



Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time November 8, 2020

Stay awake, for you know
neither the day nor the hour.

— Matthew 25:13

EXPECTING THE UNEXPECTED

If it ever crossed your mind that Jesus was somewhat lacking in a sense of humor, today's Gospel should belie any such notion. Jesus' story of the five wise and five foolish bridesmaids is downright hilarious. The circumstances of the story were surely familiar to Jesus' listeners, just as they are—if we think about it—to us. Weddings never, ever start on time. There's always a delay. Buttons pop off at the last minute. Flowers wilt. Cars full of wedding guests get caught in traffic. Soloists contract laryngitis. Brides or grooms or priests show up late! So the only reasonable way to approach a wedding is with a sense of humor, to realize that something probably will go awry, and, when that happens, to smile about it.

Jesus tells this funny story to encourage us to be watchful, yes; to be ready, yes. But he doesn't tell it to make us dour and somber. The heavy-hearted tremble, waver, lose sight of their place and purpose, and fall asleep. The lighthearted know that the unexpected will happen—is bound to happen—so they are awake in their place and ready in their purpose when it comes.

—J. S. Paluch Co.

SAINT FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI (1850-1917) November 13

Burly longshoremen glared at the woman in widow's dress who interrupted their drinking to beg money, in broken English, for her orphanage. The bar exploded in laughter as one man responded by spitting in her face. "That was for me," the woman smiled. "Do you have anything for the children?" Given today's national debate, could it be as much God's sense of humor as God's will for our sanctification that our first American saint should be an immigrant and naturalized citizen? Frances Cabrini, adopting the name Xavier, confided to Pope Leo XIII her longing to follow her Jesuit patron to Asia. But the Pope replied, "Not East—West!" So she and her Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart exchanged exotic dreams of China for the impoverished reality of Italian ghettos across the United States and Central and South America. Before her death, Frances had founded seventy educational, health care, child, and family service institutions. Today, from Siberia to Ethiopia, in sixteen countries, Mother Cabrini's sisters and lay associates embody her practical spirituality: "Let's get to work! We'll have eternity to rest!"

—Peter Scagnelli, ©J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-17; Jn 2:13-22
 Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29; Lk 17:7-10
 Wednesday: Ti 3:1-7; Ps 23:1b-6; Lk 17:11-19
 Thursday: Phlm 7-20; Ps 146:7-10; Lk 17:20-25
 Friday: 2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18; Lk 17:26-37
 Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8; Ps 112:1-6; Lk 18:1-8
 Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30

THE FOUNDATION

Wisdom is the foundation, and justice the work
without which a foundation cannot stand.

—St. Ambrose

GOD'S WILL

Lord, if your people need me, I will not refuse the work.
Your will be done.

—St. Martin of Tours

Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of **November** offerings:

PLEASE mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website www.stphilipstteresa.org via Paypal or card. *Include your offering envelope # with your donation.*

[in Oct.] 1st Collection: \$5750. Rural Food: \$2961. Cap. Exp.: \$1137.

Add. Op.: \$355. World Mission: \$540.

11/8: Operating Expenses. 11/15: Catholic Comm/Catholic Univ of Amer

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA Zoom

Finance Council [FC]: TBA Zoom

Liturgy Committee: TBA Zoom

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: cancelled for now

Coffee & Goodies: cancelled for now

Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon: cancelled for now

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

11/08 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ Tina Bartolo

11/08 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Peggy Glenn

11/15 Sun. 8am Mass for the People

11/15 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Brendan Smith

Prayer Requests: Leave a message at 707-408-2650.

Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Mary K., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H, Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Jacque W., Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., Sherry S., Papke family., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James, Dennis M., Art H., Lynn Y., Peter Rudy, Gerry

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
 Tuesday: St. Leo the Great
 Wednesday: St. Martin of Tours; Veterans Day
 Thursday: St. Josaphat
 Friday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
 Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

PARISH MEMO

1. Outdoor Services Update: Starting November 8, the 9:30am outdoor Sunday Mass in Bodega will move to the front steps of St. Teresa's Church. In case of rain or severe weather, outdoor services at **both** St. Philip's and St. Teresa's will automatically be cancelled.

