

Dear Padre,

Is it OK to donate my body to science?

Yes, and here is some background. Christ makes possible a new and eternal creation. He "will change our mortal bodies to be like his in glory, for he is risen, the firstborn from the dead" (*Order of Christian Funerals*, 219).

Resurrection, then, is not a return to life as we know it. The body is not a resuscitated one like Lazarus' (see John 11), but a resurrected one like Christ, transformed and glorified. Christians traditionally revere the body—while alive, and at the time of death—because we are created in God's image. Some reason that such respect for the body prevents donating it to science, but that's not the opinion of the Church.

"Catholic health care institutions should encourage and provide the means whereby those who wish to do so may arrange for the donation of their organs and bodily tissue, for ethically legitimate purposes, so that they may be used for donation and research after death" (*The Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services*, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 63).

It's advisable to make this decision to donate in consultation with family members or health care providers. Many, echoing St. John Paul II, consider such a self-giving act in death "with a view to offering a chance of health and even of life itself to the sick who sometimes have no other hope" (The Gospel of Life [*Evangelium Vitae*], 86) as a supreme manifestation of what it means to be Christian!



—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Calendar

Monday
NOVEMBER 16
Weekday
Rv 1:1–4; 2:1–5
Lk 18:35–43

Tuesday
NOVEMBER 17
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
Rv 3:1–6, 14–22
Lk 19:1–10

Wednesday
NOVEMBER 18
Weekday
Rv 4:1–11
Lk 19:11–28

Thursday
NOVEMBER 19
Weekday
Rv 5:1–10
Lk 19:41–44

Friday
NOVEMBER 20
Weekday
Rv 10:8–11
Lk 19:45–48

Saturday
NOVEMBER 21
Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Rv 11:4–12
Lk 20:27–40

Sunday
NOVEMBER 22
Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe
Ez 34:11–12, 15–17
1 Cor 15:20–26, 28
Mt 25:31–46



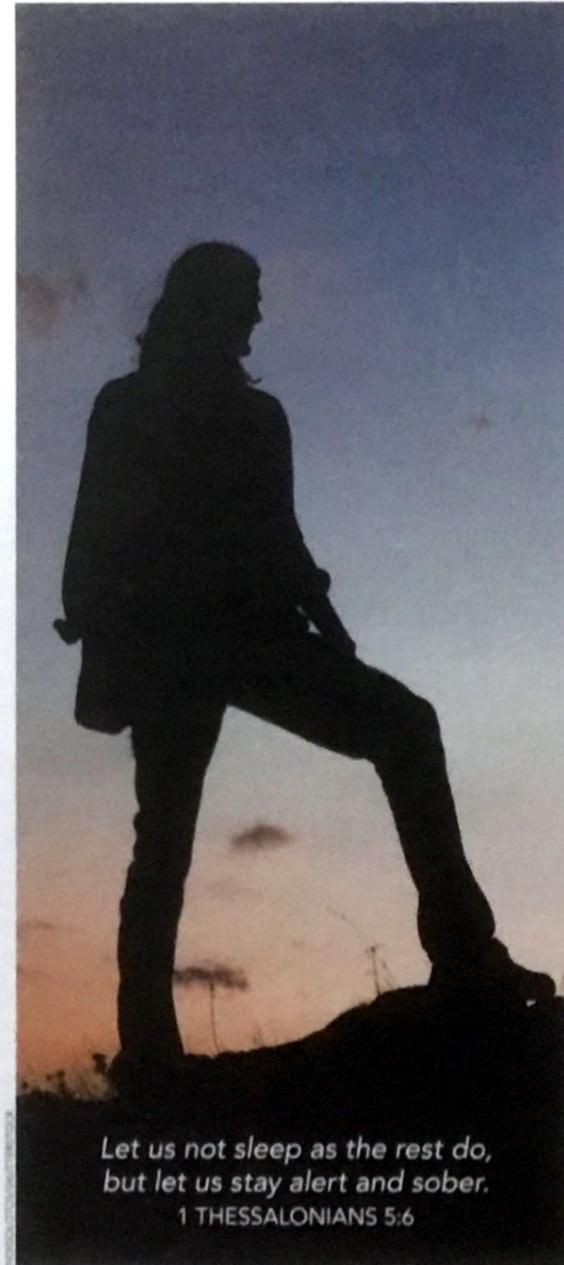
A WORD FROM Pope Francis

From our own death and from our gift the life and health of others, sick and suffering, may spring forth, helping to reinforce a culture of help, of giving, of hope, and of life. In the face of the threats against life...society needs these concrete gestures of solidarity and generous love.

