



**The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner**  
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**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – November 15, 2020 Year A**

This penultimate Sunday of the liturgical year reminds us, not only of the end of the liturgical year, but also of the end of all things and of the preparations we need to make to reach Heaven.

**Life messages:**

- We need to trust God enough to make use of the gifts and abilities we have been given. We may be especially talented in teaching children or cooking meals or repairing homes or programming computers. So, we should ask ourselves how we are using our particular gifts in the service of our Christian community and the wider society.
- We need to make use of our talents in our parish. In addition to our homes and families, the best place to do this is in our parish. This means that we should be always willing to share our abilities in creative worship in the Church and in various ministries of our parish, such as Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, Lector, Usher, Sunday school teacher, singer in the choir, volunteer and member of one or more parish organizations and community outreach programs.
- We need to “trade” with our talent of Christian Faith: All of us in the Church today have received at least one talent namely, the gift of Faith. Our responsibility is not just to preserve and “keep” the Faith, but to work with it. We need to promote and add value to Faith by living it out. The way to preserve the Faith, or any other talent that God has given us, is to put it to work and help it bear fruit.
- **Sharing the best you have:** Mother Theresa of Calcutta was summoned to Court on the charges of converting children to the Catholic faith. When she stood in the dock, the judge asked her if the charges were true. She asked for a baby to be given to her. She held the baby in her arms and said, “This child I picked up from the dust bin; I don’t know to what religion this child belongs or what language it speaks... I give this child my love, my time, my care, my food... but the best thing that I have in my life is the faith in Jesus Christ. Can’t I give this child the best I have in my life?” The case was dismissed in favour of Mother Theresa

**The sick in our parish:** Teresa & Con Lamonaca, Nola, Eleanor Priest, Judiel Teodoro, John Markis, Kathy Romanow, Wladyslaw Stopa, Rosa Latanzio, Leanne Blanchflower, Carmela Bovezza

**Recently Deceased:** Alfred Micallef, Giuseppe Gandolfo, Giuseppina del Rosario, Damiano Ambrosini, Mary Grech, Sr. Elisabetta Cichello

**We pray for all those whose Anniversaries occur at this time:**

Renata Romanow, Paola Cubella, Vincenzo Montalto, Concetta & Vincenzo Brullo, Giovanni Di Benedetto, William & Margaret McDonough, Molly Nichols, Margaret Clinch, Mario Benfatti, Giuseppe Zugaro, Lucia Di Alfonso, Antonio Stefani, Stefani Family, Nicolussi Family

**We especially pray for all the deceased whose names are on the Church pews & the Resurrection Chapel.**

**THE FOUR LESSONS TAUGHT BY JESUS THROUGH THE PARABLE:**

**1. God gives each person different gifts for their intended uses.**

Everything is gift, and everything is meant to be given back to the Master in in the form of loving service to Him in our brothers and sisters. We are only asked to make full use of what we have been given and to use our talents for the benefit of the community as a whole. The human family is charged with preserving the beauty, diversity and integrity of nature as well as fostering its productivity.

**2. The better our work the greater our responsibility.**

God gives more responsibilities to those who make the best use of his or her God-given talents.

**3 The lazy and the unproductive will be punished.**

Even the person with only one talent has something to offer to others. If he fails to do some positive good work, he will lose what he has. If he trusts the Lord, and so tries to use well the gifts God has given him, but fails, he will meet the Master’s compassion and forgiveness.

**4 God blesses generous sharers and punishes selfish hoarders.**

Those who share generously the gifts they have been given are likely to find themselves constantly and immeasurably enriched, while those who jealously and selfishly preserve, out of fear, what they have been given, will lose it. In short, the parable outlines the result of the abundant, grace-filled stewardship of God’s resources. A person who does not refuse a gift from the Lord, receives it, and consequently has more. The trustworthiness of the profitable servants ensures their share in the “joy of the Lord,” because the wealth of life and talent given them has been invested to bear fruit in labours of faith, hope, and charity.