

Week of November 11, 2018

MONDAY Veteran's Day

Ti 1:1-9 * Ps 24:1-6 * Lk 17:1-6

TUESDAY 8:00am Word & Communion

Ti 2:1-8,11-14 * Ps 37:3-4,18,23,27,29 * Lk 17:7-10

WEDNESDAY 8:00am Mass

Ti 3:1-7 * Ps 23:1-6 * Lk 17:11-19

THURSDAY 8:00am Mass

Phlm 7-20 * Ps 146:7-10 * Lk 17:20-25

FRIDAY 9:00am School Mass

2 Jn 4-9 * Ps 119:1-2,10-11,17-18 * Lk 17:26-37

SATURDAY 4:30pm Mass

3 Jn 5-8 * Ps 112:1-6 * Lk 18:1-8

SUNDAY 9:30am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word & Nursery

Dn 12:1-3 * Ps 16:5,8-11 * Heb 10:11-14,18 * Mk 13:24-32



Parish Activities

Mon., Nov. 12	6:30pm	Choir Practice
	6:30pm	Bible Timeline
Tues., Nov. 13	10:00am	Scripture Study
	6:30pm	RCIA
	6:30pm	1 st Reconciliation
	7-9pm	Bible Study-west campus
Thurs., Nov. 15	6:00pm	PTO
	7:00pm	School Committee
Sun., Nov. 18	10:45am	Religious Education

Rite of Christian Initiation - Inquiry: We have four adults who are participating in RCIA sessions this year. The 1st part of their faith journey is a time of inquiry – getting questions answered, sharing and discussing what it means to be

Catholic, and getting to know the people and faith stories of our parish community. Please keep them in your prayers as they seek the Holy Spirit's guidance and discernment during this initial stage.

Giving Trees: Each year the Christian Service Commission selects local assisted living homes and shelters to remember at Christmas. This year we will gift the residents at Auburn Heights Senior Care, Plainview Assisted Living, Rose Gate Adult Foster Care, Auburn Fields Assisted Living, and Toni & Trish House, all in Auburn; Mustard Seed Shelter (Saginaw), Emmaus House (Saginaw), Bay Area Women's Shelter (Bay City), and our own homebound parishioners. Trees with tags will be up November 17/18 and 24/25. Please spread the joy of Christmas by taking a tag, purchase a gift and return it to church for the volunteers to deliver.

Thank You to all those involved in the funeral and luncheon for Florian Sanak. Angie Sanak

Stewardship

"...Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she has, her whole livelihood." Mk 12:43-44

Weekly Target: \$10,961.54 * Offering: \$14,116.00
 Campaign for Human Dev.: \$155.00 * World Mission Sun.: \$72.00
 Christmas Flowers: \$1,330.00

Children's Good Deeds: My Good Deed was...

...shared Halloween candy with family. ...wash dishes.
 ...helped with school rocks (on the playground). ...help rake leaves.

Education/Formation

Family Talk Time Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families, Sara McGinnis Lee

How would you describe holiness? How do you support our church? What kinds of time, talent and treasure do you share?

► **Reflecting on the Word:** How do you envision holiness? Today's Gospel portrays a holy woman as someone who contributed all she had. That leaves us with the question of what we return to God. Is your life focused on what God wants, or do you reserve a certain amount of time and space for God? God has given us our lives. Our only return is a life centered on God.

► **Living the Word:** As a family, pick one activity from your church bulletin to participate in this week or to donate to. This may require skipping a routine or giving up something. Just like the widow that gave out of her need, help your family determine how to be more intentional about giving back to your church community. If possible, the family might purposely choose a time or way that is inconvenient. This can show a commitment to the parish community.

► **How Bishops Are Appointed:** The ultimate decision in appointing bishops rests with the pope, and he is free to select anyone he chooses. But how does he know whom to select? The process for selecting candidates for the episcopacy normally begins at the diocesan level and works its way through a series of consultations until it reaches Rome. It is a process bound by strict confidentiality and involves a number of important players – the most influential being the apostolic nuncio, the Congregation for Bishops, and the pope. It can be a time-consuming process, often taking eight months or more to complete. While there are distinctions between the first appointment of a priest as a bishop and a bishop's later transfer to another diocese or his promotion to archbishop, the basic outlines of the process remain the same. For more information go to

<http://www.usccb.org/about/leadership/appointing-bishops.cfm>

Auburn Area Catholic School

► **Veteran's Day:** Students will have a prayer service on Monday to honor our veterans who have served, those serving at present and for those who make the ultimate sacrifice. God's blessing on these men and women and their families.

► **Bay County Bookmobile** will be parked in front of the church on Thursday, November 15, 1:15-2:15pm. AACCS invites you to take advantage of this service provided by the Bay County Library system.

► **School Mass:** Come join us in celebrating the Eucharist on Friday, Nov. 16. Students will participate in the Liturgy, including grades 1-3 singing under the direction of the school's music teacher.

► **Thank You** to everyone who participated in the Book Fair and ordered from our Wreath & Grave Blanket Fundraiser. You may pick up your order on Monday, November 19, at 3pm.

From Father Tom's Desk

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sr. Mary McGlone, Celebration

Mark tells us that Jesus took his seat like a judge to scrutinize what was happening. He watched the ostentatious wealthy as they let their coins drop noisily into the coffers. Then, he fixed his attention on a widow. When Mark described her as "poor," he used a word that implies she was bowed down in need. She offered two *lepta*, the smallest coins in circulation. One can well imagine that they were typical of the gifts people donated to beggars like her. Of all those thronging through the area, she impressed Jesus so much that he pointed her out to his disciples. He wanted them to see what he saw.

Today's 1st reading, the story of Elijah and the poor widow who shared her home and food with him can help us interpret the Gospel story.

