St Benedict Parish
St. John the Baptist Church

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Wisdom 6:12–16 / 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 or 4:13–14 / Matthew 25:1–13

Be Not Afraid

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR



© 2026 LIGUORI PUBLICATIONS • A MINISTRY OF THE REDEMPTORISTS • IMAGE: VITALII BORKOVSKYI / SHUTTERSTOCK

So close to Thanksgiving Day, a parable that seems to champion the Puritan work ethic feels fitting. The parable in today's gospel appears to celebrate sincere, positive efforts, while at the same time, it does not look kindly on lackluster attempts. But, as with all of Jesus' parables, we need to take a closer look. In this instance, the third servant deserves examination. His situation seems to be not so much about work as it is about fear and hopelessness. It is not that he is unable to produce or to take the action needed; rather, he is bound and limited by fear and his perception of what the master requires. His fear makes it impossible for him to do what is required of him, so he does not respond. We do not know how the master would have reacted if the servant had tried and failed. We do not know if an honest effort on the servant's part would have been enough. We do know that the master rejects fear as an excuse for inaction, and for this reason, the servant is singled out and punished. His fear not only made it impossible for him to work but also prompted the exact circumstance he was trying to avoid: displeasing the master. From the viewpoint of the parable, the servant's decision was not a good one. ● **Reflect:** ***When has fear kept me from doing right or refraining from doing wrong?***

***ST. BENEDICT "The Painted Church" 84-5140 Painted Church Rd. Captain Cook, HI 96704 Phone : 808-328-2227 Fax: 808-328-8482 hetpaintechurchhawaii.org**

Mass : ST. BENEDICT Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 am

Tuesday-Friday 7 am Confession: Saturday 9-11 am

Adoration: Sunday mornings 6:30-7:30

***ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 81-6410A Hawaii Belt Rd. Kealakekua**

Mass: Saturday 6:00 pm Sunday 10:00 am

Pastor Administrator : Fr. William Quiamjot (Ke-yam-hot) wquiamjot@rcchawaii.org

Thanksgiving Day Mass: St. Benedict
8:00 am 11/26/26

Mass Intentions 11/7-8/2026

Saturday

4:00 PM +Jimmy Akiona & +Mike Ikeda

6:00 PM Helen Burnett, health

6:00 PM Augustus Martinez & Kristoffer Reyard Reyes - birthday

Sunday

8:00 AM +Jerry Mertz

10:00 AM For all Parish Members

Tues. 7am +Lucille Ann Konechne

Wed. 7am Julie Fet - special intention

Thurs.7am +Alicia Smykla

Fri. 7am Ryan Puomo & family - special intention

Today's readings remind us that one day each of us will give an account for the gifts God has entrusted to us, including the gift of time itself.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the familiar parable of the talents. Before leaving on a journey, a wealthy man entrusts portions of his wealth to three servants according to their abilities. Two of the servants immediately put those gifts to work and are rewarded for their faithfulness. The third, acting out of fear, buries what was entrusted to him and returns only what he had received.

The tragedy is not that the servant lacked ability. It is that he failed to recognize the privilege he had been given. His master invited him to share in his work, but fear kept him from responding. God extends that same invitation to us. He entrusts each of us with unique gifts and invites us to use them for His glory and for the good of others.

May we live each day so that, when our work is finished, we too may hear those joyful words: "Well done, my good and faithful servant... Come, share your master's joy."

©Catholic Stewardship Consultants

Stewardship of Treasure
Thank you for your generosity!

Nov. 7-8, 2026

Collection	**2,369.00**
Food Pantry	**35.00**
Maint.	**20.00**
All Souls	**20.00**

Total $ 2,544.00

Attendance October 24-25-2026

St. Benedict	**85**	**6**
St. John	**88**	**29**
TOTAL	**173**	**35**

thepaintedchurchhawaii.org

Pray for the peaceful comfort and healing of our 'Ohana

*Graciela Campos Villa
*Patsy Sabarre
*Stephen Gabriel
*Jan Neumann
*Dolores Sedlack
*Mahina Kaupiko
*Kamala Galletes
*Miriam Janczak
*Reggie Lee
*Cindy Pangan
*Linda Alcain
*Terrance Terada
*Deacon Craig Camello
*Pam Shultise
*Merla Kline
*Paul Ruskey
*Carla Vonderahe
*Joevelyn Delas Reyes
*Gwen Menchaca
*Deb Reed
*Gloria Grapa
*William Anderson
*Johnny Koene

