

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

15 November 2020



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

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Sunday Reflection by Fr John Thornhill sm



The parable in today's gospel reading is so well known, that the word, 'talent', has become part of our language. The original story of Jesus, however, had a far more serious message than the development of natural gifts. The 'talent' Jesus refers to was an enormous quantity of precious metal (26 kgs of gold or silver). The immensity of the wealth entrusted to the servants was far beyond the experience of Jesus' hearers. The parable challenges them to recognise that God's immense blessings bring great responsibilities.

The sharp edge of the parable, as Matthew reports it, seems to indicate a background of controversy. It may well be that the original parable of Jesus was a challenge to the Sadducees – the conservative Temple establishment who were not open to wholesome developments that had taken place in the biblical tradition, and were opposed, therefore, to the mission of Jesus. Scholars find grounds for this in the wording of the parable. The master 'hands over' the talents; this term was associated in old Israel with the passing on of the traditions of God's people. The term 'gained' - applied to the profits made by the servants - was associated with the winning of converts. In their self-centred conservatism, the Sadducees had no concern to carry forward Israel's mission

to be 'a light to the nations'. As the parable was recalled in Matthew's community, however, it may have been directed against the dangers of complacency in that community - that settled for the minimum requirements of life as the Lord's disciples, and was not ready to set out upon the great adventure of putting into practice the program of the Sermon on the Mount. The conclusion, 'To anyone who has will be given more; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away' – a saying of Jesus that appears several times in the gospels – was probably added by Matthew, to drive home the point of the parable. Its meaning for Jesus was that one who is spiritually open will enjoy God's on-going blessings; whereas one who is closed will miss the opportunities offered them. Matthew emphasises the seriousness of the parable's lesson by concluding his narrative – as he does in other places -with reference to the 'weeping and gnashing of teeth' in store for those who have no place in the Kingdom.

The parable of Jesus points to the 'Day of the Lord' when God's people will be called to account for the responsibilities brought by the great blessings they have received. In today's reading from Paul's letter to the Thessalonians, Paul continues his instruction concerning the Lord's return, echoing the imagery used by Jesus in the gospels. Life must go on; it is not given to us to know the 'times and seasons' of the final reckoning; the 'Day of the Lord' will come 'like a thief in the night'; God's people must 'stay awake and sober', living as 'children of the light'. It is not difficult to see that these themes provide the background of today's parable. The master is a long time in coming, and arrives unexpectedly to 'go through the servants' accounts'. The servants who have administered well the wealth entrusted to them are to be entrusted with 'greater things'; they will share in 'their master's happiness' – a clear reference, for those who have ears to hear, of the blessings of the final Kingdom.

If we appreciate the greatness of the blessings brought by faith in Christ, we will be aware of the responsibilities they bring.

Please support Archbishop's Lifelink appeal generously this weekend. If you have forgotten to bring your Appeal Envelope, there are some on the Pew for you to make your contribution. You can place it in the basket when you leave the church. Thank you very much.



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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 12 noon

Barbara Thompson

Mobile 0408 955 859

Tina Fernandes

Safeguarding Officers

SCHEDULES

Confession

Saturday 5.00 to 5.30pm

Or anytime by appointment

Normal Weekend Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass

& 11.00am Chinese Mass

Normal Weekday Masses

Monday 8.00am Communion Service

Tuesday to Saturday 8.00am Mass

(Check Parish Calendar for Variations)

Sacrament of Baptism

Welcoming & Naming

First Sunday at 9.00am Mass

Baptism outside Mass

Second Saturday at 10.30am

No Baptism during Mass in Lent

Third Sunday during 9.00am Mass

Other Time

Negotiable with Father Patrick

Sacrament of Marriage

By appointment with Fr Patrick

At least 6 Months before wedding

Marriage Preparation Course Enrolment

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St Pius X Primary School

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Manning WA 6152

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admin@stpiusx.wa.edu.au

Daine Burnett

Principal

Our Motto

At St Pius X Catholic Primary School, the values lived by Jesus Christ are the foundation for everything we do.