2. Star Child Program: Although we will not be having Star Child trees this year, you can continue to support this program with cash donations. Starting on October 25, there will be separate collection baskets at the Masses. These will be available until November 29. If you are not able to attend the Masses, you can mail donations designated for Star Child directly to the Parish Office. Thank you for your ongoing support for our Rural Food Program families during these difficult times.

3. Please contact the office if you do not yet receive the weekly digital bulletin or if you need to register for the offering envelope system [the system tracks your donations during the year for tax deduction info]. Just email the office at philip.teresa@yahoo.com

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for October 2020

On Tuesday, 10/13 Rural Food volunteers distributed food to fifty- nine families totaling 110 people including 27 seniors and 23 children We continue to be very thankful for the use of the Union Hotel facilities to store our dairy products before distribution each month. Fresh eggs donated by Coastal Hill Farm are always a welcome addition to our menu.

We are preparing to distribute more than 120 blankets to our Rural Food families starting in November as the weather turns cooler. Thank you to all who so generously donated to make this goal a reality.

This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection each month, private donations and awesome volunteers. Thank you for your generous donations as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in Parish Hall

Saturday, November 7 , 9-10:00am repackaging;

Monday, November 9, 10:00am – 12:00pm set up;

Tuesday, November 10, 8:30 – 11:00am to distribute food to clients.

PASTOR SPEAKS...

Following the Memo from Bishop Vasa (Bulletin #77) dated October 28, 2020, the counties of the Diocese now fall into the tiers noted below:

Humboldt County - Tier 4 (3 weeks) - Open indoors with a maximum of 50% capacity. Has one week of higher numbers which puts Humboldt at risk to drop to Tier 3.

Del Norte County -Tier 3 (8 weeks) - Open indoors with 50% capacity or 200, whichever is fewer. Has one week of lower numbers which holds out hope for Del Norte County to rise to Tier 4.

Napa County - Tier 3 (1 week) - Open indoors with 50% capacity or 200, whichever is fewer. Has one week of higher numbers which puts Napa at risk to drop to Tier 2).

Lake County - Tier 2 (8 weeks) - Open indoors with 25% capacity or 100, whichever is fewer.

Mendocino County - Tier 2 (NEW) (Congratulations!) Open indoors with 25% capacity or 100, whichever is fewer.

Sonoma County - Tier 1 (8 weeks) - Outdoor only with masks and social distance

There is no hope of great changes in the COVID environment at any time in the near future. Appeals are being made to the County and State to allow Churches to be upgraded one Tier. But for our bishop the prospect of actually receiving such a modification remains a very remote possibility and not very probable. Those of you who claim that the Church is not doing anything to push or oppose what you might feel are unjust restrictions on the Church, please understand that the Bishops are in regular contact with the State Health Officer and the Governor's Office regarding these matters.

[...edited 11/5]

I invite you, all Parishioners, to submit the names of your beloved dead, without an Offering, for whom prayers and commemorations at All Souls Day Mass and during the month of November will be offered. Any Offerings submitted are our parish income.

Father Bala.



Deacon-structing the Four Last Things

by [Deacon Pedro](#) from [saltandlighttv.org](#)

In a recent episode of [Make A Joyful Noise](#), one of my trivia questions had to do with the doctrine of the Resurrection of the Body. My guest, Noelle Garcia, was able to explain the doctrine very well: After the resurrection, our souls will be reunited with our bodies, but they will be transformed into glorified bodies.

Although I'm sure many of you are familiar with this doctrine, how often do you really think about death? We may often think of Heaven (especially when Jesus keeps explaining what the Kingdom of Heaven is like), but how often do you think of Purgatory? How often do you think of Hell? Not often, I bet.

And I am certain that most of us never think of Judgment. But November is the time of year when the Church especially asks us to recall these things. It is the time when we remember our deceased loved ones all month long. And yesterday and today are even more particularly marked out for our remembrance as the Feast of All Saints and All Souls' Day.

Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell are what the Church refers to as the Last Things. Traditionally, they were preached about during Advent (as we begin to get all those readings about the end times), although I suspect most of us have never heard a homily about the Last Things.

Before we begin, let me make clear that we believe in life everlasting; we profess that every time we pray the Creed. We all long for Heaven, for that should be our final destination: We are created for Heaven. God wants us in Heaven. But there are a few things that have to happen first.

