

# Saint Boniface Parish

## Faith Formation Handout – Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

### The Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

#### **Matthew 25:1-13**

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."



## How does my awareness of death help me to live life now?

#### **First Grade**

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us the parable of the ten virgins. Some of them planned for the end and some did not. Those that planned for the end were able to join in the celebration. When was a time that you did well and planned ahead? How did that help you to enjoy the end? How are you planning to go to heaven one day?

#### **Second Grade**

How much of your day is spent at school? Playing? Watching TV? On a computer or iPad? With friends? Doing homework or work at home? Which of those things do you think are the most important? If you had to stop doing one of them, which would it be and why? Is that the best choice or the easiest choice? Do you spend your day the way God wants you to?

#### **Third and Fourth Grades**

Death does not always happen when we expect it to or want it to. Do you know anyone that has died? How long do you think you will live? What are some things that you plan and hope to accomplish before you die? How would your plans change if you found out that you only had one more month to accomplish all of it? We should live like we know that we won't live forever!

#### **Fifth and Sixth Grades**

At the end of today's Gospel, Jesus tells us, 'Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.' He is talking about the day and the hour when He will come again. If it happened right now, would you be ready to see Jesus? What are some things that you would like to do before Jesus' second coming? What is stopping you from doing them now?

#### **Seventh and Eighth Grades**

Being aware of death does not have to be a morbid thing. It does not mean that we are afraid or scared of what will happen. Rather, it means that we realize that we do not have an unlimited time on earth and that we should use each moment wisely. If you only had one day left to live what would you do? What is stopping you from doing those things now?

#### **High School and Adults**

The older we get the more familiar we become with death, because we have more people in our lives that die. How many funerals have you been to? What is the closest relationship to you of someone that passed away? How has their deaths made you think about your own life? How can you help others to live their life to fullest?

# For this Week...

We are Catholic always and in everything we do. Throughout the week bring your faith into your school, your work, your play and your family. Here are some ideas for you.

## Monday

It can be easy to become bored with what we are doing because we think that there is something better coming along. However, when we are aware that we have a limited time on earth, we can learn to take more joy in what we are experiencing. Today, instead of looking around and waiting for the next thing to come along, take joy from what is right in front of you!

## Tuesday

At times it can be easy to lose hope because we lose sight of the bigger picture. When we focus on all of the difficult things instead of the wonderful promise at the end, life can seem too difficult. However, when we are aware that we are made for more than this life and God promises us heaven, we can be hopeful again!  
Today, focus on living for heaven!

## Wednesday

Relationships are why we are here. We were created by God to give ourselves away in friendships and in families. The people that we have around us now will not always be in our lives. How can you build up those relationships now? Today, pick someone to grow in relationship with. Spend time with them, not just doing something, but showing them that you love them!

## Thursday

People often have the bad habit of putting off for tomorrow what we could and should do today. This can include taking the easy road of relaxation instead of taking the harder road to practice and develop a skill or gift that we have been given. Today, take at least 30 minutes to use a gift that you have been given. This may mean growing in a skill or putting one to use.

## Friday

Being aware of death and that we do not have an unlimited amount of time helps us to be thankful for what we do have. Realize that we will not be able to see an unlimited number of sunrises or sunsets helps us to be thankful for the ones that we do see. Today, pay attention to everything around you and be thankful for as much of it as you can!

## Saturday

We have been put here to love! However, much of our limited time is taken up with other distractions as well as fear, anxiety and anger. How do you want to spend your life – loving others or with anger and fear? Today, think of someone that you are angry with and/or a situation that you are anxious about. Then, choose to love that person today and to love the situation.

## POPE PAUL VI

(1897-1978)

SOMEBODY SHOULD TELL US, RIGHT AT THE START OF OUR LIVES, THAT WE ARE DYING. THEN WE MIGHT LIVE LIFE TO THE LIMIT, EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY DAY. DO IT! I SAY. WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO, DO IT NOW! THERE ARE ONLY SO MANY TOMORROWS.

InspirationBoost.com

## FROM THE CATECHISM...

The Church encourages us to prepare ourselves for the hour of our death. In the ancient litany of the saints, for instance, She has us pray: 'From a sudden unforeseen death, deliver us, O Lord'; to ask the Mother of God to intercede for us 'at the hour of our death' in the Hail Mary; and to entrust ourselves to St. Joseph, the patron of a happy death.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1014

## Next Week's Readings

Here are the readings for next Sunday so that on Saturday you can read through them. If you take a few minutes to read them and prepare, you will get a lot more from Mass. They are available online at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org). Use the calendar on the right.

**Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31 Psalm 128:1-2,3,4,5 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 Matthew 25:14-30**

This handout was created by the Lynn Catholic Collaborative. For more info on how to use at your parish please email [admin@lynnatholic.org](mailto:admin@lynnatholic.org)