



Today's parable is about a man entrusting his servants with his property, and the point it makes concerns the need for fidelity in caring for what belongs to the master.

God our master has left us with the earth, not to do with it what we want but to care for it even as we live off of its abundant riches.

God created the land to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find so much land strip-mined, strip-cleared, eroded, and burdened with toxic waste?

God created the waters to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find the oceans and rivers polluted with our garbage and chemical by-products?

God created the air to support living things: What will happen when God returns to find smog and holes in the ozone?

God created plants and animals to live on this wonderful earth and revel in its beauty: What will happen when God returns to find so many of them driven to extinction by our destructive practices?

"Father of all that is good, keep us faithful in serving you." May we learn to care better for the Master's goods so that when the Master returns, we will hear those blessed words: "Well done! Come and share your master's joy."

We all bear a unique responsibility under God to safeguard the created world and by their creative labour even to enhance it.

Safeguarding creation requires us to live responsibly within it, rather than manage creation as though we are outside it.

The human family is charged with preserving the beauty, diversity and integrity of nature as well as fostering its productivity. Now published in book form, To Love and Serve: Lectionary Based Meditations, by Gerald Darring.

# MAKE IT FRUITFUL

On his return, the master praises the first two servants while he throws the third one out into the outer darkness because, through fear, he had hidden his talent, withdrawing into himself. A Christian who withdraws into himself, who hides everything that the Lord has given him, is a Christian who... he is not a Christian! He is a Christian who does not thank God for everything God has given him!

The expectation of the Lord's return is the time of action — we are in the time of action — the time in which we should bring God's gifts to fruition, not for ourselves but for him, for the Church, for others. The time to seek to increase goodness in the world always; and in particular, in this period of crisis, today, it is important not to turn in on ourselves, burying our own talent, our spiritual, intellectual, and material riches, everything that the Lord has given us, but, rather to open ourselves, to be supportive, to be attentive to others.

Have you thought about the talents that God has given you? Have you thought of how you can put them at the service of others? Do not bury your talents! Set your stakes on great ideals, the ideals that enlarge the heart, the ideals of service that make your talents fruitful. Life is not given to us to be jealously guarded for ourselves, but is given to us so that we may give it in turn. ... Do not be afraid to dream of great things! - Pope Francis, General Audience 24 April 2013.

#### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Eucharist. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You are already here and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen . Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Most Divine, All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine (3x)

#### STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION CORNER

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you have been faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities." ~ Matthew 25:21

God calls us to nurture and develop the gifts He has given us and then generously return a portion with increase. He doesn't want us to waste or hoard the gifts He has given us. He expects us to grow our gifts, use them wisely and be generous with them. Unfortunately, many of us are not generous in proportion to all that God has given us.



JOIN FR TONY'S SUNDAY MASS AT 10:15 AM AND WEEKDAY MASSES AT 12:00 NOON

LIVE STREAMING AND REPLAY AT

CATHOLIC-PARISH-OF GREATER-BOX HILL

(<u>https://www.facebook.com/GBHparish</u>) ON YouTUBE:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/

Fr Tony continues to be present for chats, updates, counselling, queries and prayer requests. You can contact him at tony.kerin@cam.org.au or call 9401 6371.

> <u>VIETNAMESE SUNDAY MASS AT 5:00 PM</u> https://www.facebook.com/sttimvn

<u>ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL SUNDAY MASS</u> Live streamed at <u>St Patrick's</u> YouTube: <u>https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb</u> Mon-Fri: 1pm, Sat: 8am, Sun:11am



# THANKSGIVING ENVELOPE

New sets of Thanksgiving envelopes and Quarterly statement are now available for pick-up.

For others who opt to use the direct debit facility, please call or email the parish office for the direct debit form so we can set it up for you.

Likewise, the Parish Online Payment Portal through the CDFPay is still available and can be accessed at: **Parish Pay Portal** 

<u>https://secure.artezpacific.com/registrant/</u> TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=116521&langPref=en-CA

We would like to thank everyone for your continuing support to our Parish.

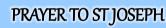


### LATEST COVID LITURGICAL GUIDELINES

In response to the latest directives announced by Government as part of its Roadmap for the reopening of the State of Victoria, the following has become operational from 11:59pm on 8 November, 2020.

