THE REST OF THE STORY

Paul Harvey was a popular radio broadcaster with a daily program during which he would relate a historical anecdote, but it would have a twist at the end, and then he would intone “and now you know the rest of the story.” Our scriptures today are like that. We await the coming Christ as the readings describe for us how to be good servants, but they give us a limited picture. The famous Proverbs passage, “The Valiant Wife” is edited down from the full selection (31:10–31) to just a few verses. Take a couple moments to explore the fuller selection. Psalm 128 proclaims, “Blessed are those who fear the Lord,” but in this context “fear” doesn’t mean dread and trepidation. Rather, this kind of fear means “to show awe,” and there are wonderful promises made to those who do. The letter to the Thessalonians continues the call to be alert, and Matthew shows us various ways that people might respond to God in the parable of the talents. The Gospel is presented in long and shortened versions; be sure to read the whole thing so you can get “the rest of the story.”

REMAIN IN ME

In the story of the talents, the head of the household leaves the servants “talents” or money, which they are expected to foster and develop during the leader’s absence. Today we think of talent as an innate ability or a skill. It is interesting that they were distributed “according to ability,” which would express a certain intimacy as we realize that the master knew each one, and already had an idea of their capabilities. They were not given explicit instructions like “put this in the bank” or “invest this in your portfolio” or “take piano lessons.” Rather, we are told that the goods were divided unequally. One received five, one received two, and the last received one.

BEAR MUCH FRUIT

When the head of the household returned, the outcomes were just as varied as we and our responses might be. Some people are multitalented, and capable of accomplishing many great things, like the servant who turned five into ten. Others may be more inclined to do one or two things very well and may excel in them. Still, there are some who may struggle in life, and their accomplishments are very small. But those who made use of their gifts were praised and told, “Well done, good and faithful servant.” When it came to the second coming, the return of their master, they both made some effort. The only one in whom the head of household showed any disappointment was the one who made absolutely no effort, the one who was frozen by fear or indifference. As we journey toward the kingdom, there are not always clear instructions. We are simply asked to try, to give it our best effort. There is nothing in the passage to say that these servants didn’t make mistakes along the way, but their master saw them and loved and praised them for their actions, their attempts, as God will do with us. And now you know the rest of the story.

TODAY’S READINGS

Proverbs 31:10–13, 19–20, 30–31
Psalm 128:1–2, 3, 4–5
1 Thessalonians 5:1–6
CHANGE OUR LIVES: The letters of Paul to the Thessalonians are among his earliest writings, and are driven by his belief and the belief of the entire early Christian community that the return of Christ was imminent, and that devoting time or attention to anything else was foolish. As time progressed, this fervor subsided a bit. Today we may wonder, when we hear these readings about the coming end-times, if we should take them to heart, if we really believe that Christ still may come upon us as a “thief at night” (1 Thessalonians 5:2). Does this mean that we are to stop our long-range goal-setting, get rid of our yearly calendars and planners, or stop putting money in the college education fund? Of course not. What it does mean is that we need to change our lives, living like children of the light and illuminating the world around us with the light of the gospel. Then, on that day, when the details of our daily living become unimportant, we will be ready to find our peace and security in Christ Jesus. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WEEKEND LITURGY

First Reading: The woman who fears the LORD is to be praised (Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31).
Psalm: Blessed are those who fear the Lord (Psalm 128).
Second Reading: Brothers and sisters, you are children of the light (1 Thessalonians 5:1-6).
Gospel: Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities (Matthew 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]).

