> and search for (insert name of your parish) to make a \$25 or more gift. The Catholic Foundation of Northwest Pennsylvania is coordinating our participation in #iGiveCatholic and will be offering cash prizes! Help us win a prize! Prizes are listed here: <https://erie.igivecatholic.org/>

WORSHIP

Monday, November 16
8:00 am + John Auer

Tuesday, November 17
8:00 am + Dec. Members of Braun/Parkin Families
(Sue Parkin)

Wednesday, November 18
8:00 am AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION
Living & Deceased Parishioners

Thursday, November 19
8:00 am + Paul & Duane Hale
(Joan Rembielak & Phyllis Wronko)

Friday, November 20
8:00 am + Dorothy Czajka

Saturday, November 21
4:30 pm + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
Dec. Members of Weidner Family
(Ginger & Dick Kester)

Sunday, November 22
8:00 am + AT ST. BERNADETTE MISSION
Lottie Woika (John & Kay Weagraff)
9:30 am + AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA
Living & Deceased Parishioners

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

Tuesday, November 17
After Mass - St. Anthony Novena

Saturday, November 21
3:30 - 4:15 pm - Confession

Sunday, November 22
Before Mass - Confession - ST. BERNADETTE MISSION

*“Father,
You have given me precious gifts.
Help me to multiply them
by sharing them.”*

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CCHD)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

On the weekend of November 21 - 22, a second collection will be taken up in our parishes for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD).

As you may know, CCHD is the national anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, working to break the cycle of poverty by helping people with low income participate in decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities.

Half of the funds from this collection remain in the Diocese of Erie to help organizations such as Maria House Project, Erie Dawn, and Inter-Church Ministries fight poverty in our local communities. CCHD is a manifestation of our call to a discipleship that fosters a “solidarity which ‘would allow all peoples to become the artisans of their destiny’ “ (*Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 190). At a time when so many of our sisters and brothers are experiencing the devastating impacts of the COVID -19 pandemic, the important work of CCHD cannot be underestimated.

This work is not possible without the support of dedicated Catholics like you. Your contributions are helping to build more merciful and just communities in the Diocese of Erie and throughout the country. Please consider helping us to uphold human dignity and alleviate poverty by giving generously to the second collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie

St. Anthony of Padua is looking for someone interested in doing general maintenance work, starting January, 2021. If you are interested, please contact the office Mon. Tues. Thurs. Fri. between 9 am - 3 pm.

ST. BERNADETTE MISSION STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$605.00
Maintenance	10.00
All Souls	50.00
All Saints	20.00
Candles	8.00
Activities	90.00
TOTAL	\$783.00

Catholic Services Appeal
Pledged: \$5,585 Paid: \$5,535

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA STEWARDSHIP

Offertory	\$874.00
Maintenance	288.00
Candles	25.00
All Souls	1.00
All Saints	31.00
Energy	110.00
CSA	101.00
TOTAL	\$1,430.00

Catholic Services Appeal
Pledged: \$26,618 Paid: \$25,478

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