The restrictions in place are compulsory. The Chief Health Officer of Victoria has issued a lawful direction as part of the current State of Emergency.

- Face coverings/masks must be worn indoors and outdoors for everyone over 12 years of age, unless there is a medical exemption.
- Under no circumstances should anyone awaiting a COVID-19 test verification, including Clergy (even without presenting symptoms) attend a church or parish setting until a diagnosis is confirmed. Additionally, under no circumstances should anyone attend who is closely connected to people who are awaiting test results or who have tested positive.
- All places of worship including churches, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services may open for permitted religious ceremonies.
  - Indoors: Allowed for up to a cap of 20 people plus one faith leader. Infants under12 months of age are not included in the cap. Physical arrangements should accommodate 2 groups of ten, with at least 5 metres between each group.
  - Outdoors: Allowed for up to 50 people, plus one faith leader. Infants under 12 months of age are not included in the cap.
- DHHS *Guidelines*. Under current indoor congregational singing is not permitted, only cantor/ choral or small group singing. Small choirs or singers should only perform in well ventilated indoor settings and must be limited to a maximum of 5 singers or wind instrument players. Performers must be 2 metres apart and 5 metres from the congregation or celebrating Clergy. The DHHS have noted outdoors that singing strongly is recommended.



St Joseph, You were receptive to God working in your life. Help us by your prayers at this time of trial. You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care: may your prayers assist our local

Church to respond to those in need. You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers: help us to follow his example of love. You were part of God's plan for all humanity: assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day. You spent your life in service: may we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these difficult days. You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us to grow in faith and pray to the Father, Thy will be done. Amen.

- MASS TIMES:
- Saturday: 6:00 PM
- Sunday: 9:00 AM
- Mass in Vietnamese : 5:00 PM (All Sundays)

Michael Haining, Carl Ferguson, Dulce Kelly, Angelo Isola, Edgar Fernandes, Bertie Fernandes Teresa Shiels, Daniel Curtain, Bruce Gemmell, Eloide Leonardi, Maria Casono, Vita Boccacci, Jean Nancy Holgate.	•	Adoration 7:30 P VIETNAMESE Wednesday & Th 1st Wednesday of Every Friday, 10:	f the month, 10:00 am	the month 0434 239 212 or 5.
		<b>ROSTERS:</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>
NEXT WEEK: LORD JESUS KING OF THE UNI-	:	PROCLAIMERS		
<ul> <li>VERSE</li> <li>First Reading: Ezek 34: 11-12, 15-17</li> <li>Second Reading: 1 Cor 15: 20-26, 28</li> </ul>	•	This Week C: P:	Hubert Lobo Peggy D' Cruz	Alfred Lee Daphne Hickman
<ul> <li>Second Redding, 1 Col 15, 20-20, 28</li> <li>Gospel : Matthew 25: 31-46</li> </ul>	٠	Next week C: P:	Rachel Grealy Patrick Kelly	Trevis Yee Ryan Yee

AROUND THE CHURCH-THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY

#### Catholic Resources : melbournecatholic.org.au; cathnews.com

#### MEDIA IN THE DOCK OVER BREACH OF GAG ORDER

Australian media organisations and journalists went on trial yesterday on charges they breached a gag order on reporting about Cardinal George Pell's sexual abuse convictions in 2018 that have since been overturned.

A total of 18 individual journalists, editors and broadcasters face potential prison sentences and 12 organisations face fines if they are found guilty in the Victoria state Supreme Court of breaching a judge's suppression order on Cardinal Pell's case. They have all pleaded not guilty.

Judge John Dixon is hearing the trial without a jury and via video links due to pandemic restrictions. The trial is expected to take two to three weeks.

Such suppression orders are common in the Australian and British judicial systems. But the enormous international interest in an Australian criminal trial with global ramifications highlighted the difficulty in enforcing such orders in the digital age.

Cardinal Pell was convicted on December 11, 2018, of sexually abusing two choirboys in the 1990s. The High Court quashed all convictions in April, after Cardinal Pell spent 13 months in jail.

The 2018 trial had not been reported in the news media at the time because of a suppression order that forbid publication of details in any format that could be accessed from Australia. Details were suppressed to prevent prejudicing jurors in a second trial that Cardinal Pell was to face three months later. That second trial was cancelled due to a lack of evidence.

