

Theme Sharing



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Let our talents bear abundant fruits

In choosing the scriptures for today's readings, the Church prepares us for the coming of Our Lord. The first reading praises a diligent and trustworthy wife, who is treasured and pleasing to God. She has utmost respect for God and manifests a deep understanding of her mission in life.

In the second reading, Paul encouraged the Thessalonians that they did not live in darkness, and that they were all children of light and children of the day. Therefore they should not fall asleep and let loose their guard. Instead, they should keep awake and be sober at all times.

Today's gospel is on the parable of the "talent" (which in Jesus' time was a coin of great value). We are told how the servant entrusted with a talent fails to invest the money under his care.

Having a very negative opinion of his master, he has no faith in the latter and so he hides the talent, keeping it entirely for himself. Jesus has told us time and again that God is never a harsh master. Instead, God is a most loving and generous Father to whom we should render our complete trust.

Therefore we should have complete faith in God, in looking ahead and carrying out of our daily responsibilities. We should pray and discern what they are, bearing in mind that these are motivations, not burdens, for us. In fact, responsibilities in life are marks of respect for us from God who entrusts us with important tasks.

And whatever they may be, we should accept them as gifts of love from God. We can rest assured that God will help us by every means so that we can invest wisely the talents entrusted to us, and produce abundant fruits for the glory of God.

Diocese & Other News



MARRIAGE PREPARATION "FOR BETTER & FOR EVER"

"For Better & For Ever..." Marriage Preparation, accepts all couples preparing for marriage. Due to the small group setting it allows us to focus on couples in one or more of the following circumstances: living together, previously married, beginning marriage with children, couples 45+, or those who wish to have their marriage blessed in the

Church. Upcoming Dates: Jan 15 / Feb 2-3, and Feb 12 / Mar 2-3. For more dates, registration or information, contact 403-218-5505 or email lifeandfamily@calgarydiocese.ca.

THE JOY OF LOVE MARRIAGE CONFERENCE & RENEWAL OF VOWS WITH BISHOP MCGRATTAN

The Joy of Love Marriage Conference & Renewal of Vows with Bishop McGrattan will take place on December 8-9 at St. Peter's Parish (541 Silvergrove Dr. NW, Calgary). Dr. Edward Sri, theologian, author and well-known speaker who appears regularly on EWTN will be the conference keynote speaker. Register online at st-peters.ca or for more information contact Kusum Di Marco at events@st-peters.ca.

LISTENING TO GOD'S VOICE RETREAT

For single women (ages 16-35) interested in looking at Religious life. Location: Holy Name Catholic Church, 2223 – 34 St. S.W., Calgary, AB. Saturday, November 25, 2017; Time: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (lunch is provided). Learn how to open your heart and listen to God's voice as did the Blessed Virgin Mary. This retreat is being offered by Sisters from various Religious communities and provides an occasion when single women can interact with them in a prayerful setting. Fr. Cristino Bouvette will celebrate Holy Mass. There will be a Holy Hour of Adoration and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. For more information and to register, contact: Sr. Terry, FCJ 403-

228-3623 or tksmithfcj@yahoo.ca. 'Still my heart, Lord, that I may listen to Your voice'.

FAITH ENRICHMENT FOR SENIORS

The Faith Enrichment for Seniors group will be held on Mondays November, 20, 27, & December 4, 2017 at St. Joseph's Parish from 1:00 pm to 3:00pm. No registration is necessary and all are welcome. For further information contact Norline at 403-218-5503 or e-mail norline.johnson@calgarydiocese.ca

Parish Activities



2018 Donation Envelopes

2018 Donation Envelopes are available for parishioners to pick up at the Church main entrance (Religious Article Centre). For any concern, please contact parish office (403-265-7926)

Safety driving and parking in OLPH

Sunday school has resumed and winter is drawing near, please be aware of the safety of yourself and other parishioners, drive with care within the prescient of the OLPH, particularly during the snowy days, preferably at a speed of 10kph. When using the parking lots, please park your car within the designated parking space and be considerate for other users. Thank you for your kind attention and co-operation.

Bulletin Advertisement Recruitment

The placement of advertisements has supported the weekly News Bulletin a lot during the past years. For 2018, we have several spaces for advertisements. Parishioners who are interested in placing your orders please contact the parish office 403-265-7926 or email olph@telus.net.

Together in Action 2017



The theme this year is: "Blessed are the merciful, for they will obtain MERCY."

