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Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Times

November 8, 2020

Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.
—*Matthew 25:13*

EXPECTING THE UNEXPECTED

If it ever crossed your mind that Jesus was somewhat lacking in a sense of humor, today's Gospel should belie any such notion. Jesus' story of the five wise and five foolish bridesmaids is downright hilarious. The circumstances of the story were surely familiar to Jesus' listeners, just as they are—if we think about it—to us. Weddings never, ever start on time. There's always a delay. Buttons pop off at the last minute. Flowers wilt. Cars full of wedding guests get caught in traffic. Soloists contract laryngitis. Brides or grooms or priests show up late! So the only reasonable way to approach a wedding is with a sense of humor, to realize that something probably will go awry, and, when that happens, to smile about it.

Jesus tells this funny story to encourage us to be watchful, yes; to be ready, yes. But he doesn't tell it to make us dour and somber. The heavy-hearted tremble, waver, lose sight of their place and purpose, and fall asleep. The light-hearted know that the unexpected will happen—is bound to happen—so they are awake in their place and ready in their purpose when it comes.

WEEKLY OFFERING	
BUDGET	\$1351.00
NOV 1ST	\$640.00
B&M	
	\$175.00
ALL SAINTS DAY	
	\$55.00
ALL SOULS DAY	
	\$152.00

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Wisdom is easily discerned by those who love her (Wisdom 6:12-16).

Psalm — My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (Psalm 63).

Second Reading — Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 [13-14]).

Gospel — Stay awake! You know neither the day nor the hour (Matthew 25:1-13).

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

For several weeks, we have considered penance as a sacrament of forgiveness, and yet there are two other sacraments in this category. The first, of course, is the Eucharist itself. The other is the sacrament of the sick, long associated with penance.

The Letter of James sets out the deep tradition for caring for the sick: sending for the priests, who will pray and lay their hands on the sick ones, anointing them with oil, and giving them forgiveness. Long before other rites of penance developed, the sacrament of the sick was therefore a profound experience of forgiveness. Jesus often healed the sick, nearly always as a visible sign of forgiveness of sin. The tradition didn't unfold smoothly, however, and within a few centuries the oil of the sick was taken home to be applied by caregivers as a salve, or even to be drunk as a medicine. As early as the second century, bishops were therefore urging that priests should be the ones to visit those separated by illness from the Sunday assembly. Thus the practice of consigning the Eucharist and the oil of the sick to the non-ordained faithful to bring home was relatively short-lived.

**NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY NOV 11TH
FATHER IS GOING TO BE OUT OF TOWN**

THE FOUNDATION

Wisdom is the foundation, and justice the work without which a foundation cannot stand.

Nov.15TH 2020
LECTOR MELISSA

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29;
Lk 17:7-10
Wednesday: Ti 3:1-7; Ps 23:1b-6; Lk 17:11-19
Thursday: Phlm 7-20; Ps 146:7-10; Lk 17:20-25
Friday: 2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18;
Lk 17:26-37
Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8; Ps 112:1-6; Lk 18:1-8
Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5;
1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Tuesday: St. Leo the Great
Wednesday: St. Martin of Tours; Veterans Day
Thursday: St. Josaphat
Friday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

Coming Events

Wednesday, November 11th, the office is closed for Veterans Day.
Monday, November 9th after 11:30 Mass thru Thursday, November 12th, Father will be at the Priest's Convocation. Please call St Mary's at 731-668-2596 if you have an emergency and need a priest.