

Thirty-First to Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

Diocesan Theme: **Christ is Everything for Us!** “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life”.
(John 6.68).

Parish Mission Statement: **Love God, Love Others, Make Disciples!** Our Lady of the Miraculous members to develop their faith and service to others.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 4th – St. Charles Borromeo

4:30pm Repose of the soul of Maurice Dupuis by the Dupuis family

Sunday, November 5th – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am Repose of the soul of Sean James by the James family

Tuesday, November 7th

7:00pm CANCELLED

Wednesday, November 8th

9:30am

Thursday, November 9th – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

9:00am Healing intentions of Dan Hudder by the Marsolais family

Friday, November 10th – St. Leo the Great

9:00am Repose of the souls of the deceased members of the Versteeg family by Bep Versteeg

Saturday, November 11th – St. Martin of Tours

4:30pm Repose of the soul of Laurier Dupelle by Margaret and family

Sunday, November 12th – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Birthday intentions of Joseph Urlocker-Lalonde by his family

10:45am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

Tuesday, November 14th

7:00pm

Wednesday, November 15th

9:30am

Thursday, November 16th

9:00am

Friday, November 17th – St. Elizabeth of Hungary

9:00am Intentions and well-being of all seniors

Saturday, November 18th

4:30pm

Sunday, November 19th – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am Intentions of the parishioners by the Pastor

10:45am Repose of the souls of the deceased members of the Knights of Columbus by the KOC Council 12401

Intentions of the Holy Father for November: For the Pope:

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples, saying, “The scribes and the Pharisees have taken their seat on the chair of Moses. Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example.” [Matthew 23:1–3](#)

Sometimes people’s words inspire us, but more often it is the witness they give with their actions that inspires. Additionally, when someone’s words do not match up with their actions, they are seen as hypocrites. Jesus is very hard on the scribes and the Pharisees for this reason. “For they preach but they do not practice.” They spoke about the Law of God, taught it in a detailed way, but they did not truly practice God’s Law as it was intended to be practiced. Jesus goes on to give a list of the ways that these religious leaders failed to live the laws of God. They failed in their charity and encouragement of others, they did everything for public praise and for show, and they sought out honors and meaningless titles. As a result, they cared little for others and cared much about themselves.

At the heart of Jesus’ criticism of the scribes and Pharisees was their tendency to exalt themselves in the eyes of others. Jesus corrects this tendency by saying that “the greatest among you must be your servant,” and that “whoever humbles himself will be exalted.” Therefore, if you wish to be truly great and if you wish to be exalted by God, you must serve with the deepest humility.

Humility begins by seeing yourself in the light of truth. How does God see you? The humble soul seeks to discover this insight by using the eyes of Christ to look at their own soul. It would be truly humbling if we could see ourselves in the full light of the truth. But too often we take on a false image of ourselves and look at our lives through a lens of self-righteousness. We tend to quickly defend our actions, justifying the sins we commit and failing to acknowledge our weaknesses.

The virtue of humility will also take us a step further than seeing our sins clearly. It will also help us to see our need for God’s grace in order to change, to love, and to serve God and others. We cannot love by our own efforts. It is impossible. The love of charity is only possible when it is God Who lives in us and acts through us. God and God alone is able to work true charity through our actions. Knowing and believing this humble truth is the only way to open the door to that grace.

Reflect, today, upon the humility that you need in order to truly love. When you love others with the pure love of God, you will discover within yourself a need to serve. You will see others as objects of your love. You will discover a burning desire to help them, forgive them, be gentle and merciful to them, and to do all you can to help them discover the truth of their own lives so they will, in turn, humbly turn to God. The scribes and Pharisees failed miserably at this mission, and that is one of the reasons that Jesus used them as an example. Do not follow their lead. Seek to take the opposite approach. Seek humility. Seek the truth. If you do, God will use you in powerful ways and will exalt you on high.

Most humble Lord, You are exalted above all because You were humble beyond all. You knew the truth of Who You are and embraced that truth with all Your might. Please give me Your eyes to see myself as You see me, so that in Your humble gaze, I will see my sin, repent wholeheartedly, and turn to You as the source of all my love. Jesus, I trust in You.

November 5-12, 2023

**Are you new to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish?
WELCOME! If you have not yet registered, please complete a registration
form found in the foyer or in the office.**

You may bring the completed form to the office or drop in the collection basket.