Please support our Sponsors of the Bulletin

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ROSTER		Weekend 14/15 Nov	Weekend of 21/22 Nov
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 7.30am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 9.00am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	C Carvalho	E Carvalho
	Sun 7.30am	Sr Margaret	Br Basil Hickey
	Sun 9.00am	S Whitfield	G Shankar
Altar Servers	Sat 6.00pm	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
	Sun 9.00am	Suspended temporarily	Suspended temporarily
Counters		D & B Molony	C & P Lowry

PARISH CALENDAR

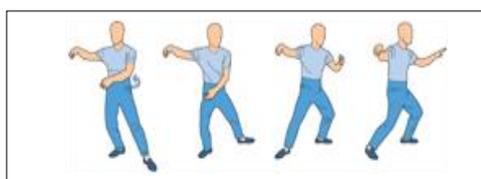
Nov Sat 14	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Ordinary Time Week 33) Church
Sun 15	7.30am	Sunday Mass (Ordinary Time Week 33) Church
	9.00am	Sunday Mass (Ordinary Time Week 33) Church
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (Ordinary Time Week 33) Church
Mon 16	8.00am	Communion (Ordinary Time Week 33) Church
Tue 17	8.00am	Mass (St Elizabeth of Hungary) - Church
Wed 18	8.00am	Mass (Ordinary Time Week 33) Church
Thu 19	8.00am	Mass (Ordinary Time Week 33) Church
Fri 20	8.00am	Mass (Ordinary Time Week 33) Church
Sat 21	8.00am	Mass (Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary) Church
	5.00-5.30pm	Confession - Church

Divine Mercy Hour
 Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy prayers, Rosary and Benediction-every third Sunday of the month at 3.00pm
 Please join us this Sunday 15 November.

Manning Parish AGM
 Our AGM will take place on 21 November after the Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass
 We hope that parishioners will come and support your parish.
 Please bring a Plate to share



Line Dancing Classes
 Every Wednesday 10am - 12noon
 \$5 per session
 All proceeds go to the Parish
 This is a community building initiative to keep you fit and active with the help of Francis & Hellen Tay



Tai Chi Group
 In Manning Parish Hall
 Every Monday except holidays
 Starts 7:30pm and finishes at 8:30pm
 All parishioners are most welcome.
 For more information, please contact or text Stephen on 0403167838.

Counting Roster
 We would like to thank those who have been willing and continuing to be rostered for this important ministry. Thanks also to those who had decided not to continue due to personal reasons.
 Due to those who had stepped down we need new volunteers to help. It is not a tedious task now since more parishioners have opted to use electronic banking rather than the envelopes system.
 There is a list provided in the foyer to put your name down for this ministry.
 Thanks
 Terry Scanlan



Columbarium Expression of Interest
 For those who are interested in making reservation and pre-paid for a space, and have not already completed the form, please take the Columbarium booklet and fill in the form at the last page and return to the office.
 You will be contacted once we have all the necessary documentations and policy ready so that we can let you know the cost.

Columbarium Garden & Surrounds
 As the columbarium is almost complete, it is time to consider the purchase of a number of plants and shrubs for not only this area, but for other garden beds within the church grounds.
 If any parishioner wishes to contribute to the cost, then please leave your donation in the basket at the back of the church or give it to Fr Patrick.
 All donations are greatly appreciated..
 Reg King

Readers & Morning Tea Rosters
 Volunteers are needed for the Readers Roster as well as Morning Tea Roster. If you can assist, please put your name down on the list provided in the foyer.

Seniors Christmas Gathering
 A THREE COURSE MEAL WITH DRINKS
 on Thursday 3 December 2020
 from 12 to 2pm
 You can purchase your ticket for the event from next weekend. \$20-00 p.p.
 Thanks - Social Committee

First Reading

Proverb 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 127:1-5. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. (R.)
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel Acclamation

John 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man

who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone Stewart



In the parable that Jesus tells in today's Gospel, the master praises the efforts of the first two servants, who used the talents they were given and improved upon them. The master criticises the action of the third servant, who hid the talent, did nothing, and was paralyzed with fear.

When have you been like the first and second servants, using your talents in a way that benefits yourself and others?

When have you been like the third servant, not using your talents and not bringing benefit to yourself or others?

The last few lines of this Gospel passage might seem to contradict Jesus' usual message about the last being first. This passage appears to be saying that the first will be even further ahead, and the last will be left behind.

Is this contradiction troubling to you? Why or why not? How do you see it?

When Jesus speaks of the first becoming last and the last becoming first, he is usually speaking of humility and boastfulness. Those who pump themselves up are usually just full of hot air. Why would Jesus say that the humble ones are really the great ones?

When Jesus speaks of the rich ones getting more, and the poor ones losing what they have, he is speaking in terms of laziness and activity. Those who act in a lazy way usually become more lazy, and they lose any initiative they once had. What kind of activity is Jesus encouraging us to do?

Next Sunday Readings

Christ the King Year A – 22 November 2020

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46



Manning Parish Youth

Find us on Facebook!

SPX's Youth are on Facebook! For live updates on what we're up to, and what's going on around the archdiocese, come like and follow our page:

<https://www.facebook.com/youth.manningparish/>