—ADDRESS TO ITALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE DONATION OF ORGANS, TISSUES, AND CELLS, APRIL 13, 2019

Our Parish COMMUNITY

November 15, 2020
Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Prv 31:10–13, 19–20, 30–31
1 Thes 5:1–6
Mt 25:14–30



Let us not sleep as the rest do,
but let us stay alert and sober.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:6

Ready or Not, Here I Come

As children we called out this chant when playing hide-and-seek. However, it could very well describe the message of two of today's readings. Paul reminds the Thessalonians that "the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night" (1 Thessalonians 5:2). The Gospel tells a story about a man who returns after a long journey and intends to settle accounts with those whom he put in charge of his household. In both instances, the one returning might cry out, "Ready or not, here I come!" The point of each story: Be ready! But how? The Thessalonians are told they "are children of the light" (5:5). The Gospel suggests what that expression might mean—be responsible for what has been given to you.

In the Gospel, some servants fully use the talents given to them. However, one servant buries what he received. If that was not bad enough, that servant alleged fear of the householder as reason for his lack of initiative. If he knew that the householder was as demanding as he stated he was, he should have realized that his master would expect him to use what had been given. There is no excuse here in refusing to use what was given, nor in blaming the householder.

All of us have been given life, talents, and abilities. We are expected to use them. This is what it means to live fully. Surely we Catholics will be excited, not afraid, when the Lord announces, "Ready or not, here I come!"

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- Are you faithful to your responsibilities?
- If not, what is holding you back?



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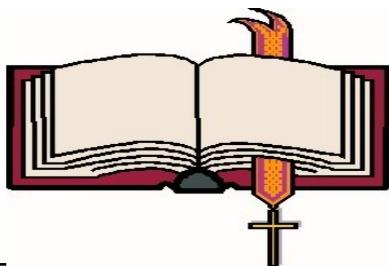
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Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair	272-1030
Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair	355-6206
Altar Society President, Nanette Rice	355-7676
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight	640-8259
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek & Nanette Rice	355-1696 355-7676

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Nov. 16	8:00 a.m.	For Favorable Weather
Tuesday, Nov. 17	8:00 a.m.	For Our Country
Thursday, Nov. 19	8:00 a.m.	Special Intention
Friday, Nov. 20	8:00 a.m.	Fred Jones Jr.
Saturday, Nov. 21	4:00 p.m.	For the People
Sunday, Nov. 22	9:00 a.m.	Thomas & Julia McConack

November 14, 4:00 p.m.	Gwen Waechter
November 15, 9:00 a.m.	Julie Kaps
November 21, 4:00 p.m.	Debbie Frederick
November 22, 9:00 a.m.	K of C Members
November 28, 4:00 p.m.	Tom Bachman
November 29, 9:00 a.m.	Alvin Berkamp

Thank you so much for your ministry!



VOCATION VIEW

Even to the birds was it said, “Be fruitful and multiply.” Do you wish to hold as a great blessing what was given to birds? Who can be ignorant, that it was given indeed by the voice of God? But use these goods, if you receive them; and rather think how you may nourish those who have been born, that others may be born. *Saint Augustine*

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Good stewards are like the industrious and reliable servants in today’s Gospel, prudently using and multiplying the gifts entrusted to them by God.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment. Please be humbled to reconcile with God, the Church, and the community.

Baptism: Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact parish priest at least six months before the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Parishioners: Greetings in the Lord on this thirty - third Sunday of the ordinary time.

I worry sometimes that I’m not much different from who I was ten or twenty years ago. And maybe I should worry. I worry that I’m not more generous, or compassionate. I worry that I’m not more forgiving or merciful. I worry that I’m not more understanding or patient or kind. Put simply, I wonder if I love more than I used to, or if I’m simply the same. Put another way --- have I simply “buried” myself in the ground --- convinced myself that remaining the same is good enough? My friends, I think that when we take that kind of attitude, we’re basically telling God that we’re already at the top, are already doing everything right, are already doing everything we can. But is that really what we want to say to him? Is that the message we want to send? Can we honestly look at our lives and say that nothing needs to change? I think you know the answer.

