



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

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In Residence

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil

7:00 p.m. **Spanish** (piano & cantor)

Sunday

8:00 a.m. **English** (organ & cantor)

9:30 a.m. **Spanish** (piano & choir/cantor)

11:30 a.m. **English** (organ & choir/cantor)

1:30 p.m. **Vietnamese** (keyboard & choir)

Weekdays

8:30 a.m. **Spanish** (Mon-Fri.)

12:00 p.m. **English** (Mon-Fri)

7:45 a.m. **Vietnamese** (Thu & Sat)

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

All those who are called to follow Jesus in the Catholic faith along with Catholics already baptized (adults, youth & children) who desire to celebrate the sacraments of First Confession, First Communion and Confirmation can make contact with the coordinator of this area for information about the various programs available. Registration for these programs are announced in the bulletin during various times of the year. Also appointments can be made in the parish office at anytime.

Parents wishing to baptize their children (ages 1-5) are invited to make an appointment in the parish office to speak with a staff member in order to make arrangements for participating in the Baptismal Program.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

At the parish office by appointment.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning to be married should call for an appointment six months in advance of the wedding.

VISITS TO THE SICK

In emergency, call the parish office at any hour. Please inform the office of sick or homebound who desire the sacraments.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to all parishioners.

We encourage all parishioners to register at our parish office. We invite new parishioners to make an appointment to meet a member of the parish staff.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. open

MONDAY - THURSDAY 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. open

SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE POOR



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As Christians, we hear a lot about the witness and service that we are called to render to the poor among us. However, the poor also have a witness and a service to render to us. Like the actions of the widow in today's Gospel, the openness and generosity of many of those who are poor, even in the midst of their own poverty, bear witness to the fact that, ultimately, we can depend only on God. Giving one's all witnesses that God will give all to anyone who trusts in divine goodness.

The poor or disadvantaged also serve. They serve judgment on our individual and corporate ways of acting. If people are sleeping in our streets, that is a judgment on our priorities regarding others. At the same time, the poor can act as mediators of salvation. When they care for others they can redeem our indifference and insensibility, lead us to care as well, and save us from ourselves.

This year, it seems the Lectionary's scriptures not only reinforce the Catholic tradition of November prayer for our beloved departed, but also join with nature's storms and the pandemic as well as humanity's violent disasters to remind us that we are moving inexorably toward the end of history, both the world's and our own. Today's Old Testament reading prepares us for a fruitful hearing of the Gospel. The primary challenge set before us is an undoubted faith that prompts the total giving of self. That lesson is offered to us with an urgency matching November's eschatological motif: the End and the Judgment. Two widows are presented, the Old Testament's widow of Zarephath and the Gospel's widow of the temple. Both exemplify faith-filled people who quietly give what they cannot afford: their all, for the glory of God and in the service of others.

GREAT FAITH IS DEMANDED

We quickly come to admire the Old Testament widow whom Elijah asks for help. The Zarephath widow is carrying only "a couple of sticks," to cook her limited resources, "a handful of flour and a little oil," fulfilling her personal responsibility, "for myself and my son" (1 Kings 17:12). Elijah's request demands great faith and self-sacrifice of this poor widow, because providing such life-sustaining care to a "foreign" prophet puts the widow's survival and her son's at great risk: her religion is worshipping paganism's false idol, Baal; her king is father of Jezebel, now wife of Elijah's king Ahab. Elijah is fleeing the death-threatening wrath of both Jezebel and Ahab, whom Elijah infuriated by declaring that God had decreed a drought to punish them for corrupting Israel with Jezebel's Baal-worship. Elijah makes the widow's risk explicit by promising that her flour and oil will not fail by power of "the Lord, the God of Israel (not her god, Baal!)" (17:14). Therefore, faith is demanded both of the one who gives, the widow, and of the one who asks, Elijah.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The widow of Zarephath had only a handful of flour and a little oil, but made a little cake for Elijah (1 Kings 17:10-16).

Psalm — Praise the Lord, my soul! (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Christ will appear a second time to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him (Hebrews 9:24-28).

