

Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



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Thirty Third Sunday - 15th November 2020

"...THOSE WHO WERE READY WENT IN WITH HIM TO THE WEDDING HALL ..."

ARE YOU READY TO RESPOND TO CHRIST'S CALL FOR A VOCATION?

If He is calling you to discern serving Him as a priest or consecrated religious, speak to your local priest, or call your Diocesan Vocation's Director, or email the National Vocations Office on info@vocations.ie

PASTORAL LETTER - Bishop Francis has written a Pastoral Letter for November. It is entitled 'Remember in November - copies are available in the Parish Church - please take one home.

A November Prayer

Lord in my grief, you comforted me;
Lord in my deep distress, you sustained me;
Lord in my prayerfulness, you listened to me;
Lord in my searching, you led me;
Lord in my dreadful despair, you talked to me;
Lord in my loneliness, you befriended me;
Lord in my anguish, you gave me Peace;
Lord thank you for your Presence,
Lord thank you for your mercy,
Lord thank you for teaching me your ways,
Lord thank you for being my friend. - Frances M. Brown

• Seeing you life through the Lens of the Gospel •

• World Day of the Poor •

1. A gift given in love, is given to be enjoyed, treasured, and used. Through fear, one servant failed to recognise the loving trust being shown to him and buried the talent. When have you found that overcoming fear helped you to make the most of opportunities in life?
2. On the level of our own personal life, faith is not given to us to be locked away, but to be "traded" with. We trade with it when we believe in its value, trust it, and use it, bringing it into the experiences we have in daily life. Can you recall times when relying on your faith has brought you rewards?
3. Likewise with our own personal gifts and talents. We can fall into the trap of seeing these as our personal possession so that we can do with them as we like, rather than share them as gifts so that they can be multiplied. What is your experience of hoarding or sharing your own gifts? When did you feel most alive?
4. Pope Francis in his letter The Joy of the Gospel wrote, 'I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelization in their respective communities. ... The important thing is to not walk alone, but to rely on each other as brothers and sisters.' EG (33) How is your parish responding to this call? - John Byrne (INTERCOM)

• The Deep End •

Rising to the challenge

It is hard not to feel sorry for the third servant in today's gospel. The first two servants are praised for making the most of the 'talents' (money) given to them by their master. In return, they are promised even greater things. The third man, paralysed by uncertainty, buries his small amount of money in the ground instead of doing something with it. His actions are based in fear - he has heard the master is tough and he does not want to take any risks. At least he is able to return what he has been given, he reasons.

But he is shocked to learn that instead of praise, or even a neutral reaction to match his own neutral actions, he is reprimanded as 'wicked and lazy' and cast out. This parable has been described as a story of 'tragic miscalculation'. The servant didn't do anything awful - which is why we tend to have some sympathy for him - but he didn't do his best either. The real tragedy is not that he didn't make any more money; it is that he failed to appreciate the opportunity he had been given and to make the most of it.

We are all dealt different cards in life, and undoubtedly some are much tougher than others. We are like the servants in the parable who are given different amounts of money to look after. The point is not the amount of 'talents' given to each. It is not the circumstances of our lives or our natural gifts that are important, but how we use them. Jesus was cautioning against playing it safe. Instead of turning inwards or living in fear, we are called to meet challenges head on and discover what wonderful things might happen.

'Talent is like electricity. We don't understand electricity.

We use it.'

- Maya Ange (INTERCOM)

TOLERANCE

'The most lovable quality any human being can possess is tolerance. It is the vision that enables one to see things from another's viewpoint. It is the generosity that concedes to others the right to their own opinions and peculiarities. It is the bigness that enables us to let people be happy in their own way instead of our way' - Anon

CHRISTIANITY

'How I would love to engrave this great idea on each one's heart: Christianity is not a collection of truths to be believed, of laws to be obeyed, of prohibitions. That makes it very distasteful. Christianity is a person, one who loved us so much, one who calls for our love.

Christianity is Christ.'

- Archbishop Oscar Romero

FRIENDSHIP

'If you have a friend worth loving, love him. Yes, and let him know that you love him, ere life's evening tinges his brow with sunset glow. Why should good words ne'er be said of a friend till he is dead?'

- Daniel W. Hoyt

NOVEMBER ALTAR LIST OF THE DEAD - Please write the names of your departed relatives and friends on the sheets provided and place in the box at the front of the altar. Your deceased family members and friends will be remembered at Masses celebrated during November. May they rest in peace.

2021 OFFERTORY AND PRIESTS DUES ENVELOPES: The list of names for the Box of Envelopes for 2021 is currently being updated. If you are not already receiving a Box of Envelopes and would like your name to be included on the list, please contact the Parochial House @ 043 66 71046. It is very beneficial for the parish if parishioners use the boxes of envelopes as this enables us to use the Tax Relief Scheme. Your generous contributions towards the Offertory Collection and Priests Dues Envelopes are very much appreciated.

WASH YOUR HANDS

**PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING
DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP
CHECK IN ON ELDERLY NEIGHBOURS
BE KIND**

- Fr Tom Healy -