(Matthew 5:7)"

Our parish's target is \$22,607 as designated by the Diocese. As of September 20, our campaign has received a total of \$41,809.65.

We plead for your ongoing support.

Weekly Activities



Wed, Fri November 22, 24

OLPH Senior Centre

Time: 9:00a.m.-12:00 noon

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

Fri November 24

OLPH Scout

Time: 6:30pm.-9:30pm

Place: Upper Hall & Lower Hall

Sat November 25

Legion of Mary (meeting)

Time: 9:45 a.m.

Place: K of C Room at OLPH Church

Tai Chi Lesson

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00a.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Yoga beginner class

Time: 11:30 a.m. - 12:45p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Upper Hall

R. C.I.A (Mandarin)

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Lower Hall

Young Adults Band practice

Time: 4:00p.m.-6:00p.m.

Place: OLPH Lower Hall

Young Adults Choir Practice

Time: 6:00p.m.-7:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Lower Hall

Sun November 26

R. C.I.A (Cantonese and English)

Time: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Lower Hall

Sunday School

Time: 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Church Office Building

Christmas Play Practice

Time: 2:00p.m.-4:30p.m.

Place: OLPH Upper Hall

Let There Be Light



A little girl walked daily to and from school. Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trip to school. As the

afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with thunder and lightning.

The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school, and she herself feared that the electrical storm might harm her child.

Following the roar of thunder, lightning, through the sky and full of concern, the mother quickly got in her car and drove along the route to her child's school.

As she did so, she saw her little girl walking along, but at each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up and smile. Another and another were to follow quickly, each with the little girl stopping, looking up and smiling.

Finally, the mother called over to her child and asked, "What are you doing?"

The child answered, smiling, "God just keeps taking pictures of me."

Stories Faith Sharing



In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway. The peasant learned what many of us never understand!

Every obstacle presents an opportunity to

improve our present condition. We often fail to see beyond the obstacle. Problems are there in every person's life but the way we look at the problem is what matters. We can make a mess of our lives or we can choose to handle our problem.

We need to go beyond the problem to get the solution. Trials make us stronger. Life is full of challenges but God will help us to face these challenges and make us bold.

News & Others



At his General Audience on Wednesday, Pope Francis resumed his catechesis on the Holy Mass.

The Mass, the Pope said, is prayer – or rather, it is "the prayer *par excellence*, the highest, the most sublime, and at the same time, the most 'concrete' ... it is an encounter with the Lord."

"But what is prayer, really?" Pope Francis asked. "It is first of all dialogue, a relationship with God." "Man," he continued, "was created as a being in personal relationship with God, who finds his full realization only in the encounter with His Creator."

God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – is Himself "a perfect relationship of love that is unity." Because we are created in "the image and likeness of God," we too are called to enter into a perfect relationship of love. And it is the Mass, the Eucharist, that is "the privileged moment to be with Christ, and, through Him, with God and with our brothers."

But dialogue also means knowing how to remain silent, in the presence of the other. The Holy Father emphasized the importance of moments of silence when we go to Mass – the liturgy, he said, is not a time for chatting, but a time to recollect ourselves, to prepare our hearts for the encounter with Jesus.

Jesus Himself often went off to "a place apart" in order to pray; and His disciples, seeing His intimate relationship with the Father, asked Him how to pray. "Jesus says that the first thing necessary for prayer" is to be able to call God "Father." Pope Francis said, "If I cannot say 'Father' to God, I can't pray. We

have to learn to say 'Father,' that is, to put ourselves into His presence with filial confidence."

In this sense, he continued, we must be like children, able to entrust ourselves entirely to God, as children do with their parents. And, like children, we must also have a sense of wonder, we must "allow ourselves to be surprised." When we speak to God in prayer, the Pope said, it is not talking to God "like parrots." Instead it means "entrusting ourselves and opening our hearts to allow ourselves to wonder." The encounter with God in Mass, he said, "is always a living encounter, it is not a meeting in a museum."

Pope Francis recalled the Gospel account of Nicodemus' meeting with Jesus. In their encounter, Jesus spoke about the need to be born again. But how is this possible, the Pope asked? "This is a fundamental question of our faith," he said, "and this is the desire of every true believer: the desire to be reborn, the joy of beginning anew." Pope Francis asked his audience, "Do we have this desire? Does each one of us have the desire to always be reborn in order to encounter the Lord? Do you have this desire?"