Death

The [Catechism](#) tells us that in death, God calls us to Himself (#1011) and that because of Christ, death has a positive meaning (#1010). The Church teaches that death is a consequence of sin (#1008, 1018; see Romans 5:12), and St. Paul reminds us that the "*last enemy to be destroyed is death*" (1 Corinthians 15:26). Yet, what is not often mentioned is that death is also a remedy for sin, for after death we will sin no more.

When we refer to "death" as one of the Four Last Things, we are talking about bodily death (as opposed to eternal death, which we will see below). This death is merely the separation of our soul from our bodies. Our bodies will die because of sickness, old age, decay, but our souls will continue to live.

Judgment

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* also says that at the moment of death, all will receive their particular (or individual) judgment (#1021, 1051). The time for choosing God or evil is done:

“Each man receives his eternal retribution in his immortal soul at the very moment of his death, in a particular judgment that refers his life to Christ: either entrance into the blessedness of heaven – through a purification or immediately, – or immediate and everlasting damnation.” (CCC #1022)

St. Paul tells the Corinthians that we must all be judged by Christ, “so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad” (2 Corinthians 5:10).

At the particular judgment, we will see our lives; we will see ourselves as God sees us, and then we will proceed to our place of reward – Heaven, Purgatory, or Hell – to wait for the universal judgment, which will take place after the resurrection of the body (CCC #1038), but before the Second Coming of Christ.

The universal judgment, often called the Last Judgment, takes place when Christ returns in glory (CCC #1040) and reveals “even to its furthest consequences the good each person has done or failed to do during his or her earthly life” (CCC #1039). At this point, all will be resurrected in body. Those in Purgatory will already be purged, and so, following the Final Judgement, they will proceed to Heaven. If some are still alive at this time, they will skip their particular judgment. “After the universal judgment, the righteous will reign for ever with Christ, glorified in body and soul” (CCC #1042). Not only do we believe that we will be glorified, but the whole cosmos, the universe itself, will be transformed (CCC #1042-1047).

Even though Purgatory is not one of the Four Last Things (because after the universal judgment, Purgatory will no longer exist), I'd like to say a few things about this state, since the Catechism dedicates a section to it (#1030-32):

If we die in God's grace and friendship but still have the need to be purified (due to temporal punishment*), we will go into a “place” of purification. Those who are in Purgatory are on their way to Heaven. Purgatory is not a place where the decision to go to Heaven or Hell is made. Purgatory is sort of like entering Heaven through the laundry room. We also do not believe that anyone will stay in Purgatory for eternity, for after the Final Judgement, as I wrote above, there will be no need for Purgatory. (*You can read more on this in [Deacon-structuring Indulgences](#).)

Hell

Hell is what we refer to when we speak of “eternal death”. This is where we do not want to go. It is not a physical place but a state. If we die in a state of mortal sin – that is, in a state that is not in God's grace and friendship – we cannot be united to God if we don't freely choose to love Him (CCC #1033, 1057). If the consequences of our sins are not temporal but eternal, we will go to a place that is eternally separated from God.

“The chief punishment of hell is eternal separation from God, in whom alone man can

possess the life and happiness for which he was created and for which he longs.” (CCC #1035)

The Church does not teach that “God banishes people to Hell”, rather that people willfully choose Hell. Which is why some (including myself) can wonder how, when presented with the glory and magnificent mercy and love of God, anyone would choose against it. Still, we have to believe that this is an option. But this is why we also believe that we can't say for certain that anyone is in Hell, nor, in the same way, can we say for certain that no one is in Hell.

Heaven

This is where we belong and where we want to go. This is Plan A. I don't think it needs much explanation:

“Those who die in God's grace and friendship and are perfectly purified live forever with Christ. They are like God for ever, for they 'see him as he is,' face to face.” (CCC #1023)

You can go straight to Heaven or get there via Purgatory. And as I wrote above, we don't just believe in Heaven, but we also believe in a “new Heaven” which will come after Christ comes again in glory. The whole of creation will be transformed.

