

Sunday, November 19, 2023

The 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 1) Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
- 3) Matthew 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

FOCUS: We are given talents to share.

The Lord has told us that he will come again at the end of time to judge the living and the dead. Though the timing is unpredictable, this end is inevitable and inescapable. Let us be prepared to give an account of the ways in which we have used our gifts for the benefit of others.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The reading from Proverbs says that a worthy wife is a prize valued *far beyond pearls*. Paul tells the Thessalonians that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night or like labor pains, but that they are *children of the light*. Jesus tells a parable about three servants who were given talents. The first two servants multiplied their talents and were rewarded. The third servant buried his talent and was punished.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As we await the coming of the Lord, we offer these petitions for our needs and the needs of the world.

- 1) For the Church, may the Lord help us be faithful in our mission to be a light to the nations, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For leaders of nations, may the Holy Spirit convict them in charity to share their resources with those who need them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who labor, may God provide them with a fair wage and working conditions that honor their human dignity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all who have gathered here, may the Lord use our diverse talents to bless one another and our community, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may God's love and mercy surround them and bring them to his everlasting kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving God, we humbly ask that in your compassion and mercy you hear the prayers of your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.