In fact, the Pope concluded, "the Lord surprises us by showing us that He loves us even in our weakness." In the Mass, in our encounter with Jesus, "the Lord encounters our fragility in order to bring us back to our first calling: that of being in the image and likeness of God." This, Pope Francis said, "is the environment of the Eucharist, this is the prayer."

Inspirational



There was a man who played piano in a bar. He was a good piano player. People came out just to hear him play. But one night, a patron told him he didn't want to hear him just play anymore. He wanted him to sing a song.

The man said, "I don't sing."
But the customer was persistent. He told the bartender, "I'm tired of listening to the piano. I want that guy to sing!"

The bartender shouted across the room, "Hey buddy! If you want to get paid, sing a song. The patrons are asking you to sing!"

So he did. He sang a song. A piano player who had never sung in public did so for the very first time. And nobody had ever heard the song *Mona, Mona Lisa* sung the way it was sung that night by Nat King Cole!

He had talent he was sitting on! He may have lived the rest of his life as a no-name piano player in a no-name bar, but because he *had* to sing, he went on to become one of the best-known entertainers in America.

You, too, have skills and abilities. You may not feel as if your "talent" is particularly great, but it may be better than you think! And with persistence, most skills can be improved. Besides, you may as well have no ability at all if you sit on whatever talent you possess! The better question is not "What ability do I have that is useful?" It is rather "How will I use whatever ability I have?"

Quote



"Be strong and of good courage; be not frightened, neither be dismayed; for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

---Joshua 1:9

主日分享



常年期第三十三主日

各盡所能為社會和為教會服務

本主日是常年期第三十三主日，是禮儀年曆倒數第二主日。時光的流逝，令人想到個人的死亡，也念及世界的末日。主基督快回來了。

本主日彌撒中的讀經二告誡我們警醒謹慎，等候主基督的來臨。讀經二取自聖保祿宗徒致得撒洛尼人前書。人人都要死，那是必定的事實。怎樣和幾時死，這卻是很難預料的了。耶穌說，死好比一個賊，是在夜間人們不理會的時間來訪的。聖保祿宗徒援引耶穌的話，教訓我們要警醒謹慎。

讀經一和福音則勸勉我們，在我們各自的崗位上，儘量發揮天主賜給我們的才能，為社會並為教會服務；對“警醒”提出進一步的解釋。讀經一描述猶太社會中的一位賢妻良母。她對自己的家庭和本地社會都有所貢獻，因此博得大眾的一致讚揚。

本主日彌撒中的福音取自聖瑪竇福音內容是講「元寶」的比喻。福音的教訓有積極和消極兩方面。積極方面是鼓勵教會中所有的人，都按照各自從天主那裏接受了聖寵和本性才能，盡力為教會和社會服務；消極方面是警誡我們，不可在信仰和神修生活上抱最起碼主義。

錄自梵蒂岡電台

堂區活動



2018 年奉獻信封

2018 年奉獻信封開始分發，請捐獻信封用戶，到教堂正門入口處(聖物部)領取。如有任何疑問，請與堂區辦事處聯絡 (403-265-7926)。

安全駕駛及停泊車輛

主日學已復課，冬天也臨近，請各位車輛駕駛者，特別在下雪天，聖堂停車場

範圍內將車速減慢,不超過每小時十公里(10kph)為宜,小心駕駛,以策安全.如需要停泊車輛,請停放在已劃定車位或指定範圍內.並希能為其他使用者考慮,切勿隨意停放,多謝合作。

堂區通訊招收廣告

本堂十分感謝各位堂區通訊廣告客戶的支持。2018 年尚餘少量廣告編幅，有興趣者請盡快聯絡堂區辦事處。
電話：403-265-7926 或電
郵 olph@telus.net
費用：\$150.00/1 欄/一年

2017 教區公益金，齊來獻愛心

2017 年教區 TIA 籌款的主題為：『憐憫人的人是有福的，因為他們要受憐憫。』瑪竇福音：第五章七節
截至 9 月 20 日，捐款已累積至 41,809.65 元。
懇請各位教友繼續支持，慷慨解囊！

活動一週



星期三、五 11 月 22, 24 日

永援聖母松柏軒

時間：上午 9 時至正午 12 時
地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

星期五 11 月 24 日

永援聖母堂童軍

時間：晚上 6 時 30 分至 9 時 30 分
地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂及下禮堂

星期六 11 月 25 日

聖母軍

(聖母軍聖母無玷聖心支團)
時間：9 時 45 分(開會)
地點：聖堂二樓騎士會室
揚式太極班

時間：上午 10 時至 11 時
地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

瑜珈初班

時間上午 11 時 30 分至 12 時 45 分
地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

成人慕道班 (國語)

