

**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

NOVEMBER 7, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for November 14th 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daniel 12:1-3

What greatest distress do you face at this time?

Do you expect eternal life of joy, or everlasting horror?

Hebrews 10:11-18

How do you offer sacrifice in repentance of sin?

Examine your conscience and pray for forgiveness.

Mark 13:24-32

What signs of approaching disaster do we see today?

How do you react to predictions of the end of time?

WEEKDAY MASSES November 9 - 12

Tues: 5:00 pm +Howard Doherty

Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Bill Scheffer

Thurs: **NO MASS TODAY – FR. IS OUT OF TOWN**

Fri: **Osnabrock NO MASS TODAY – FR. IS OUT OF TOWN**

WEEKEND MASSES November 13 – 14

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma People of the Parishes

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus +Jerry Kram
Reader: Holly Lyons
EMHC: Carol Hoffarth

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Emil Schluender
Reader: Carleen Schill
EMHC: Alan Schill
Musicians: Bob & Choir

St. Michael's – Wales NO MASS AT WALES TODAY

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Sally Stremick
Reader: Dennis Horpestad
EMHC: Dennis Horpestad
Musicians: Bob & Choir

Fellowship Hall Host: Duane Otto

Fr. Michael Hickin's cell phone: 701-891-1238

Website for St. Alphonsus Parish – <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>

**Confessions: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays after Mass or
by appointment**

Weekly Reflection for October 31, 2021: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Adult Envelopes | \$2,849.00 |
| Intentional Givers | \$100.00 |
| Plate | \$284.00 |
| Fuel | \$50.00 |
| Improvements | \$50.00 |
| Children | \$17.00 |
| Total | \$3,350.00 |

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

A similar question worried people in Jesus' day. Corruption was spoiling the beauty of God's Temple. At festival times, a vast crowd of pilgrims headed for Jerusalem, looking forward to the Temple worship. United in belief, they came longing for forgiveness, often desperate for healing. As with football fans, enthusiasm made some of them a target for exploitation. The Temple had vast wealth and not everyone who officiated there was honest or unselfish.

The disciples may have been in awe of their magnificent surroundings, but Jesus looked beyond. He pointed out religious leaders in flowing robes, lapping up the wide-eyed admiration of visitors and persuading vulnerable people to give money in expectation of a blessing. He noticed something else. At first sight it appeared unremarkable: someone dropping coins into one of the trumpet-shaped collection boxes. Worshippers were expected to make sacrificial offerings for their sins and the cheapest was a pair of pigeons at the cost of two pennies, but Jesus understood what those two pennies meant for this particular widow: it was all she had. He seemed saddened that the moral and religious life of his nation had come to this. He was reminded, perhaps of the widow of Sidon in our first reading. She also gave her all, but there was a difference: she was not being exploited by unscrupulous people. She had been asked for help by a starving man in time of famine. There was just enough food for one last meal, yet she allowed herself to be moved by a fellow human being in distress and shared it.

Taken from The Living Word

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living." (MARK 12:43-44)

Jesus gets right to the point – we are all called to give money to support the mission of the Church, regardless of our circumstance. No gift is too small or insignificant! Giving money to support the mission of our local parish is a matter of our faith, just like praying and participating in parish ministries. When you make a financial offering, is it from your "first fruits" or from what is "left over"?

Fall Supper Nov. 7th at Minto Community Center(Sacred Heart Church)- 11:00 – 2:00pm
Nov. 14th at the Pain Reliever in Nekoma – Nekoma Churches - 12:00 – 3:00

Pilgrimage to the East Coast shrines with Bishop Folda, Sept 10-14, 2022

Join a Pilgrimage to Washington D.C, Emmitsburg and Philadelphia with Bishop Folda, September 10-14, 2022. Travel with the bishop to some of his favorite shrines in the USA! Sites include the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, The Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, St. John Paul II National Shrine, Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine, and the saints in Philadelphia; St. John Neumann and St. Katherine Drexel along with many other historical sites. Pilgrimage cost based on double rooms: \$2195.00. Deadline to register is January 20, 2022. Visit Fargodiocese.org/events for more details and registration link. Or call the Diocese of Fargo for registration form, 356-7900. Organized by Peter's Way Tours.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - At our last Parish Council meeting, Mike and Michelle Defoe from St. Joseph's, Devils Lake, introduced us to the workings of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Is there a place for one here in Cavalier County? Two basic questions: 1.) Are their people interested in this ministry and would welcome support from a network of friends motivated by a similar spirituality of outreach? 2.) What are the actual needs that warrant such a ministry?