READINGS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

**Monday:** Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43  
**Tuesday:** Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 19:1-10  
**Wednesday:** Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28 or Acts 28:11-16, 30-31; Ps 98:1-6; Mt 14:22-33  
**Thursday:** Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44  
**Friday:** Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48  
**Saturday:** Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40  
**Sunday:** Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK (11/16-11/22)

**Monday 8:30 AM:** Edd Alford  
**Tuesday 5:30 PM:** Melvin Graves  
**Wednesday 11:00 AM:** Kyle Logsdon  
**Thursday 5:30 PM:** Jim & Fanny Rudd  
**Friday 8:30 AM (School Mass Only):** Betty Lou Montgomery  
**Saturday 8:30 AM:** Susan Jaeschke  
**4:30 PM:** Maurice Begley  
**Sunday 8:30 AM:** For the Parish  
**10:30 AM:** Jim & Fanny Rudd  
**2:00 PM (Spanish Mass):** Presider’s Intention

LITURGICAL ROLES

**Weekday Lectors:** (Mon.) Perry Carrico, (Tues.) Mary Lynne Fenwick, (Wed.) Katie Simms, (Thurs.) Hamilton Simms, (Fri.) School, (Sat.) Wassie Parrott  
**Weekday Sacristans:** (Mon.) Belle Sutton, (Tues.) Mary Ann Hale, (Wed.) Julee Jones, (Thurs.) Perry Carrico, (Fri.) School, (Sat.) Betty C. Barber

**Weekend Liturgical Roles** for the month have been sent/will be sent via email.

St. D Prayer List: Powerful things can happen when the people of God stand together in prayer. Most weeks in our bulletin is a prayer list, which is likely in need of some editing, so why not start anew? Prayers of many have been answered while others are still in need of prayer. Help us keep our prayer list current, contact the parish office at 336-3569/stdom@bellsouth.net if a person’s name needs to be added.

**USE YOUR TALENT**

Having only modest talent is no excuse for not using it. Think what the morning would be like if only talented birds sang! —Anonymous
MENTIONS, MEETINGS, EVENTS & REMINDERS

Masses: Call ahead (Monday through Thursday) if you plan to attend Mass this coming weekend, space is limited due to social distancing requirements. Please contact us in one of two ways, by calling 859-336-3569 or by email at stdom@bellsouth.net. Seating charts are finalized on Thursday afternoons.

Youth Group: Due to a scheduling conflict, our November gathering will be the third Tuesday of the month instead of the usual second Tuesday. Hope to see all of you on Tuesday, November 17th from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the church basement. What a fantastic turnout last month, 32 youth!!!

Change-out of Missals: We will be changing out the missals at church on Sunday, November 22. If you can assist, we will be getting started at 3:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!

Mass Intentions: Have you been planning on scheduling a 2021 Mass Intention(s) in memory of a loved-one? If so, consider stopping by the parish office to do this, our 2021 calendar is already getting quite full. A mass stipend is $10. See Sonya at the Parish Office (from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Mon.-Thurs.) to see what dates are available.

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction: Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. (after the 5:30 p.m. Mass) & on Sundays from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (Adoration at 4:00 p.m., followed by quiet prayer. Vespers at 5:00 p.m., followed by quiet prayer. At 6:00 p.m., Praise & Worship Music &/or prayer that corresponds with liturgical calendar. The evening will close with Benediction at 7:00 p.m.)

Operation Christmas Child: For those participating in OCC this year please bring your box to church at any time before Sunday, November 22nd, boxes should be placed in the confessional.

2020 Catholic Services Appeal - Bringing Christ to Others: St. D Parish Goal: $46,900 - St. D Parish Gifts to Date: $21,245.00 - Parish Participation Goal: 159 Households - Parish Participation to Date: 88 Households. Thanks to those who have already responded with a gift to the 2020 Catholic Services Appeal. There is still plenty of time to respond with a gift. Gifts can be made online at www.ArchLou.org/CSA or by using a designated Catholic Services Appeal Envelope, which can be found in the pews. Checks payable to CSA.

2020 Catholic Campaign for Human Development Collection (Nov. 21/22): Our parish will take up a special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection, you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds collected will remain in the Archdiocese of Louisville to fund antipoverty projects. An envelope for this collection can be found in the pews & can be dropped in the collection anytime between now and Nov. 22.

Tithing Contributions for this past week (includes contributions during the week &/or ACH contributions, etc.): $6,468.00