時間：下午 3 時至 5 時
地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂
大專青年團樂隊練習

時間：下午 4 時至 6 時
地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

星期日 11 月 26 日

成人慕道班(粵語及英語)

時間上午 9 時 30 分至 12 時 30 分
地點：永援聖母堂下禮堂

主日學

時間：上午 10 時至 12 時 30 分
地點：寫字樓大廈, 聖堂騎士會室
聖誕話劇排練

時間：下午 2 時至 4 時 30 分
地點：永援聖母堂上禮堂

心靈小品



有一位富翁，窮盡一生搜集了無數最珍貴的寶石，將它們全數放入家中天花板上，可惜他不幸患上重病，醫生說他只有廿四小時命，於是急急把在外國讀書的兒子召回，兒子到了，他就只餘下最後一口氣，於是使開了其他人，指着天花板的暗格，對兒子說：「我全部的寶石……也在這裏了！」

兒子含淚點頭表示明白，富翁就死了。富翁覺得他不太明白，再說一次：「我全部的寶石……也放在這裏了！」兒子示意明白，富翁就斷氣了。

兒子待他死去後，於是小心地拿起者富翁的手，把他指頭上，非常大顆的寶石戒指取下來，從此視為全家之寶。

我們有時只看到炫目的指頭，而看不到它所指的方向；看到指示牌，而看不到所指向的地方；看到充滿真理亮光的聖經，卻看不到它所指向的神！

靈修小故事



天主的忠告

有一天，天主來到人間。遇到一個智者，正在鑽研人生的問題。天主敲了敲門，走到智者的跟前說：「我也為人生感到困惑，我們能一起探討探討嗎？」智者畢竟是智者，他雖然沒有

猜到面前這個老者，就是天主，但也能猜到絕不是一般的人物。

他正要問天主您是誰，天主說...：我們只是探討一些問題，完了我就走了，沒有必要說一些其他的問題。」智者說：「我越是研究，就越是覺得人類是一個奇怪的動物。他們有時候非常善用理智，有時候卻非常的不明智，而且往往在大的方面迷失了理智。」

天主感慨地說：「這個我也有同感。他們厭倦童年的美好時光，急著成熟，但長大了，又渴望返老還童；他們健康的時候，不知道珍惜健康，往往犧牲健康來換取財富，然後又犧牲財富來換取健康；他們對未來充滿焦慮，但卻往往忽略現在，結果既沒有生活在現在，又沒有生活在未來之中；他們活著的時候好像永遠不會死去，但死去以後又好像從沒活過，還說人生如夢……」

智者對天主的論述感到非常的精闢，他說：「研究人生的問題，很是耗費時間的。您怎麼利用時間呢？」「是嗎？我的時間是永恆的。對了，我覺得人一旦對時間有了真正透徹的理解，也就真正弄懂了人生了。因為時間包含著機遇，包含著規律，包含著人間的一切，比如新生的生命、沒落的塵埃、經驗和智慧，等等人生至關重要的東西。」智者靜靜地聽天主說著，然後，他要求天主對人生提出自己的忠告。

天主從衣袖中拿出一本厚厚的書，上邊卻只有這麼幾行字：人啊！你應該知道，你不可能取悅於所有的人；最重要的不是去擁有什麼東西，而是去做什麼樣的人和擁有什麼樣的朋友；富有並不在於擁有最多，而在於貪慾最少；在所愛的人身上造成深度創傷只要幾秒鐘，但是治療它卻要很長很長的時光；有人會深深的愛著你，但卻不知道如何表達；金錢唯一不能買到的，卻是最寶貴的，那便是幸福；寬恕別人和得到別人的寬恕還是不夠的，你也應當寬恕自己；你所愛的，往往是一朵玫瑰，並不是非要極力地把它刺根除掉，你能做的最好的，

就是不要被它的刺刺傷，自己也不要傷害到心愛的人；尤其重要的是：很多事情錯過了就沒有了，錯過了就是會變的。

智者看完了這些文字，激動地說：「只有天主，才能……」抬頭一看，天主已經走的沒影沒蹤了，只是周圍還飄著一句話：「對每個生命來說，最最重要的便是：你們應該是成全的，如同你們的天父是成全的一樣。」

