

November 15th Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Church is open for Indoor Mass

The Church is open for two Public Masses. The masses will be at:
10am in English and 12 noon in Spanish.

Iglesia está abierta para misa

La Iglesia está abierta para misa a las 10:00am en inglés y a las 12:00pm en español.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, November 14

9:00am *St. John Volunteers*
4:30pm † *Rufino Labari*

Sunday, November 15

8:00am † *Bill Sacramento*
10:00am † *Nerio Hernandez*
12:00pm

Monday, November 16

9:00am † *Dr. Cesar Santos*

Tuesday, November 17

9:00am † *Rodrigo Tarantan*

Wednesday, November 18

9:00am *Chris de la Torre (thinkng)*

Thursday, November 19

9:00am † *Henry & Teresa Thran*

Friday, November 20

9:00am † *Ananias, Primitiva, Benito M. & Soledad Falcon*

Saturday, November 21

9:00am *St. John Volunteers*
4:30pm *St. John Parishioners*

Second Collection

Today's second collection is for **St. Patrick's Seminary**, the Seminary of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. The Archdiocese sends men to St. Patrick's to prepare for the priesthood. Throughout its history, it has prepared more than 2,000 priests who are serving or have served the people of God in the western United States and the Pacific Rim. Proceeds from the collection will provide the seminary with much needed funds.

Thank you for your generosity

*You are children of the light
and children of the day.
We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.*
1 Thimothew 5:6

From the Desk of the Pastor

We continue to read from the Gospel of St. Matthew, the eschatological discourse with a parable that contains a stern warning to those who will be found unprepared when the Lord comes on the Last Day. Jesus employs distinguishing features of the parables relating to ordinary day life experiences with awesome simplicity. Each of these parables even though they project one remarkable point, they are designed to mushroom into strong allegorical elements far beyond one's imagination.

The Gospel today reminds us of the rewards that come when we take the risk to use and share the gifts God has given us for the good of all, and cautions us against hoarding what little we have.

Some say the world is divided into "haves" and "have-nots". The scriptures suggest that everyone has some gift that is meant to be "traded". All of us have been endowed with health, wealth, and property. We have been gifted with faith, love, and wisdom. This is a worthy enterprise.

A disciple of Jesus has received the treasure of the Gospel, the good news of the kingdom of God. God expects a return on this investment with us. We might feel we have a limited understanding of our faith, but we are not to bury it in silence. Rather, plant the seed of God's word in the minds and hearts of others:

Perhaps we could spend some minutes in quiet prayer, and ask God to help us discover one (or more) ways that we may be called to respond to this week's scriptures:

- ◆ In our relationship with God
- ◆ With family and friends
- ◆ At work, school, or church
- ◆ In our community....

November Plenary Indulgences for Souls in Purgatory

The Vatican has announced an extension to the plenary indulgences traditionally obtained during the first week of November. Because of restrictions on cemetery visits due to COVID-19, "the Plenary Indulgence applicable to the deceased by those who visit a cemetery has been extended beyond the normal dates of 1 to 8 November. This year, the indulgence can be obtained by anyone who visits a cemetery, even if only mentally, on any day in November, and devoutly prays for the faithful departed."

To obtain an indulgence, one must be a Catholic in the state of grace and free from all attachment to sin, even venial sin. In addition to this pious act, it is necessary to fulfill the following three conditions in order to gain the indulgence:

- sacramental confession,
- Eucharistic Communion

and prayer for the intention of the Pope (this can be satisfied by reciting one Our Father and one Hail Mary, or any other prayer for the intention of the Roman Pontiff).

The full Vatican announcement is available at: www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2020-10/decreo-plenary-indulgence-faithful-departed-november.html

Mass Intentions Book 2021

The Mass Intentions Book for the New Year 2021 is now open.

You are invited to come to the Parish office beginning this Monday with your request for Mass intentions. Please bring a written list with all the names, mass dates and times that you would like to request along with the stipend. The process is on a "first come, first serve basis".

The Archdiocese of San Francisco has traditionally regulated Mass stipends for announced and unannounced mass intentions. The suggested donation for an announced mass is \$10.00; for an unannounced intention it is \$5.00.

Mass intentions are published in the Parish bulletin with the deadline for printing on Monday afternoon. The Parish Office is open Monday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

We all love getting a nicely wrapped gift whether it is for our birthday or at Christmas. We thank the person who gave us the gift and we use it. Think how the person who gave us the gift would feel if we didn't open it; instead we simply put it away and left it unopened. This is the situation that we are presented with this Sunday. We have all been given gifts and talents by God. The important thing is not *what* I have been given, but *how* I use what I have been given. God calls us, God loves and as we see in this gospel, God also trusts us. Our talents are not just for ourselves; they are meant to be used to proclaim the gospel and build the Kingdom of God. Just think of the trust God has in each of us and the risk he takes with us. This parable teaches each of us what to do during this time of waiting. We can't simply sit, wait and do nothing. Our waiting is not to be idle or passive. We are to live our daily lives in such a way that we use all the many gifts and talents God has given each of us. In the gospel, the man not only gave his servants money, he also trusted them with a big responsibility. Jesus has given each of us the same responsibility. Through our ordinary lives and through the use of our gifts, skills and talents, we are to show that we too are faithful servants. When the Lord does return, each of us will be held accountable for the use of our gifts and how we have lived our lives. May we choose the path and a life of faithfulness and fruitfulness which leads to blessedness and a share in God's joy. May God say to each of us, *well done, good and faithful servant.*