My friends, today let’s start making the changes God so desperately wants. Not tomorrow or the next day or the next week. Today. A new season in our lives can begin this very moment. What’s going to be new on the schedule? What will we add to the person we currently are? And what’s returning, what’s been part of us all along but promises to be better than before?

So, let’s strive to find new ways of loving and forgiving and being generous and showing compassion. And let’s hope and pray that at the end of our lives, when we meet God face to face, he looks lovingly at us and says, “I’m so happy, you wouldn’t believe it. You really became the beautiful person I created you to be. Come, share my joy.”

If you or someone you know who are sick, or need a sacrament, or Holy Communion, or simply want me to visit, please let me know your needs and I will be more than happy to do so. God bless & thank you.

Peace and good health to you all. Fr. Peter

COLLECTION for November 08, 2020: Envelopes: \$1,135.00; Loose: \$179.00; Online Giving: \$1,993.37; Total \$3,307.37; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,989.55. Income over/under (+1,317.82) *Thank you so much to our faithful stewards for supporting our parish, diocese, and worldwide Church.*

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE During the month of November we hold in prayer all who have passed away in our parish in the past years. Located in our church vestibule is a Book of Reembrance to which parishioners may add lists of names of deceased friends and loved ones. All names will be remembered at our upcoming Masses in November.

BUDGET SHOP We will be working **on November 21st and Nov 24**. Please keep these dates on your busy calendars and try to save a few hours to help us. We are open on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 10 a.m.—3 p.m. Any help will be greatly appreciated. And thank you ahead of time.

NOVEMBER CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES Confirmation class: **Nov. 8, 15, & 22 right after Sunday morning Mass. There will be no Class on 29. First Communion class: Nov. 4, 11, 18 at 6:30 p.m. There will be No Class on 25.** Please keep our First Communion and Confirmation students, their parents, and their Catechists in our prayers for their safety and perseverance.

PARISH PARKING LOT UPDATE FROM PARISH BUILDING COMMITTEE

There have been some questions about what is going on with the church parking lot, “since we have collected enough money to proceed with the project”, people are wondering “Why has nothing been done?” The fact of the matter is, we HAD intended to start that project in the spring, after we had reached the goal. But the city, who told us they were NOT going to seal the area again, as that, was OUR responsibility, went ahead and repaired the bad spots and sealed it. This basically, bought the church building committee some time before we had to get it done. This has worked in our favor as; the LABOR to do this project is ALL donated or volunteer. Those people who have/will donate their time to do this, have other things on their platter besides this project.

It was then planned, that this would be done in spring 2020.... Well, we all know how late winter and spring 2020 has gone...another delay. The building committee apologizes for the delays, but really, most of the delays are beyond our control. We would like to do this next spring, and are planning to do so.

We are not sure if the people who donated to this cause were thinking that we were hiring this done or not, but, in order to have this done by a contractor, the cost would be in the \$40,000+ range. With the volunteer help, by parish members, the cost is still nearly \$10,000, which is the approximate amount we have collected.

The building committee would welcome any other help, from members of the parish, who would like to help with this project. It's not an easy task to get enough help lined up to run that much concrete. And as said before, most of the volunteers have other jobs and activities that must be taken into consideration as well as the weather, in the planning such a large project.

If people are in a bigger hurry to get this project done, then the building committee will be back asking for more donations, to cover the additional cost of the labor required to have a contractor come in and complete the project.

Thank you for your understanding the trials and tribulations we have encountered in undertaking this rather large project.

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK (MATTHEW 25: 14-30)

While we wait This parable is one of several that teach us how to act until Christ's return. We must remain faithful (24:45-51), be ready (25:1-13), and work hard (25:14-30). This series of parables ends with the judgment scene we'll hear next Sunday (25:31f).

Talents The master wants to gain income from his property while he's away. He thus divides his wealth among his servants, giving them an amount in proportion to what he thinks each one can accomplish with it (v.15). Although we don't know the precise amount of a talent, we do know it was a huge sum. It would be like getting a million dollars. We've adapted the word talent to mean a skill or ability. Although the third servant receives only one talent, he's still entrusted with something.