Gospel — Beware of those who like to go around in long robes and accept greetings in the marketplaces and places of honor at banquets (Mark 12:38-44 [41-44]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

SELF-SACRIFICING GIFT

Today's Gospel episode takes place just after Jesus enters Jerusalem immediately before his Passion. Trustfully and with self-sacrifice, like Zarephath's widow and the widow whom Jesus sees at the temple, Jesus will give his all for our redemption. Thus Jesus emphasizes of the widow he sees that her gift is unreserved: "from her poverty, all she had, her whole livelihood" (Mark 12:44). And, doubtlessly, Jesus saw himself and his self-giving in her and her self-giving. In Mark's next chapter Jesus predicts the downfall of this very temple. So the widow's unreserved giving from what she could not afford must have struck Jesus both as a victimization by others and, in the end, as a useless gift: the building controlled by the scribes' manipulation was destined for destruction. Her giving became a vivid prefiguring of his own victimization by others in the unreserved giving of his very life, which would seem to many a useless gift, for Jesus would die and be buried. Only Jesus' true disciples—are we?—believe that, by his resurrection, Jesus has become the Cornerstone of the new building, the Church, that replaces that torn-down temple. Therefore, we are to make our own gift of self to God in our unceasing gift of self-sacrificing love to others until Jesus comes again.

A Lot of Nerve

I always thought it took a lot of nerve for Elijah to beg that poor woman for a meal. Even though, during a long drought, she has only a bit of her food to give to her son, he still asks her to make a little cake for himself. It would be easier to understand if we heard the verse before this reading begins: God tells the prophet that he has “commanded a widow...to feed you.” (1Kgs 17:9)

Now the widow was not aware of this command. But she does as Elijah asked. That took even more faith than Elijah showed. She was afraid for herself and the boy. But she had enough faith to risk the last of her food to help someone else. She shows us that we are obeying God’s commands when we trust him. Most of those commands come not from a vision, but from someone’s cry for help.

I wonder how many good people have passed up a chance to do God’s will because they didn’t hear directly from God what to do. When you hear that a tornado destroyed a nearby neighborhood, do you hear God asking you to help? Do you hear God’s voice when you read in the bulletin that the food pantry is running low? When a storm knocks out the power on your block, do you think God is asking you to check on the elderly widow next door?

And if you do hear God calling in these examples, how do you respond? You can be like the rich people in the gospel and just give your ten percent. Or do you have the faith of the woman whose few cents were all that she had. It takes a lot of courage to trust God completely. Do you have what it takes?

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 2021 IN OBSERVANCE OF VETERANS DAY. THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE BILINGUAL MASS THAT DAY AT 9AM.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.

Visit the parish office for more information.

Confessions are by appointment only. Please call 718-295-6800 for an appointment time.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Monday: Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1b-10; Lk 17:1-6
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
 Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19
 Thursday: Wis 7:22b — 8:1; Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175; Lk 17:20-25
 Friday: Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-5ab; Lk 17:26-37
 Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43; Lk 18:1-8
 Sunday: Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16:5, 8-11; Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Monday
 8:30am Lourdes Espinal (D)
 12:00pm Maria Ninh (D)
Tuesday
 8:30am Maria Ninh (D)
 12:00pm Leonila Abella, Neola Jezukaitis (D)
Wednesday
 8:30am
 12:00pm Maria Ninh (D)
Thursday
 9:00am Rose Carucci, Jenny Vite (D)
Friday
 8:30am Maria Ninh (D)
 12:00pm Thomas & Margaret (Curtin) Collins
Saturday
 7:45am Phero Sach (D)
 7:00pm Elizabeth Margarito, Carmen Luisa Oramas(D); Carol Ann Santana, Juana Cordero, Pedro Moran (D)
Sunday
 8:00am People of SNT
 9:30am Mercedes Cintron, Josefa Santos (D); Serafin Alfredo Gonzalez, Eduvina Gonzalez, Luiz Alberto Gonzalez (D)
 11:30am Peter & Phyllis Keon; Thomas & Margaret (Curtin) Collins
 1:30pm Maria Phien (D)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

OCTOBER 24, 2021

Tithing: \$8,054.30
 Children: \$0.00
Total: \$8,054.30

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