To #1, is there anyone in our midst who has a heart for the needy? It's not a constant stream, but every month, the parish is met with a variety of needs. The pastor usually takes care of these, but not always with the thoroughness needed. I'd love some help. I believe there are people whom the Spirit has touched with the gift of 'outreach'. Please ask yourself if that might be 'you' or someone you know well, then let me know.

To #2, there are people all around who need help with travel to their doctors' appointments; items for infants; children's winter clothes; meal deliveries; electric and water bills. Certainly there are others. Help us name them.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

NO Mass on Thursday & Friday, November 11th & 12th, Fr. is out of town.

The Religious Ed Department is looking for someone to teach 5th grade RE on Wednesday nights for the rest of the school year. If interested please call Carla at 370-0594.

Catholic Daughters Meeting on Monday, November 8th at 3:45pm in the Fellowship Hall

Altar Society meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9th at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. It will be our last meeting of the year and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Looking for a few volunteers to take communion to the home bound. If you are interested in helping please contact Fr. Michael.

Fellowship Hall Cleaning for November - 6 – Dawn Christianson, Connie Stremick & Tina Olson; 13 – Megan Hartz & Jane Hayen; 20 Kari Blake & Helen Berg; 27 – Kathy Borgen & Patty Fetsch

Nekoma Lutheran and St. Edward's Catholic Churches in Nekoma will be putting on their annual Noon meal on Sunday, November 14th serving from 12:00 – 3:00pm at the Pain Reliever. Please bring a dessert and come and help if you can. Thank you

Grieving? Know someone who is please join us for Surviving the Holidays on Sunday, November 14th at 7:00pm at the United Methodist Church

SYNOD – syn- (together) + -od (way). Two weeks ago, I introduced an event Pope Francis opened on Oct 10: a 2-year path to the 2023 Synod with the theme “For a Synodal Church: communion, participation and mission”. This world-wide assembly of the People of God is set to mark Christianity forever.

As promised, we begin to read in installments Pope Francis' opening address from Oct 10, 2021. He works with the Gospel of the day about the rich young man and unfolds the passage in light of the coming world-wide Synod.

A certain rich man came up to Jesus “as he was setting out on his journey” (Mk 10:17). The Gospels frequently show us Jesus “on a journey”; he walks alongside people and listens to the questions and concerns lurking in their hearts. He shows us that God is not found in neat and orderly places, distant from reality, but walks ever at our side. He meets us where we are, on the often rocky roads of life. Today, as we begin this synodal process, let us begin by asking ourselves – all of us, Pope, bishops, priests, religious and laity – whether we, the Christian community, embody this “style” of God, who travels the paths of history and shares in the life of humanity. Are we prepared for the adventure of this journey? Or are we fearful of the unknown, preferring to take refuge in the usual excuses: “It’s useless” or “We’ve always done it this way”?

Celebrating a Synod means walking on the same road, walking together. Let us look at Jesus. First, he *encounters* the rich man on the road; he then *listens* to his questions, and finally he helps him *discern* what he must do to inherit eternal life. *Encounter, listen and discern.* I would like to reflect on these three verbs that characterize the Synod.

The first is *encounter*. The Gospel passage begins by speaking of an encounter. A man comes up to Jesus and kneels down before him, asking him a crucial question: “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” (v. 17). So important a question requires attention, time, willingness to encounter others and sensitivity to what troubles them. The Lord does not stand aloof; he does not appear annoyed or disturbed. Instead, he is completely present to this person. He is open to encounter. Nothing leaves Jesus indifferent; everything is of concern to him. Encountering faces, meeting eyes, sharing each individual's history. That is the closeness that Jesus embodies. He knows that someone's life can be changed by a single encounter. The Gospel is full of such encounters with Christ, encounters that uplift and bring healing. Jesus did not hurry along, or keep looking at his watch to get the meeting over. He was always at the service of the person he was with, listening to what he or she had to say.