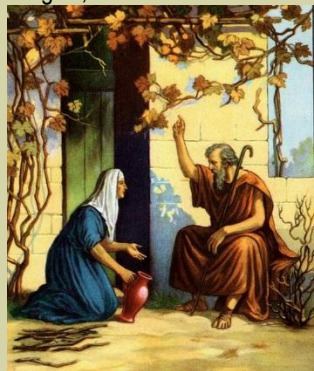
The widow accepted Elijah's request for food, telling him that if he wished, he could share the last meal she and her son would eat before dying of starvation. This was a case of the poorest giving to the needy.

We might use this week's readings as a guide to living and giving – perhaps a well-timed heads-up just two weeks before the Thanksgiving/Christmas season. First of all, Jesus' critique of the scribes' habits is a call to beware of pretentious status seekers and every advertisement that tells us which product will make us more important, loveable or, most of all, enviable. Jesus' ongoing critique of such vacuous status symbols was the Christian Scripture's version of pointing out that "the emperor has no clothes."

Secondly, the combination of Jesus' observation of Temple practices and the story of Elijah and the widow invite us to evaluate our giving. Today's Gospel condemns any approach to economics that asks the poor to sustain the prosperous – that would include everything from manipulative televangelists to regressive tax systems.

A Widow's Example (1 Kgs 17) Celebration

Upon arriving in the town of Zarephath, Elijah saw the widow and asked her for drink and a bit of bread. Her response revealed both her character and her plight. Recognizing him as an Israelite, she replied with an oath in the name of his God, swearing that her situation was so dire that she not only had no bread to give, but that she was about to empty her flour jar to prepare the last meal she and her son would eat before dying of starvation. Having heard her oath, Elijah responded in the name of his God and promised that "the jar of flour will not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry, until the day when the Lord sends rain upon the earth." And so it happened.



Although Elijah is the center of the story, the widow is really the person we might call the ethical example. Deuteronomy 24:17-22 is one of a number of sections of the Hebrew Scriptures demanding that Israelites see to the needs of the widows, orphans and foreigners in their land. In an exemplary turnabout, our nameless, destitute, pagan widow fulfills the Jewish law as she takes in Elijah the exile, thereby becoming the witness from whom the prophet needed to learn about trust and solidarity.

The Perfect Societies (Heb 9) Celebration

The author reminds us that Christ entered into the sanctuary of heaven itself, the full, unimaginable and illimitable presence of God. Because Christ has completed his task of revealing God to the world, there is no more need for sacrifice, no more offering required. When the author says that Christ has appeared once for all at the end of the ages, he is proclaiming that history has come to its conclusion. The message here is that all human striving has approached its resolution. We need no more trial and error, no more wondering like Job about the meaning of life.

What Does Jesus See? Karen Seaborn, Celebration

And I wonder... when the risen Christ walks around with me today, in the ordinariness of my life, gazing at my calendar, my checkbook, my credit card statements, the people with whom I spend my time, my attitudes and choices, where would Christ find my heart? Does he see in me a religious leader who values prestige and power? Does he see in me a rich person who values money? Or does he see in me a surrendered person who values Christ, and all that Christ loves, more than prestige, power, money?

Jesus used ordinary things and ordinary situations to teach his people then, and he uses ordinary things and ordinary situations to teach his people today.

In God We Trust Peg Ekerdt, Celebration

No matter how many times we say we trust in the Lord, we often live as if we are in charge of our own lives and dependent only on our own talents. We are reminded today that not only are we called to live in utter surrender and dependence on our Lord, but we are to give from our very poverty to those who are in need. We must trust God will provide for us as we empty ourselves to care for the poor and the oppressed. It is a risky way to live but it is the life of faith and trust to which we are called.

"Lord, help me give from my want and my surplus."

Daily Bread GraceWorks, Dallas TX

"Give us this day our daily bread," we pray when we recite the Lord's Prayer. But to be truthful, most of us would rather provide for our own bread by having plenty in the pantry, easy access to the grocery store, and a healthy 401-K just in case. Who really wants to live day to day, depending on only that day's provision? And yet, no matter if we have stored resources and fully stocked refrigerators, we must remember that it is still God who sustains and provides for us, and not we ourselves. For all our ingenuity and technology, human life is still dependent on six inches of topsoil getting enough rain at the right time to bring forth the food without which we would all perish within just a short time. We would do well to keep praying that line in the Lord's Prayer, until we fully believe that our daily life is still in His hands.

"A person's position and wealth is merely a costume for the part they play in their earthly life, and not a reflection of their worth as a soul."

November Wedding Anniversaries

- 60 years or more Ed & Mary Ellen Matuszewski
- 50 years or more David & Janet Nowak
- Edward & Marilyn Welz
- James & Mary Lou Jean
- 40 years or more Al & Donna Armstrong
- Michael & Mary Jo Jamrog
- Thomas & Mary Anne Putt
- Gary & Judy French
- Robert & Carolyn Putt
- Richard & Marie Strauss
- Daniel & Karen Koehler
- 30 years or more..... Daniel & Lynette Miller
- Michael & Joan Bouza
- Robert & Dawn Rugenstein
- Kevin & Nancy Fick
- 20 years or more..... Paul & Rose Lynch
- Daniel & Lynn Polisano
- 10 Years or more..... Christopher & Tia Hahn
- Benjamin & Paola Berg
- Less than 10 years..... David & Kristen Neal



We thank you, O God, for the love You have implanted in our hearts. Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness. Amen

The Parish in the Community

► **Holiday Bazaar:** Sacred Heart, Gladwin, Nov. 16/17. Stew luncheon, raffle with over 100 prizes, bake sale, and 70 tables of arts & crafts.