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Jesus told His disciples this parable: "A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one—to each according to his ability. Then he went away." [Matthew 25:14–15](#)

Many people dream of doing great things in this life. Those who play sports dream of winning the championship. Those in business dream of growing their business. Artists and actors dream of becoming well-known. In almost everything we do, we dream of excelling. This drive is part of the natural desires God has given to us.

When it comes to the most important part of our lives, we must strive to excel also. What is the most important part of our lives? It is the calling we have received to serve the will of God. Therefore, we must strive to unite our natural desire for excellence with our faith so that we will be driven to fulfill the glorious mission God has entrusted to each one of us.

Every natural ability we have must be seen as a gift, given to us by God for the purpose of glorifying Him and furthering His Kingdom on earth. In our parable today, the man who went on a journey entrusted each of his servants with a large sum of money. To one he entrusted five talents; to another two; to a third, one. A talent was a measurement of precious metals such as silver or gold. However, when the master returned, he referred to this initial gift to each as a small amount and then promised to entrust a large amount to the two servants who used the talents well.

From a human perspective, we should see the natural gifts that God has given us as a huge amount. From a divine perspective, we must see every natural gift from God as only the beginning. God has so much more He wishes to bestow upon us. In order to obtain those riches of grace, we must first use well what we have been given for God's glory and for the furtherance of His Kingdom.

What has our Lord entrusted to you? What gifts and talents do you have? As you think about your natural talents, consider how well you use them for the service of God. Using your natural abilities only for yourself is the same as refusing to use them for God. To the one man who was entrusted with one talent and did nothing with it, the master said, "You wicked, lazy servant!" He then took the one talent away and gave it to the one with ten who was responsible with the master's money. So in our lives, if we fail to dedicate our natural abilities to the service of God, we will lose even the little we have. But if we unite our natural desire for greatness with the call to serve the will of God, then there is no limit to the riches of grace God will bestow.

Reflect, today, upon how diligent you are in your drive to fulfill the will of God in your life. If you feel as though you cannot make much of a difference, then try to dispel that idea. Try to do small things well. Work at perfecting your charity in your daily life. Commit yourself to daily prayer. Strive to weed out all sin in your life. Do the small things well and God will smile on these little offerings and transform them into a superabundance of grace.

Most generous Lord, You have entrusted to me a particular mission in life. May I work to excel in that mission, even if it seems small and insignificant. As I do, please pour forth Your abundant blessings of grace so that I will excel in giving You the greatest glory possible and will be a greater instrument of the coming of Your Kingdom on earth. Jesus, I trust in You.

YOUR OFFERINGS FOR

October 29th, 2023 = \$2,453.

Thank you for your generosity and support

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SOULS: Throughout this month of November, let us remember to pray for all our beloved dead and all the souls in Purgatory. As a sign of our prayers, we are invited to write the names of deceased loved ones in the book of remembrance in front of the altar.

The Mass on Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00pm is cancelled.

The next dedicated Seniors' Mass will be Friday, November 17th at 9:00AM Mass. Come join us, it is not the same without you!

Give Generously to the Campaign in Support of Reconciliation

Archbishop Marcel has invited each of us to participate in Ottawa-Cornwall's Fundraising Campaign in Support of Reconciliation: A CHRIST-CENTRED CO-JOURNEY TOWARDS HEALING. Please use the special envelope found in the pew to make your donation. Big or small - every gift is appreciated, and every gift has value! If you would like to donate online go to www.journeyforhealing.ca.

Established in 2020, **Renewed in Liturgy Ministry** is an annual event spread over three evenings in November. It helps Catholics of Ottawa-Cornwall Diocese to gain an in-depth understanding of celebration of Eucharistic Liturgy.

This year's speakers are, Most Reverend Yvan Mathieu, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall, Rev Fr. Rob Arsenault, CC and Rev. Fr. Pierre Champoux. The sessions will be held on Nov 10, Nov 17 and Nov 24 at Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, Ottawa. See below for more details.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 12401 CORNER

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Baby Bottle fundraiser for the Miriam Centre starting the weekend of November 11 - 12th. The Miriam center is a charitable organization which provides free and confidential help to all women who find the circumstance surrounding their pregnancy difficult. Miriam Centre receives no government subsidies but depends solely on donations and fundraisers.

Members of the K of C council 12401 will be handing out bottles before each mass on the weekend of November 11-

12. Parishioners who are interested in donating are asked to return the bottles to the church no later than the weekend of November 25 -26, 2023.

Those who donate \$20.00 or more and fill in the return card in the baby bottle with their name and address will receive a receipt at the end of the fiscal year, December 31.