



Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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WELCOME!

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

6:00 pm (Vietnamese)

SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

12:30 pm (Vietnamese for Youth)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30 pm Adoration
6:00 pm Mass

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30 pm - 4:50 pm
Sunday 8:00 am - 8:20 am
Tuesday - Friday 5:30 pm - 5:50 pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP (NOV. 4TH & NOV. 5TH)

Donation	\$5,624.00
Donation Online	\$2,260.00
Maintenance Fund	\$5.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$7,889.00

PARISH STAFF

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32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Lord, Lord, open the door for us!" But he said in reply, "Amen, I say to you, I do not know you." - Mt 25:11-12



THANKSGIVING DAY November 23rd

Bilingual Mass
(English & Vietnamese)

10:30 AM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: Closed
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Please Call for Appointment

PARISH OFFICE 206-735-7598

Sacrament of Anointing the Sick: Ext. 1
Parish Staff: Ext. 2
Administrative Support: Ext. 3

Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.

Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

God knows that, sooner or later, we all face a night that is long and dark. He has given each of us exactly what we need to make it through. If we keep Him with us, the light will not go out.



Observances for the week of November 12, 2023

Sunday: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin
Tuesday:
Wednesday: St. Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday: St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude, Virgin

Is There
OIL
In Your
Lamp?

Matthew 25:1-13

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
HOMILY BY FATHER JOSEPH VU

Saving Our Souls Is Our Primary Responsibility

At first glance we think the wise virgins in today's Gospel are mean, maybe selfish.

But that's not the case.

- Their role in the wedding feast, according to customs of the time, was to welcome the newlywed couple to the bridegroom's home after the wedding.
- That was their responsibility.

- To give away their oil would be to shirk their responsibility: there was simply not enough oil for ten lamps.
- For us to be unfaithful to Christ and his Church – no matter under what pretext – would be equally irresponsible.

The First Reading teaches the same lesson.

- Wisdom was understood by the ancient philosophers as the key to a meaningful and fulfilling life.
- It was the object of the human person's greatest quest and must be sought after and desired beyond all other things.
- Everything else was secondary.
- In biblical terms, this is still true for us today.
- It is Wisdom, God himself and God's love as grasped and experienced by the human heart, that is "resplendent and unfading".
- The rest of the goods of this world come to an end; they wear out; they do not fill our hearts.

We shouldn't ignore this most obvious lesson of Christ's parable.

- We all have the possibility of salvation, of entering into eternal life with God and the saints.
- But we also face the possibility of damnation, of being excluded from heaven.
- Christ couldn't have made it clearer: "Then the door was locked."
- It all depends on what we choose to seek as our highest goal.
- Our primary responsibility in life, the best use of our freedom, consists in making our friendship with God into that highest goal: that's true wisdom.
- But God won't force us to do that; if he did, it wouldn't be friendship.

Spreading the News

We all have heard this lesson before, and our salvation is a high priority for all of us.

Otherwise, we wouldn't be here.

But what about the family that lives next door, or just down the street?

- Have they ever been explained that the Bridegroom is coming, that there's a wedding banquet waiting for us in eternity?
- Do they even have a lamp, let alone the oil of faith to light it?
- Or what about your cousin, or your brother, the one you haven't seen in years – is his lamp full of oil?

Christ reminds us of this truth because we need to be reminded of it, and maybe someone we know needs to be reminded too.

- We are all Christ's messengers.
- Let's all think of someone we know, someone who needs a lamp, or needs some oil.
- Let's pray for them during this Mass, and ask Christ when we receive him in Holy Communion to tell us how to bring his message to them.
- And let's promise him that we will try to do so, this week.

We can do nothing greater for that person than to offer to help them get a lamp – or find their old one – and help them fill it with oil.

When the Mass ends and the Church sends us forth with:

- "The Mass is over, go in peace to love and serve the Lord", that's exactly what it means:
 - go in peace, with your lamp refilled,
- and let others know that the Lord wants them in his Kingdom too.

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Seeking Wisdom

I think if any of us were asked the question, “Do you love wisdom? Do you seek wisdom?” we would, at first, be a little taken aback. And then we would answer quickly “Of course!” with absolutely no doubt in our minds.

But a different way of asking the question is this: “Are you making wise choices?” That’s a question that would put a fair few of us on the back foot.

The virgins who went out to meet the bridegroom were all the same. They had the exact same intentions. They had the exact same stamina, or lack of it. They had the exact same knowledge of the night being dark and lamps being necessary.

What made five foolish, and five wise?

It was their choices. Only their choices set them apart.

We may rely upon the wisdom of another — the parent who reminds us to go to confession, the friend who demurs when we start speaking gossip, the priest who preaches boldly from the pulpit against an injustice we lack the courage to denounce ourselves. But even if we feel safeguarded by their good influence, their wisdom won’t save us.

We may possess a little wisdom ourselves — we may know well that a dark night is hard to navigate, and that we need the assistance of a lamp. We may go to Mass once in a while, read the Bible when we have time and serve others when it’s convenient.

But a lamp needs oil to burn in the darkness, just as wisdom requires action to be brought forth into the world.

We may love God just as much as we should — our flesh may pine, our soul may thirst. But a parched field never brought rain on itself just by being dry.

We must make the choice.

“Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.” — Psalm 63:4

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Where does the money go that is collected each week at Church?

Answer:

This is a good question! Every parish has financial obligations, including the basic operation of the buildings, salaries, maintenance, and improvements. In addition, there are schools to support, programs to run, charities to be funded, and operational expenses like hosts and wine for Mass, music books, vestments, and so on. In some cases, cemeteries and other buildings need attention. Finally, there is the diocesan assessment that each parish pays to help run the diocese and the support services provided to each parish.

Most parishes manage to get by with the collection, a few fundraisers and endowments. But contrary to popular opinion, cash flow is also a problem, and many parishes operate in the red. The Finance Committee is responsible for assisting the pastor in fiscal management, and good stewardship is the basis for successful programs.