Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ November 15, 2020

Delhi Thanksgiving Dinner Deadline

The Annual Delhi Thanksgiving Dinner is on! This year, with circumstances being what they are, the Thanksgiving Dinner will be offered for delivery or pickup only. Orders must be placed by this Sunday the 15th by calling 746.7219. Freewill offerings accepted.

Missionary Co-op: Haiti

Please welcome Father Frank Rouleau at our Masses this weekend. He will be talking about the Diocese of Norwich Outreach to Haiti's work and commitment to serve the poor of Haiti. The second collection is dedicated to this ministry, and the funds will support the thousands of families in the poverty-stricken area of Christ the King in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Your gifts can help provide medical care, nutrition supplements and food, education scholarships, support for orphanages, and efforts to rebuild the medical clinic. Our Haitian brothers and sisters are struggling with severe food shortages, political unrest, and the uncertainties we are all facing with the virus but more challenging in Haiti where healthcare is meager.

Grief Program: Coping With Life Alone

A one-day program for men and women of all ages who have suffered the loss of a spouse due to death, divorce or separation will be held at First Church in Albany, 110 North Pearl Street Saturday, November 21, 9 am to 4:30 pm. Take the first step on the road to recovery from one of life's most traumatic experiences. Remote attendance is available and registration is required: Jim 845.569.9452.

Project Backpack

Thank you for your help: • deodorant • toothbrush/toothpaste • t-shirts • sweat pants • socks • pencil boxes • composition notebooks • scissors • Crayola washable markers (thick and thin) and • colored pencils.

How great is Your name, O Lord, Our God.

Settling Accounts Matthew 25:14-30

The day of the Lord is coming, Paul warns in his Epistle. What matters isn't the time or the season, but what the Lord finds us doing with the new life, the graces He has given to us. This is at the heart of Jesus' parable in the Gospel. Jesus is the Master. Having died, risen, and ascended into heaven, He appears to have gone away for a long time.

By our Baptism, He has entrusted to each of us a portion of His "possessions," a share in His divine life (2 Peter 1:4). He has given us talents and responsibilities, according to the measure of our faith (Romans 12:3, 8). We are to be like the worthy wife in the First Reading and the faithful man we sing of in the Psalm. Like them, we should walk in the "fear of the Lord" - - in reverence, awe, and thanksgiving for His marvelous gifts. This is the beginning of wisdom (Acts 9:31; Proverbs 1:7).

This is not the "fear" of the useless servant in our parable. His is the fear of a slave cowering before a cruel master, the fear of one who refuses the relationship that God calls us to. God has called us to be trusted servants, fellow workers (1 Corinthians 3:9), using our talents to serve one another and His kingdom as good stewards of His grace (1 Peter 4:10). In this, we each have a different part to play.

Though the good servants in today's parable were given different numbers of talents, each "doubled" what he was given, and each earned the same reward for his faithfulness: greater responsibilities and a share of the master's joy.

So let us resolve again in this Eucharist to make much of what we've been given, to do all for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31); that we, too, may approach our Master with confidence and love when He comes to settle accounts. Dr. Scott Hahn

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

"When one finds a worthy wife,
her value is far beyond pearls." Proverbs 31:10

Is the Bible sexist? What about those worthy husbands? One's worth cannot be measured in money or gems. Share one comical and one serious example of each other's worth.

Faith Formation

The next meeting in Church for Faith Formation is this Sunday, November 15: 8:30 am at St. Peter; 10 am at St. John. Topic: Eucharist and Adoration.

(Please plan to have at least one adult from your family attend with your students.)

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

Once your kids are about three or older, you start to notice their talents. One may be creative or get good grades. Another is athletic, a good talker, or actor. The point is not which talent one has but not to squander it. (Matthew 25:15) Using a talent takes time and work. Model that; but don't steal the time from your vocation of parent.

Compassionate Friends Candle Lighting

On Sunday, December 13, at 6:45 pm, the Oneonta Region Chapter of The Compassionate Friends will observe The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting. Due to Covid-19, the ceremony will be held online this year via Zoom. The annual event is a time to remember our departed children and to openly acknowledge the special place they have in our hearts. Anyone who has lost a child of any age is invited to attend. All participants: register in advance by going to tcfoneonta.org and click on the registration link on the home page.

Participants are encouraged to join the meeting at 6:45 pm and have on hand a photo of your child, a small candle, and a lighter. During the ceremony, each family will be given an opportunity to say a few words about their child, share the photo, and light the candle in memory of their loved one. More information: Diana Friedell, 607.433.2089 or visit www.tcfoneonta.org.

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

The stress and anxieties of family life are like "thorns which choke off" any opportunity to reflect on God's presence in our lives. Notice in the Gospel today that Jesus "left the house" so He could connect with His Father. Grasp five minutes each day to appreciate God walking with you.

Delhi Food Pantry Volunteer Shortage

Additional volunteers are needed to help manage the Delhi Food Pantry. With snowbirds flying south and the virus, the shortage of volunteers is critical and help would be greatly appreciated. Please call 746.2191 or email office@umdelhi.org. Volunteers will be trained by experienced leaders.

Magnifikid Advent Offerings

My Sunday Gospel Coloring Book: Each Sunday and feast day includes a detachable page to color, a simplified Gospel, and a suggestion for a holy act.

Daily Advent Prayer Book: Enjoy an introductory prayer, daily Scripture excerpt from the Gospel of the day, and pray intercessions that instill a longing for Jesus.

Order for $14.99 at bookstore@magnificat.com.

Pray for Our Recent Election

Many more people exercised their right to vote this year. Remember that many around the world do not have that freedom, and give thanks to God for our ability to do so.

Thousands of poll workers and ballot counters have worked significant numbers of hours and days to facilitate our right to do so. Give thanks to God for the sacrifices they made to devote time to this process.

Someone will eventually come out the winner and someone will lose. Regardless of who that is, thank God for their willingness to serve our country and each of us.

We may be pleased with the outcome or disappointed, as will our family members, friends and neighbors. Ask God to guide us so that our conversations are open and understanding of both sides and lead to acceptance instead of division.

Pray that all our elected leaders chose to do so with integrity and wisdom.

Pray that each of us chose to act and serve in our own small ways, grounded in the values of our faith and with an eye to the common good. Dominican Retreat Center