#### **ELDER ABUSE ON THE RISE IN VICTORIA**

Older Victorians were more likely to be physically harmed or suffer financial or emotional abuse from relatives during the state's coronavirus lockdowns than ever before.

Experts fear this trend will worsen as populations age. Data on family violence released this week shows that in the months Victoria spent in lockdown, more people aged 55 and older accessed support services or sought a family violence protection order.

The data, compiled by Crime Statistics Victoria using information from 20 emergency services and support agencies, shows older Victorians were at more risk from family members – often adult sons or daughters – this year, and were also more likely to seek emergency accommodation or become homeless.

#### **RED LIGHT FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM**

Hundreds of churches, monuments and buildings will be illuminated in red light in a global call for religious freedom. In spite of the coronavirus pandemic, #RedWeek 2020, a campaign initiated to draw attention to the persecution of Christians all over the world, will still take place this year from 18-25 November. "COVID 19 may have brought many changes, but Christians continue to be the most persecuted religious community in the world. In order to raise awareness about this painful fact, cathedrals, churches and public buildings will be illuminated in red light in many countries across four continents.

#RedWeek is an initiative launched in 2015 by the international pontifical foundation.

This year cathedrals and churches across Australia will participate in Red Wednesday on 25 November and this year ACN Australia has also launched Red November which seeks to highlight the suffering Church during the whole month of November.

#### VATICAN RELEASES MCCARICK REPORT

The Vatican has released its report into how former cardinal Theodore McCarrick was able to rise up the Catholic hierarchical structure, despite years of rumours of sexual impropriety. Source: CNS.

The "Report on the Holy See's Institutional Knowledge and Decision-Making Related to Former Cardinal Theodore Edgar McCarrick," released yesterday was the result of a two-year investigation.

The report says Mr McCarrick's rise was based on personal contacts, protestations of his innocence and a lack of Church officials reporting and investigating accusations.

In choosing the then Newark archbishop to be archbishop of Washington and later a cardinal, St John Paul II likely overlooked rumours and allegations about Mr McCarrick's sexual misconduct because of a long relationship with him, Mr McCarrick's own strong denial and experience with communist authorities in Poland making accusations to discredit the Church, a summary to the report said.

But, in fact, rumours of Mr McCarrick's conduct, led the Vatican to decide it would be "imprudent" to promote him when looking for candidates to become archbishop of Chicago in 1997, New York in 1999-2000 and, initially, of Washington in July 2000, the report said.

Victoria Police reported that between April and June this year, there were 508 incidents of family violence where the victim was 55 or over, an increase of more than 20 per cent from the same period in 2019. In 56.7 per cent of those incidents, an adult son or daughter was the perpetrator against at least one parent.

Experts believe the effects of coronavirus-forced lockdowns contributed to the rise in elder abuse, such as in cases where adult offspring spent more time in households with their parents, or where financial stress had hit hard.

But they suspect the problem is still under-reported and believe many older people are loath to report incidents.

#### POPE PRAYS FOR VICTIMS OF HURRICANE ETA

Pope Francis during his Angelus address on Sunday offered prayers for the victims of Hurricane Eta, which deluged Central America, claimed at least 50 lives and caused widespread flooding and property damage.

"(May) the Lord welcome the deceased, comfort their families and sustain all those so tried, as well as all those who are doing their best to help them," he said. Caritas Internationalis was responding to Eta, which came ashore in Nicaragua on November 3 and provoked devastating flooding and destruction even as it weakened and moved through Central America.

## **INTRODUCTION:**

Living Christianity is not simply avoiding evil; there is the demand on us that we actually contribute, that we act in ways that promote Gospel values. Did we help out someone in need? Did we make a stand for justice; did we write a letter about an injustice? Did we put the gifts we have been given at the service of Jesus? What will the Master say to us when he returns? *(Mary Coloe)* 

# PENITENTIAL RITE:

Lord Jesus, blessed are those who walk in your ways.	Lord, have mercy: Lord, have mercy.
Christ Jesus, you call us to be children of light.	Christ, have mercy: Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you are faithful to the end of time.	Lord, have mercy: Lord, have mercy.

### FIRST READING: Proverbs 31: 10-13

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 : Ps 127: 1-5

### **RESPONSE:** 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 Thess 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:**

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

# **<u>GOSPEL:</u>** Mt 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.<sup>3</sup>