“In this new universe, the heavenly Jerusalem, God will have his dwelling among men. 'He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away.’” (CCC #1044)

and

“At the end of time, the Kingdom of God will come in its fullness. Then the just will reign with Christ forever, glorified in body and soul, and the material universe itself will be transformed. God will then be 'all in all' (1 Corinthians 15:28), in eternal life.” (CCC #1060)

It's not a bad idea to reflect on the Last Things and to remember our death. Thinking of these things is part of thinking and hoping to be with God eternally one day since that is where we belong, and thinking about it will help us get there.

Hope to see you there!



Every week, Deacon Pedro takes a particular topic apart, not so much to explore or explain the subject to its fullness, but rather to provide insights that will deepen our understanding of the subject. And don't worry, at the end of the day he always puts the pieces back together. There are no limits to *deaconstructing*. Write to him and ask any questions about the faith or Church teaching: pedro@saltandlighttv.org. Follow him on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)



Multi-faith complex to rise where pope and imam signed agreement

[John Burger](#) - published on 11/01/20

The Abrahamic Family House is first concrete sign of cooperation based on 2019 meeting.

Discussions between the leader of the Catholic Church and one of the highest authorities in the Islamic world led to the signing of the “Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together” on February 4, 2019.

In that document, Pope Francis and Grand Imam of al-Azhar Ahmed Mohamed Ahmed El-Tayeb affirmed the relationship between authentic religious teachings and peace and called for greater cooperation among faiths.

From the signing of the document emerged the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity, which bills itself as a “diverse set of international religious leaders, educational scholars and cultural leaders who were inspired by the Document on Human Fraternity, and are dedicated to sharing its message of mutual understanding and peace.”

The first concrete result of the committee’s work is underway in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, where Francis and El-Tayeb signed the document.

Ground was to be broken this year on the Abrahamic Family House, a complex that includes a Christian church, Muslim mosque, and Jewish synagogue.

The three faiths see Abraham as a common patriarch.

Ghanaian-British architect David Adjaye, known for the National Museum of African American History and Culture on the National Mall in Washington, won the competition to design the three houses of worship in the Abrahamic Family House.

Symbolically, the church, synagogue and mosque will share the same foundation.

Adjaye told Vatican News that the project will represent a new typology of world architecture. **“There has never been a building which houses the three faiths in one form,” he said.** He wanted to preserve “the unique experience of each of the faiths” while at the same time “connecting them all with one device.”

Connecting the three houses of worship will be a garden — an image that has important significance in each of the world’s three major religions. “Each of the houses of worship can be peered into from the vantage point of the raised garden, which will house an educational center,” [Vatican News](#) said. “The three worship spaces have the same dimensions but orient in the direction and contain structural elements inherited within each specific faith tradition.”

Thus, the church’s altar will point east, the synagogue’s podium and Torah scrolls will be oriented towards Jerusalem, and the mosque will be directed towards the Kaaba in Mecca, according to [Euronews](#).

“We also realized that in each of the faiths there had been very unique details,” he said. **“The domes, vaults and arches of mosques, ideas of enclosure in Jewish tradition and the idea of deliverance and ecstasy in Christian churches, for example.** So, they became the details that started to be amplified.”

The complex is not envisioned to stand simply as a monument to high ideals, but will be used by active congregations. There is a native Muslim population, since the UAE is part of the Arabian peninsula, but there has also been a “huge influx of migrant workers” which means “there are hundreds of thousands of Christians — largely Catholics — as well as members of other religions, including an active Jewish community that numbers about 3,000,” [Religion News Service](#) reported.

The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. Pray especially for leaders and their governments to rule well so we can be quietly about our business of living simply, in humble contemplation. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Time for us to pray for peace, Lord, time to pray for:

- a spirit of peace across our nation
- a peaceful conclusion to the election process
- peace in the streets of our cities and neighborhoods
- peace in our families
- peace in our circles of friends
- peace in our faith communities
- peace with our coworkers
- peace on social media
- a peaceful healing of America's people
- peaceful cooperation in and between the branches of our government
- peaceful collaboration on Covid-19
- peace in the hearts of each and all of us
- peaceful thoughts to guide your people
- peace in our nation's very soul

peace that comes from you alone, Lord, peace you give to me to share with all...

Amen.

<http://concordpastor.blogspot.com/>