

Pastor's Note
November 15,
Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

We all have Talents!

It is the mid-point of November and the weather is changing, the leaves are falling and we are experiencing cooler temperatures. We have just completed a very hotly contested presidential election and we continue dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. Just like previous holidays this year, Thanksgiving and Christmas will be different as most large gathering family celebrations will be cancelled or done on a much smaller scale. This is a good time to evaluate how the year 2020 has been for us: what have we done and where do we want to go for the New Year and how are we going to make a positive difference in 2021?

This weekend's readings invite us to prepare for the end of the liturgical year and for the end of times as they challenge us to consider how we make use of the gifts that God has entrusted to us. They inspire us to put our affairs in order, let go of the negativity in our past and embrace the future.

In our first reading from the Book of Proverbs, we read how a wise teacher offers a portrait of a spirit filled woman who enriches her family with countless blessings. The greatest treasure in this relationship is a never-weakening service to God. For the husband and wife, the foundation of their life together is gratitude for all the gifts granted them by God.

In the second reading to the Thessalonians, we are reminded that we are children of the light awaiting the day of the Lord. St. Paul encourages us to persevere and always be ready and alert.

In the Gospel of Matthew, we read the Parable of the Talents. Jesus teaches the necessity of being responsible when called to account by the Master. Each of us has received God's precious gifts of mercy and love. We all have the opportunity to open our hearts and hands to share with others. Jesus is calling us to recognize that we have been entrusted with the possessions of the Lord: time, skills, personal gifts and experiences and must use these gifts to the fullest by giving all we have to shine the glory of his light to others.

Life as we know it will not last forever, we must prepare for the future. We do not know the time or the hour of the end of our life, but we need to wake up and live each day to the fullest.

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2021 Mass Intentions

This year because of COVID-19 pandemic we have had to tweak the Sunday Mass schedule because of the CDC and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania guidelines with a limited number of people allowed in the building for social distancing and cleaning and sanitation. Because of the uncertainties of not knowing when things will get "back to normal", we are keeping the current daily and Sunday Mass schedule AS IS until further notice. In the next few weeks, we will open the 2021 Mass book for Mass Intention requests. I am pleased to announce that we will also be adding the availability to have weekly Sanctuary Candle Memorial Intentions. Stay posted for further details.

Throughout this month we will offer our prayers for the names of our loved ones who had their funeral Mass in our parish this past year and are listed on the Memorial Board near the pulpit or the altar at all three of our campuses and the names listed in the "Memorial Book" also known as the Book of Remembrance. Please feel free to inscribe names of your loved ones in our Book of Remembrance located in the front of our churches.

Thanksgiving Day Mass - Thursday, November 26, 9 am - St. Bede. The Rectory Offices will be closed Thursday, November 26, through Monday, November 30. The parish office will reopen on Tuesday, December 1.

Birthday Reflection

As I prepare to celebrate my **50th Birthday** Tuesday, November 24, I would like to pause and say thanks to my parents Bill and Marge, for the gift of life! I am honored to be your Pastor here at St. Mary Magdalene Parish.

Fr. David Taylor will be celebrating his birthday Wednesday, November 25!

Something to Think About...

Life was meant to be lived, and curiosity must be kept alive. One must never, for whatever reason, turn his back on life.

Eleanor Roosevelt

With God, All Things Are Possible!

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