AMEN



Don't Be Lazy

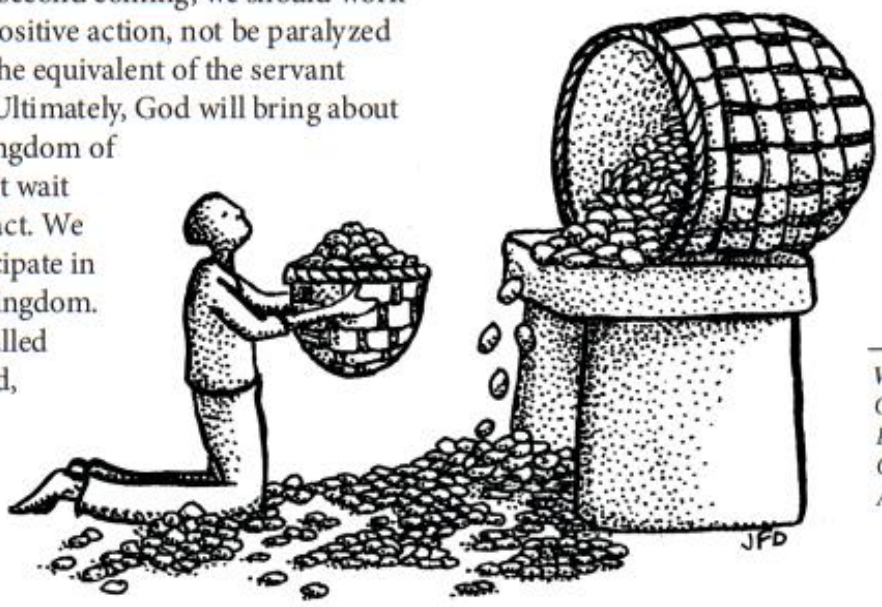
This Week's Readings at Mass

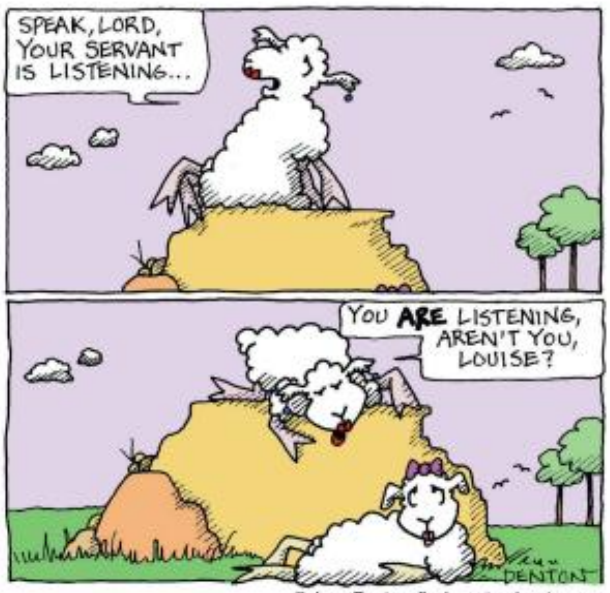
- Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 • A Worthy Wife
- 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 • Stay alert
- Matthew 25:14-30 • The parable of the talents

We are in the middle of a series of Gospel parables that Jesus tells about staying alert and being prepared for his second coming. We believe that appearance will mark the end of this world as we know it. Jesus cautions his listeners several times to remain at-the-ready, even if their "master" is gone for an extended period like the man in this parable or the groom in last week's parable.

When this Gospel was written, about 50 years after Jesus' death, some of the early Christians had grown complacent and even lazy because Jesus hadn't yet returned. Paul alludes to this in his letter to the Thessalonians. There is a certain percentage of people who live mindlessly, enjoying a false sense of peace and security, unaware that things can change instantly—perhaps like some of us before COVID-19 hit. In a later letter to the same community, Paul calls out those "living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work" (2 Thess. 3:11). Some people figured they didn't need to bother working because Jesus was returning soon. So Paul instilled a new rule: "Anyone unwilling to work should not eat" (2 Thess. 3:10).

The parable of the talents shares the same motif: while awaiting Jesus' second coming, we should work responsibly and for positive action, not be paralyzed by fear or laziness—the equivalent of the servant who hid the money. Ultimately, God will bring about the fullness of the Kingdom of God, but we shouldn't wait passively for God to act. We are all called to participate in the building of the Kingdom. As disciples we are called to action in this world, during a global pandemic or not, not simply accepting suffering while awaiting a reward in heaven. Jesus calls us to put our talents (gifts, skills, money, and otherwise) to work, alleviating pain, building healthy communities, and fighting injustice—while we stay hopeful and alert for his coming.





© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities."

Sheepish Question:

How can I take more responsibility for Jesus' call to grow his kingdom?

Questions of the Week

1. Do you ever get weary and feel like giving up in working to build the Kingdom when God doesn't seem to be "showing up"? In what way?

2. Who do you know, or know of, who tirelessly works for the building of the Kingdom and stays alert and awake for God's coming?

Word of the Week •

Copyright © