

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

She brings him good, and not evil,
all the days of her life.
She obtains wool and flax
and works with loving hands. (Prv 31:12-13)

Psalm:

Blessed are those who fear the Lord. (Ps 128)

Second Reading:

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness,
for that day to overtake you like a thief.
For all of you are children of the light
and children of the day. (1 Thes 5:4-5)

Gospel:

“Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come, share your master’s joy.” (Mt 25:21)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God entrusts special gifts to each of us, but they are not gifts to be hoarded and hidden. Let's work each and every day to multiply those gifts in the world.

Observances for the week of November 19, 2023

- Sunday:** 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Tuesday:** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Wednesday:** St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr
- Thursday:** St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr;
St. Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr; Thanksgiving Day
- Friday:** St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest,
and Companions, Martyrs
- Saturday:** St. Catherine of Alexandria,
Virgin and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



Saint of the week

Blessed Carlos Manuel or, Blessed Charlie, was a Puerto Rican layman who dedicated his life to serving the Church. He worked and studied diligently to spread his love of the Catholic faith, especially the liturgy and sacred music to all those he touched.

Prayer

Oh God, Father of Goodness, who inspired Blessed Carlos Manuel with an ardent devotion to the Paschal Mystery and moved by the generosity of Your grace, led him to the joyful celebration of the mysteries celebrated in the Liturgy; You also filled your servant with apostolic zeal and love for those in need.

Grant us, through his intercession, that, celebrating with faith the holy mysteries of the Death and Resurrection of Your Son, we may live in life what we celebrate in the Liturgy. Grant us, too, the special grace that we now ask of you (ask for the grace that is desired).

Through Jesus Christ your Son and our Lord. Amen.

(Prayer Source: <https://www.pmariam.org/vida-4-beato-carlos-manuel.html#:~:text=Oh%20Dios%2C%20Padre%20de%20Bondad,y%20amor%20a%20los%20necesitados>. Translation by LPi.)

Readings for the week of November 19, 2023

Sunday:

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

Monday:

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

Tuesday:

2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday:

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28

Thursday:

1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/
Lk 19:41-44

Friday:

1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd,
11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48

Saturday:

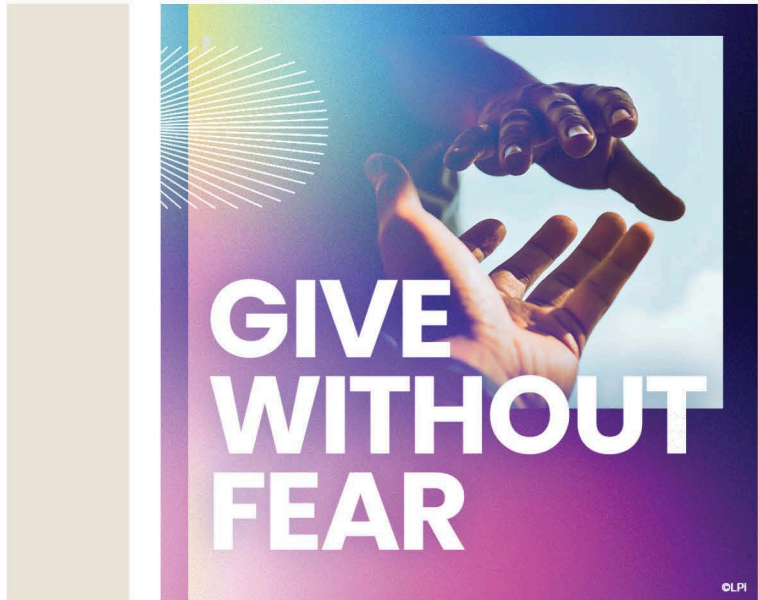
1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/
Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday:

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (1)/1
Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was a kid, I hated playing Monopoly because my siblings and friends always seemed to win. But worse was how it happened. Scared to risk my fake money on buying properties, I'd hold on to it. My opponents hungrily bought up the various real estate squares on the board. Then, inevitably, my poor, low-equity self would land on their spots, pay them rent, and my money would drain to zero. It seemed so unfair. The rich get richer, and the poor get poorer. I had to learn that monopoly money is meant to be spent. I was scared to lose some of it. So, I lost all of it.

How do we see what we possess? Jesus' parable about the talents is not really about economics but about the investability of everything he entrusts to us. How marvelous that everyone in the fable who places talents in the open market doubles their investment. The only one who doesn't is the man who fearfully buries his one talent. Jesus' success strategy for us seems to be, whatever we have, get it out of our *possession*. Risk it as quickly and as fully as we can.

You and I have precious gifts. We have valuable things to invest — time, talents, treasure. The Lord invites us to be brave and even somewhat reckless, to give as much away as possible. If we give it away in the direction of love and truth, it will grow. If we hold on to it in fear, the little we have will be taken away. Let me challenge you this week: find something in your life you're holding on to, and risk it by giving it away. It won't double if you hold on to it.

— *Father John Muir*

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

What Remains

When my grandfather died, my parents, siblings, and I were left with the question: what's to become of the house?

Anyone who has inherited property knows that it's not simply a matter of assuming ownership of a plot of land upon which sits four walls and a roof. Those four walls and a roof usually contain memories and objects — an enormous volume of both, in the case of my grandfather. When they're left to you, you have to sift through them, the memories and the objects, and with each one you have to think: *Is it worth it? Do I keep it? Will I need it?*

And slowly, painfully, you disassemble the physical existence of the person who lived here. You accept, with a pang, that most of it must be given away or discarded. You cry when you bag up the clothes to take to Goodwill. You can't even bear to look when they break the piano into a hundred pieces and throw it in a dumpster, realizing that no one wants or has a use for something that was once so precious.

But when you come upon a rosary that was used so many times it has begun to fall apart, you don't even think twice before keeping it, and not because you need the rosary. You need what it means. You need what it reminds you of.

When all is said and done, each of us will be called before our master to settle accounts, just as my grandfather was.

"Where are the gifts I gave you? What remains of the fortune to which I entrusted you?" he will ask us. "What have you done with the peace? What have you done with the love? What have you done with the mercy?"

*"You yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night."
1 Thessalonians 5:2*

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

If it isn't only for people who are dying, when should someone receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

Answer:

One of the unfortunate realities in the Church today is that so few people understand the meaning and value of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, largely because so many people still mistakenly think of this sacrament as "Last Rites" or "Extreme Unction."

In his life and ministry, Jesus healed the sick. In this sacrament, the Church continues the healing mission of Jesus and, in hope, prays that God will grant healing to the person who is suffering. But even if there is no physical healing, the sacrament offers spiritual healing through the Holy Spirit's gifts of peace and courage. And so, anyone who is living with serious illness (including emotional or psychological illness) and the elderly are encouraged to celebrate this sacrament when it is needed.

The ritual for Anointing of the Sick does also include special prayers and blessings for those who are facing death, including viaticum (communion given to the dying, trusting that the Lord Jesus will be their companion along the way, as they make their final journey).

“Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master’s joy.’ “

- Mt 25:20b-21

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Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

Proverbs describes the ideal wife who runs her household with wisdom and grace. How would you describe your household growing up?

Second Reading

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to stay alert and sober for the day when the Lord Jesus will return. Why do you think the date of this event is hidden from us?

Gospel Reading

Jesus teaches about the importance of using our God-given gifts faithfully and prudently in the parable of the talents. What gifts have you used well in your life?



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**BLESSED
ARE
THOSE
WHO
FEAR
THE
LORD.**

PSALM 128

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“After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.’”
- Mt 25:19-20

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