

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



PARISH STAFF

PASTOR:

Father Joseph Vu, S.D.D., STL
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Parochial Vicar

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Administration/Data Entry

Monica Schwarz
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Liturgy Coordinator

Barb Ridge
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed
Tuesday & Friday: Please Call for Appointment
Wednesday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
Thursday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP (JULY 30 – JULY 31)

Donation	\$7,291.00
Donation Online	\$1,302.00
Maintenance Fund	\$60.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$8,653.00

2022 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL GOAL
\$24,876, Gifts Received \$34,770.00



Annual Catholic Appeal

TOGETHER WE CAN be Christ to Others



archseattle.org/GiveACA

HELP WANTED

Are you looking for a way to help our parish?
If your answer is "YES!", please consider this opportunity:

We need someone to care for the mission candle stand. Each week, this 30-minute job requires cleaning the candle holders and checking if the wax drawer needs to be emptied. Cleaning can be done at home so pick up holders after Mass and return them cleaned the next week.
Please email:

**Blessed
are the
people
the Lord
has chosen
for his own.**

PSALM 138

19 Sunday of Ordinary Time – C

Homily by Father Peter Doan

Last week the gospel was about a man who requested Jesus to intervene in a dispute between him and his brother over the division of their inherited property. But Jesus declined to serve as an advocate and judge. Instead, He merely told a story about a rich farmer who stored up his harvest for himself only to have God to tell him that he would not be alive to enjoy what he had stored up. Jesus used the story to warn his followers that people who are busy accumulating worldly possessions for themselves with no concern whatsoever for what matters to God and others or busy doing everything except what God requires of them, will meet the same fate as the rich farmer.

In today's gospel Jesus told two short stories to emphasize the importance of self-preparedness for such an eventuality. One is the parable of the watchful servants. According to the story, a master had gone to a wedding banquet and his servants were waiting up for him, even though he was delayed. In those days doors were often bolted from the inside, especially at night, to keep out robbers and troublemakers. Servants were expected to be dressed and ready with lighted lamps for their Master's return no matter when he returned. Jesus used this ancient custom as an example to teach his followers. He said, "Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival."

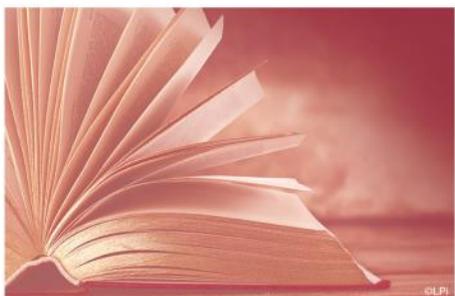
What does "gird your loins" mean? Back in the first century, people wore a long flowing tunic or robe, tied around the waist with a belt or girdle. The people would tuck the long flows of the robe under the belt when they went to perform hard labor or went to fight. So, "gird your loins" means get ready for action or prepare for hard work. Jesus told his followers this story to illustrate the necessity of being prepared to open the door at once when the Master of the house knocks and asks his servants to let him in. If the servants refused to answer the door or delayed, they could expect a rebuke or punishment from the master.

Our life on earth is a journey and at the same time, an expectancy, an awaiting, not only when the time comes when God will call us but also for the fulfillment of the promises and the definitive triumph of Our Lord Jesus Christ as King of the Universe. One concrete way of being watchful is to make sure that we are always in the state of grace. If by chance we have gravely offended God, let us not delay in asking His pardon: let us go to Confession as soon as possible to regain God's mercy, pardon, friendship and sweet presence in our soul.

These parables also paint a vivid picture of Christ and his Church. Christ is the master of the house, the head of a grand estate. The servants are Christ's disciples, and the head servants, or stewards, are his specially chosen Apostles. His Church is not something vague, cold, and impersonal, but a household, a place of life and communion, work and relaxation. When the Master is away, the servants are expected to keep the household going responsibly and energetically. This is an image of the Church in this present world, waiting for the second coming of Jesus to judge the living and the dead and to bring about a new heaven and a new earth. During this period, Jesus has delegated his authority to the stewards, to the Apostles and their successors – our bishops – who are in charge of overseeing the work of all Christ's disciples. This tells us a lot about Christ's leadership style. He wants us to be his co-workers, friends, and real members of his household – not just mindless robots or blind slaves. And yet, Christ remains the Master. He is the creator, redeemer, and owner of the universe. The universe is not a democracy. Christ is not an elected official who we can vote out of office. No, the Lord is Lord by nature, because he is all-powerful, all wise, and all-loving. And we are his followers.

"Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more." The Lord has given us many gifts and blessings. These are not meant for purely personal consumption. They are intended for community building – for the benefit of everybody. In short, these blessings carry with them serious responsibilities. Let us learn to count our blessings. Then let us examine ourselves how well and responsibly we are using these blessings for the welfare of others. We must also remember that we are living in one household of God and the more we use our blessings for others, the more they will grow and multiply. The best way to increase our blessings is to use them for others, for we become effective channels of God's graces.

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

For when you punished our adversaries,
in this you glorified us whom you had
summoned. (Wis 18:8)



PSALM

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen
to be his own. (Ps 33)



SECOND READING

For he was looking forward to the city
with foundations,
whose architect and maker is God.
(Heb 11:10)



GOSPEL

"You also must be prepared, for at an
hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come." (Lk 12:40)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

St. Thomas Aquinas reminds us that, "Three things are necessary for the salvation of man: to know what he ought to believe, to know what he ought to desire, and to know what he ought to do." Everyone is called to work toward their salvation, which is ultimately union with God. Those who take this call seriously must embark upon a journey inward to the deepest recesses of their soul. In the adventure and wonder of that journey, we work out the details of our union with our Beloved. We cling to what we need to believe, remain firm in what we truly desire, and are guided by what we know we have to do. Once we know that our goal is to be one with our Creator, life becomes an exciting expedition to pursue that end. We make necessary preparations, follow the map, and remain on course.

Whenever we really want something, we put our entire selves into achieving it. Being fully invested in our labor, we willingly work extra hours, devote an abundance of energy and effort, and remain vigilant for beneficial opportunities that may come our way. We certainly do not passively sit by doing nothing! Such an attitude leads to laziness and the accomplishment of little. Worse yet, some look to others to do the work for them, hoping to reap the benefits of another's efforts. Conscientiousness and diligence are the only means to success.

For the one who eagerly awaits the day when they can be fully with God, life becomes a joyous adventure indeed! Alert, ready, focused, convicted, and willing to be a servant they constantly watch and prepare themselves for meeting the Lord. Loving the journey and being in love with their Creator, their lives become joyful witnesses of love and service. They are secure in their hope, confident in their faith, and perfect in their love. Never looking for recognition or gratitude, they stand as gentle inspirations of what the Holy Spirit can do in the hearts of those who believe. Because we do not know what tomorrow will bring, we stand ready to be used as God wills and run eagerly toward Him when He comes. How much do we desire to experience the joy of salvation?