新聞及其他



方濟各 11月 15日週三在聖伯多祿廣場主持公開接見活動。教宗繼續上週開始的新系列主題“感恩聖事”，解釋了彌撒的意義和價值。

教宗首先強調，彌撒是最卓越的祈禱，它是最隆重也是最具體的，因為它是“我們藉著天主聖言、耶穌聖體聖血與天主愛的相遇”。然而，我們有必要回答這個問題：什麼是祈禱？“首先，祈禱是對話，是人與天主的關係。人受造的本質就是與天主建立關係。”

教宗然後引用梅瑟的事跡說，上主從荆棘叢的火焰中向梅瑟啓示祂的名字：“我是‘我是’”（出三 14）。這個表述具有“臨在和恩惠”的意義。同樣地，基督在召叫祂的門徒時也邀請他們“與祂同在”。“因此，這是最大的恩寵：我們體驗到彌撒，感恩聖祭就是我們與耶穌同在的重要時刻，並藉著祂而與天主及弟兄姐妹同在。”

祈禱也是懂得保持靜默。教宗說道：“我們去參與彌撒，或許早到了五分鐘，我們便開始和身邊的人聊天。但那不是聊天的時刻，而是準備對話的靜默時刻。那一刻，我們應收斂心神，準備與耶穌相遇。靜默此時非常重要！你們要記住我上週說的：我們不是去看表演，而是去會晤上主；靜默能預備我們，陪伴我們。”

祈禱要求我們會念《天主經》，“也就是懷著子女對父親的信任面對天主，承認自己需要祂的教誨，對祂說：上主，求祢教我如何祈禱。”

“這是第一個要點：做個謙卑的人，承認自己是子女，憩息於天主懷中，信賴祂。爲了進入天國，我們要做個小孩子。換言之，小孩子懂得信靠他人，知道有人會爲他們操心，考慮他們吃什麼，穿什麼等等。這是第一種態度：相信和依靠，像小孩子與父母的關係那樣；知道天主記得你，照顧你，照顧我們每個人。”

第二個要點是感到驚訝。教宗勉勵自我省思：我們與上主相處時是否感到驚訝，“或者我們認爲祈禱就是鸚鵡學舌般對天主說話？”教宗特別強調：“與上主相遇始終是一次活潑的相遇，而非古板的會面。我們是去參與彌撒，不是去博物館。”

在福音中，耶穌與尼苛德摩對話，論及“由上重生”。教宗問道：“人可以重生嗎？人可以重獲樂趣、喜悅、生活的驚喜嗎？即使面對許多悲劇也能如此嗎？這是一個關於我們信仰的重要問題。渴望重生，渴望重新開始的喜悅是每一個真正信徒的渴望。我們是否擁有這一渴望呢？實際上，我們很容易便失去它，因爲事情太多，有很多項目等待落實，最後我們忙得不可開交，沒有時間，看不到那真正重要的事，即我們內心的生活，我們的靈修生活，我們在祈禱中與上主相遇的生活。”

教宗最後總結道，上主令我們驚訝，向我們展示祂愛我們，即使我們軟弱。在感恩聖祭中，耶穌做了救贖我們罪惡的犧牲者；祂觸摸我們的脆弱，“爲把我們帶回最初的召叫：成爲天主的模樣和肖像”。

- 梵蒂岡廣播電台

知多一點點



教友二字的意義

這裏所謂的教友，指的就是在神職人員及教會所規定的修會人員以外的所有基督信徒；也就是說，教友們以聖洗聖事和基督結爲一體，成了天主的子民，以其自有的方式，分沾基督的司祭、先知及王道的職務，在個人份內，執行整個基督子民在教會內與在世界上的使命。

在俗”是教友的特點。因爲聖職人員，雖則有時也可以從事俗務，甚或執行世俗職業，但他們的特殊使命，主要地是專務神聖職務，同樣，修會人員，也是要用他們的身份，顯著地證明，沒有真福的精神，不能改造世界而奉獻予天主。反之：教友的本有使命，是要在世俗事務中，照天主的計劃去安排，而企求天主之國。

他們生活在世俗中，就是說他們從事世界上的各式各樣的職業與工作，他們的生命和一般的家庭社會環境，交織在一起。天主把他們召喚到這種地位上，要他們以福音精神執行自己的職務，好像酵母，從內部聖化世界，以生活的實證，反映出信望愛三德，將基督昭示給他人。所以，爲使一切世俗事務得按基督的旨意而進行，並爲造物主救世主的光榮而發展存在，就要靠與這些事務密切相連的教友們去發揚領導。