Return on the investment The first two servants work diligently to increase the amount entrusted to them. The master praises them for their work, not for what they've earned. Come, share your master's joy probably refers to table fellowship: the master invites these industrious servants to eat with him at his table, a privilege that greatly boosts their status. This table fellowship alludes to the messianic or heavenly banquet that we all hope to enjoy once Christ returns. Such feasting was used in the Old Testament to describe life with God.

Cast aside It was common at that time to bury one's valuables in order to protect them. The servant's decision may seem prudent, but it reveals his failure to try to improve upon what he had. This servant also disregards the trust his master had in him. He even blames his master for his own decision. He returns the talent as though he never wanted it to begin with. The master points out that in spite of knowing the great demands he makes, the servant still didn't do anything with his talent. The parable closes with a warning to those who waste the gifts and the time that they have. <https://oursundayreadings>

PRAYER OF THE WEEK (by St. Thomas Aquinas)

Grant us grace, O merciful God, to desire ardently all that is pleasing to you, to examine it prudently, to acknowledge it truthfully, and to accomplish it perfectly, for the praise and glory of your name. Amen. rather, I believe in order that I may understand.

QUESTION & ANSWER

Q: In this era of fake news, is it a sin to share juicy but unsubstantiated reports?

A: Yes. The very common activity you're describing is known as *calumny*. It's a sin against the eighth commandment, which decries bearing false witness. The Catechism of the Catholic Church has an entire section on our mutual responsibility to uphold the truth (nos. 2464–2513). This is a special duty at a time when credible information is harder for well-meaning folks to discern.

God is the source of all truth. Jesus calls himself “the way, the truth, and the life.” Jesus also says “you shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” Peddling questionable information because it's entertaining, or supports a position we favor, means participating in the shadow trade of falsehood. The Prince of Lies runs that operation and isn't a spirit we want to encamp with.

Our obligation to truth prompts us to speak with candor: that is, with freedom from bias or malice. Traditionally, one's word was one's bond, which is why we still trust people in court to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth simply because they say they will. (And face a serious offense if they don't.) We admire those whose word matches their deed. To act against one's word is considered hypocrisy.

Martyrs aren't defined as those who die in the name of religion. They're witnesses to the truth who value it even above their own lives. Valuing the truth includes respecting the dignity of other people. The Catechism lists three errors against the truth concerning others. First, rash judgment: assuming the moral fault of a neighbor without sufficient evidence. Secondly, detraction: disclosing someone's faults for no good reason. Calumny is last: harming another's reputation by spreading misinformation. Both detraction and calumny are sins against charity and justice.

While lying is a direct offense against the truth, the Catechism also cautions against flattering, boasting, and malicious caricature. Some of our favorite comedians may be at fault lately with the latter. The ubiquity of social media muddles an already complex issue by presuming a right to the communication of all truth—which the Catechism teaches is not an unconditional right but must be considered with the precept of fraternal love. We must measure whether a divulgence ensures the common good or simply exposes the private lives of others—even if they are public figures. Gratuitous invasion into the privacy of others doesn't serve the cause of truth or charity.. (Alice Camille)

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME BELIEVE IN MAGIC –YOUR OWN!

We each have a little something special we can call our own. Maybe it's school smarts or street smarts. Maybe you know your way around the halls of power or around the kitchen. Some are good with kids, others with elders, still others with sick or dying people. You might be great with people, or math, or words, or research. You could be physically strong or have that dogged ability to keep at a task when everybody else gives up. Do an assessment of your gifts and skills. Whatever your special magic is, put it at the disposal of grace. (Prepare the Word)

TRIGÉSIMO TERCER DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO CREE EN LA MAGIAC—; LA TUYA!

Cada uno de nosotros tiene algo especial que podemos llamar propio. Tal vez sea la sabiduría de la escuela o la sabiduría de la calle. Tal vez sepas cómo navegar por los pasillos del poder o por la cocina. Algunos son buenos con los niños, otros con los ancianos, otros con los enfermos o moribundos. Es posible que seas genial con la gente, o con las matemáticas, o con las palabras, o con la investigación. Podrías ser físicamente fuerte o tener esa obstinada habilidad de mantenerte en una tarea cuando todos los demás se rinden. Haz una evaluación de tus dones y habilidades. Cualquiera sea tu magia especial, ponla a disposición de la gracia.