

Blessed are those who fear the LORD.

Immediately before recounting the death and resurrection of Jesus, Matthew presents a series of parables. These parables all demand vigilance on the part of Christians. Seeing Christ in every human being and treating her or him accordingly expresses vigilance properly.

In today's parable from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus emphasizes that there will be an accounting for all at the last judgment. This leads nicely into the next scene, the judgment of the nations, which will be proclaimed as next Sunday's Gospel. One of Matthew's favorite themes suggests that the vigilance desired by Christ is best realized in the practice of justice and charity toward one another. Jesus, the Master, gives amazing gifts to all. The talent mentioned as a symbol of God's gift had great value, the equivalent of the average worker's pay for six thousand days. The generosity of these monetary gifts teaches the great love of God for all.

God does expect everyone to make proper use of these gifts. "After a long time" (Matthew 25: 19) reminds the listener that the *parousia* may be delayed. Nevertheless, Christ will return at the end of time for the final accounting. The first two servants symbolically perform good deeds by increasing the gift given them. Christ says, "Come, share your master's joy" (25:21,23). This is an invitation into the eternal banquet of the kingdom of heaven with greater responsibilities toward the kingdom. The "wicked, lazy servant" (25:26) buried his talent in the ground. He did not perform the good deeds expected of every person. He is excluded from the kingdom, a warning to all the followers of Jesus.

Today's first reading gives a wonderful example of the ideal wife who uses her gifts to perform good deeds for others. "She puts her hands to the distaff, / and her fingers ply the spindle. / She reaches out her hands to the poor, / and extends her arms to the needy. / Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; / the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised" (Proverbs 31:20, 30). "Fear of the Lord" in the Old Testament means a proper religious attitude toward God.

Scripture Reflections and Commentaries by

Msgr. Ralph Kuehner and Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis

Readings for the Week of November 16, 2008

Sunday	Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21
Monday	St. Elizabeth of Hungary, religious Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday	Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul in Rome, apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, virgin Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday	Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday	Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149; Lk 19:41-44
Friday	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday	St. Cecilia, virgin, martyr Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday	Our Lord Jesus Christ the King Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

Women's Prayer Evening
"Come Jesus Be King of Our Hearts"
Wednesday Evening November 19th
7:00 to 8:30pm in the Church.

Special Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe
will be present.

Join us for uplifting prayer, praise and worship.

Let us prepare our Hearts, our Families
and our Church for Jesus' coming as
"King of All Hearts."

Feast of Christ the King is November 23rd.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN for HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Nearly 37 million people in the United States live below the poverty line, and 13 million of those are children. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) works to create lasting solutions to the problem of poverty through real community change. Please donate prayerfully and generously to CCHD next weekend to help those in poverty help themselves. Visit www.povertyusa.org to learn more.

THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is now up in the front of church on the Hooven Avenue side. This is a great way to help someone in need this Christmas. The red tags are for needy Harrison Elementary students, green tags for Jefferson Elementary, and white tags for St. Ann parishioners. Please wrap gifts or put them in a gift bag, cut off the gift description at the bottom and make sure the tag is taped firmly to the package. No bows, please. Please return all gifts to church by Sunday, December 14. Thank you!

LECTORS – The new Lector workbook is available in the sacristy. Please pick yours up as the New Year B begins November 30, 2008. The cost of the book is \$11.00. Thank you!

ST. ANN SCHOOL NEWS There has been a great deal of excitement in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classrooms recently. The Smart Boards have arrived, and the students are very excited about this newest piece of classroom technology. Smart Boards are whiteboards that interact with a computer to bring information into the classroom. Any information that can be obtained through the computer can be projected onto the Smart Board for everyone to see. Using the Smart Boards, the students can view videos from various educational web sites, and write on them like they would a chalkboard. They can use the touch sensitive display to show information to the entire class. Each day all are finding more ways to use this newest piece of technology to enhance learning. Stop in sometime and see how the students of today are learning in the classroom.

ST. ANN GIFT CERTIFICATE FUND RAISER

Please don't forget that St. Ann Church sells many different gift cards that make great gifts for the holidays! Speedway, JC Penney, Kohl's, Cracker Barrel, Applebee's, Bob Evans just to name a few. You can purchase your cards before and after masses, at school or the parish offices. They are also available at several home locations. We even deliver! *Your support of this fund raiser directly benefits St. Ann Church.*

THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



This Week in our Parish

Sunday, November 16th

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9-10 a.m. CCD classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

Tuesday, November 18th

7:00 p.m. Interest Group meeting

Wednesday, November 19th

7:00 p.m. Women's Prayer Evening in Church
 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts
 7:15 p.m. Choir
 7:30 p.m. R.C.I.A.
 8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul

Thursday, November 20th

6-8:00 p.m. Pack 907

Saturday, November 22nd

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Confessions
 4:40 p.m. Rosary before Mass

6- 1 0 : 0 0 p . m .
 P . A . C . Turkey Festival
 in school cafeteria

Sunday, November 23rd

7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9-10 a.m. CCD classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

St Ann Rosary Society Raffle Winners of \$90 - Thanks to all that bought raffle tickets for our fall raffle. The total amount of tickets sold was \$1785.00. We are awarding 10 prizes of \$90 each. The winners are: Agnes Bach, Elizabeth Ulm, Mabel Schleisman, Aileen Mack, Jo Ann Meyers, Mindy Jones, Codi and Marcy Harper, Frances Rue, Maureen Kollstedt, and Greg Landrum. The proceeds from this raffle will help to fund the purchase of the Breaking Bread Book.

Remembrance Mass – Thanks to all that helped with this service. Family members of the deceased loved ones remarked that it was very comforting to have this service for their family.

Turkey Raffle Desserts – the Rosary Society will be selling desserts at the Turkey raffle. If you would like to donate a dessert, please bring at after 4:30 PM on Saturday the 22nd to the cafeteria or call 863-1700 for pick up. Thanks.

ST. ANN P.A.C. NEWS Saturday, November 22nd the annual P.A.C. Turkey Festival will be held from 6-10:00 p.m. Great food and games. Raffle tickets available from Jim Saurber at 896-4024. Volunteers are also needed; please contact Jim with your availability.

The St. Ann P.A.C. New Year's Eve Dance will be Wednesday December 31st. The dance will be held in the school cafeteria from 7:00 pm to 1:00am. Happy hour will be from 7:00-8:00. Tickets will be \$40.00 a person which includes appetizers, beer, party favors, and champagne at midnight. For tickets and information call Jim Kreke at 910-0857 or Phil Kreke at 887-0146.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF SOUTHWESTERN OHIO

Do you know someone who enjoys working with seniors? Catholic Charities is in need of home care workers (paid positions) to assist the elderly with daily living needs. The program helps seniors with a wide range of duties including household chores and transportation. If you are

interested in this type of work, please contact Rod Huber, Director of Family Services at (513) 241-7745 ext. 2530.



Saturday, November 15th Thirty Third Ordinary Sunday

5:00 p.m. Mark "Don" Collins – 28th Anniversary

Sunday, November 16th Thirty Third Ordinary Sunday

8:00 a.m. Dorothy Hunley (Ruth Jost)
 10:30 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

Monday, November 17th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Mary M. Mitrione (Women's American Italian Society)

Tuesday, November 18th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Eddie Kunkel -11th Anniversary (Delores)

Wednesday, November 19th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Ruth Huentelman (Golden Girls)

Thursday, November 20th Weekday

7:15 a.m. Communion Service
 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church in Hamilton

Friday, November 21st Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Bernadine Tegge (St. Ann Rosary Society)

Saturday, November 22nd Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

7:30 a.m. Intentions of the Celebrant
 5:00 p.m. Allison Baker (Michael Stritholt Family)

Sunday, November 23rd Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

8:00 a.m. John "Joe" Rumpler (Loretta Rumpler & Family)
 10:30 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People

Budgeted Weekly Offering	\$ 12,072.00
11/09/2008	\$ 7,881.39
Shortfall	\$ (4,190.61)
Year to Date Budgeted Offering	\$ 229,368.00
Year to Date Actual Offering	\$ 179,095.53
Shortfall	\$ (50,272.47)

Mercy Franciscan at St. Raphael's in Hamilton is experiencing a critical level of need in our food pantry. We would greatly appreciate any efforts you can make in order to get the message out to your church community. We will be happy to assist you in an effort to coordinate a collection at your church by providing barrels and a pickup of the items. Please call me with any questions. Thank you very much! *Laurie Johansen* 894-9465

November is National Adoption Awareness Month. It has been celebrated annually since 1990 to draw national attention to the growing number of children in America's foster care system that are available for adoption and wait for permanent families. More than 114,000 children in foster care are available for adoption. Their birth parents' legal rights have been permanently terminated and they are left without a family. More than half of these children are nine years of age or older. For more information about adoption from foster care, contact Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio (513) 241-7745.

GETTING SUPPORT FOR GRIEF AND LOSS DURING THE HOLIDAYS
 Celebrating the holidays following a loss can present unique challenges for people who have experienced a loss. This workshop will assist people in honoring their grief and getting support during the holiday season. This free program will be held November 18 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. and December 3 from 10:30 a.m. until noon at InnerVisions Books, 8556 Beechmont Avenue. Another program will be held December 17 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church, 607 Sycamore Street. To register or obtain additional information, call Sandy Keiser at Catholic Charities, 241-7745.