

INTRODUCTION: (COMMENTATOR):

Good morning!

On behalf of the Charis Community, I welcome you to our Sunday Mass. All are truly welcome, and we are excited that you are joining us whether it's your first time praying with us or if you've been with us for a while. The worship aid for Mass is on our website, and we will put the address in the chat for you should you like to pull it up to support your prayer.

We are a Eucharistic people, so we invite you to have bread and wine, in whatever form you have it, with you where you are. Even though we are in many locations, we affirm that we are one table of believers. We trust that the Holy Spirit has never been and will never be restrained by time or space or distance! So we gather as one people, as one Body, rooted in Christ, and rooted in God's love, together.

On this next-to-last weekend of Ordinary Time, we are reminded of the gifts God has entrusted to each of us and the need to use wisely the gifts that have been given to us for the good of all. *(pause)*

Let us begin with our song of gratitude as we praise and thank God for the fruits of all creation.

(turn the microphone off)

FIRST READING: (LECTOR #1) Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

When one finds a worthy wife,
 her value is far beyond pearls.
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,
 has an unfailing prize.
She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.
She obtains wool and flax, and works with loving hands.

She puts her hands to the distaff,
 and her fingers ply the spindle.
She reaches out her hands to the poor,
 and extends her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
 the woman who fears God is to be praised.
Give her a reward for her labors,
 and let her works praise her at the city gates.

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The Word of God.

R/. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: (LECTOR #2) 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

Concerning times and seasons, sisters and brothers,
 you have no need for anything to be written to you.

For you yourselves know very well
 that the day of Our God will come
 like a thief at night.

When people are saying, "Peace and security,"
 then sudden disaster comes upon them,
 like labor pains upon a pregnant woman,
 and they will not escape.

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness,
 for that day to overtake you like a thief.

For all of you are children of light
 and children of the day.

We are not of the night or of darkness.

Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do,
 but let us stay alert and sober.

The Word of God.

R/. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL (PRESIDER):

Matthew 25:14-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

“A estate owner going on a journey
called the servants and entrusted the estate to them.

To one was given five talents; to another, two;
to a third, one -
to each according to their ability.

Then the estate owner went away.

“Immediately, the one who received five talents
went and traded with them,
and made another five.

Likewise, the one who received two made another two.

But the servant who received one
went off and dug a hole in the ground
and buried the estate owner’s money.

“After a long time the estate owner returned
and settled accounts with them.

The one who had received five talents came forward
bringing the additional five.

The servant said, ‘You gave me five talents.
See, I have made five more.’

The estate owner said to the servant,
‘Well done, good and faithful servant.

Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come, share my joy.’

“Then the one who had received two talents also came forward and said,
‘You gave me two talents.

See, I have made two more.’

The estate owner said to the servant,
‘Well done, my good and faithful servant.

Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come and share my joy.’

(continue reading on next page . . .)

“Then the one who had received one talent came forward,
and said,

‘I knew you were a demanding person,
harvesting where you did not plant
and gathering where you did not scatter;
so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground.
Here it is back.’

“The estate owner said in reply, ‘You wicked, lazy servant!

So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant
and gather where I did not scatter?

Should you not then have put my money in the bank
so that I could have got it back with interest on my return?
Now then! Take the talent and give to the one with ten.

For to everyone who has,

more will be given and that person will grow rich;

but from the one who has not,

even what that person has will be taken away.

And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside,
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.”

The Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ.

R/. Praise to you, O Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: (PRESIDER and COMMENTATOR)

With gratitude for the blessings we have received and with hope in the promise to come, let us raise our hearts in prayer for the needs of all.

That the many forms of Christian church and this parish community will respond to Christ's call to discipleship by sharing gifts of time, talent, treasure out of gratitude for blessings received, (Pause for silent prayer) Let us pray to the Lord.

For the nations and peoples of the world, that they may be dedicated to building peace and to the faithful stewardship of the earth's harvest; (Pause for silent prayer) Let us pray to the Lord.

For the recently deceased, including our own Mary Jo, and all the faithful departed especially the loved ones we remember during this month, that will be raised with Christ to live forever. (Pause for silent prayer) Let us pray to the Lord.

We now invite you to unmute your mike to share your prayers with the community so we can pray with you today.

After some silence, close us with these words...

Loving God, you have given us the blessing of life itself.

You have blessed us with this good earth.

You have enlivened us with the gift of faith.

May we be worthy stewards of these gifts that we may use them to the glory of your name. In Jesus' name we pray.