

# LIVING FAITH

## THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 15, 2020



**NOVEMBER**  
THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS

### THE WORD OF GOD FOR TODAY: MATTHEW 25:14-15

It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

### REFLECTING ON THE WORD

This parable, often called "the parable of the talents," challenges us to be good missionary disciples by using all that God has given us for the sake of the kingdom of God. Jesus has announced that the Kingdom was among us by feeding the hungry, curing the sick, blessing the meek, and serving the least among us. All followers of Jesus are called to preach the good news of the kingdom to the whole world by the witness of our lives as well as by the words we speak. This work includes visiting the sick and imprisoned, clothing the naked, welcoming the stranger, and feeding the hungry. To these missionary disciples, Jesus will say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

### TALKING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- What do *you* think this parable of Jesus is really all about?
- Often, the lead character in a parable told by Jesus is meant to reflect God. But the fierce landowner in this story is not at all like God. Where is God in this story?
- What is Jesus asking you to do, today, to build up the Kingdom of God?

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# THE CHURCH TEACHES

We continue our exploration of Pope Francis' 3<sup>rd</sup> Encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*



ENCYCLICAL LETTER  
**FRATELLI TUTTI**  
Of the Holy Father Francis  
On fraternity and social friendship

05

## A BETTER KIND OF POLITICS



**"Charity, according to the teaching of Jesus, is the synthesis of the entire Law"** (cf. Mt 22,36-40)

### What is a better kind of politics?

- ▶ One that truly promotes the common good.
- ▶ One that does not seek merely to gain votes.
- ▶ One that serves as a channel for personal growth.
- ▶ One that promotes an economy that favors productive diversity and business creativity.
- ▶ One that is far-sighted and capable of a new, integral, and interdisciplinary dialogue.

**FRATELLI TUTTI CALLS FOR A SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ORDER WHOSE SOUL IS SOCIAL CHARITY:**

- ✓ Making it possible to advance towards a civilization of love, to which all of us feel called.
- ✓ Recognizing all human beings as brothers and sisters, with no one excluded.
- ✓ Charity needs the light of truth, the light of reason, and the light of faith.



**Social charity makes us love the common good; it makes us effectively seek the good of all people, in the social dimension that unites them.**

**In political activity, every person is sacred and deserves our affection and our respect:**

**"If I can help at least one person to have a better life, that already justifies the offering of my life".**

## IN THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK TWO QUEENS: MARGARET OF SCOTLAND AND ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY



St. Margaret of Scotland, or Margaret of Wessex, was an English princess, one of three children, born in Hungary to Princess Agatha of Hungary and English Prince Edward the Exile around 1045. Margaret and her family returned to England in 1045, and she later married Malcolm Canmore III. Together, they had eight children, six sons and two daughters, all of whom were raised with deep Catholic Christian faith. They lived as a holy family, a domestic church.

Margaret's kind nature and good heart was a strong influence on Malcolm's reign. She softened his temper and helped him become a virtuous King of Scotland. Together they prayed, fed the hungry, and offered a powerful example of living faith in action. Margaret was placed in charge of all domestic affairs and was often consulted with state matters, as well. She promoted the arts and education in Scotland. She encouraged Church synods and was involved in efforts to correct religious abuses.

In 1093, Malcolm and their oldest son were killed during battle. Margaret passed away four days after her husband, on November 16, 1093. She was canonized in 1250.

**Watch a short video about Margaret [here](#).**

St. Elizabeth of Hungary was born in 1207, a daughter of King Andrew II of Hungary and his wife Gertrude. When she was very young, her parents promised her in marriage to the future king of Thuringia. Her young life was far from happy; her mother was murdered when she was 6 years old, and when her betrothed died, she was married off to his younger brother. Elizabeth grew to become a very prayerful and charitable young woman. She married Ludwig and became queen in 1221, and the marriage was in every regard a happy and exemplary one. The couple were devotedly attached to each other. They had three children.

Ludwig proved himself worthy of his wife. He gave his protection to her acts of charity toward the poor. He trusted her to administer his kingdom during his absences, and she was both a wise ruler and good to the poor. She built a hospital to care for the sick, and was often found there, nursing them. Ludwig died in 1227, and Elizabeth joined the Third Order of St Francis, and spent her life caring for the poor and the sick, spending much of her inheritance on this work.

Elizabeth died at the age of 24 in 1231, and was canonized in 1235. Watch a short video [here](#).

### REFLECT AND DISCUSS...

- What inspires you about the lives of these women?
- How might they speak to families today?



**The poorest and most vulnerable of our world will suffer the worst impacts of the pandemic**

**With your help,  
WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

### A story from Somalia



The economic impacts of an erratic 2020 rainy season, locust infestation and the COVID-19 pandemic are increasing the severity of food insecurity in Somalia.

**Shahido**, a 40-year-old mother to 3 girls and 7 boys who lives in a camp for internally displaced persons is ready to face this triple threat thanks to a food security project launched by our partner Trócaire with our support.

**Shahido and 100 other women will have access to land, seeds, equipment and training to farm produce to feed their families.**

*"Through this project, I believe I will be able to expand my business, feed my family, pay school fees for my children and gain knowledge on various methods of farming."*

— Shahido (On the picture, Shahido is tending to her crops)



**Please give generously, so we are all Recovering Together**



Today, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada invites us to be in solidarity with communities in the Global South, whose situation is worsening due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Let's act together for a just recovery that includes all.

Thank you for your generosity and solidarity. Your donation will help our partners in their struggle to improve the lives of the most vulnerable and marginalized in their communities.



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**You can contribute to the parish collection or make an online donation at [devp.org](https://devp.org)**

## We Can and Must Do Much Better



Canada and Bill C7. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and Religious Leaders in Canada oppose Bill C-7 "An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying). To learn more about this click [here](#).

On November 9, 2020 the CCCB made a submission to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights. You can read this submission [here](#).

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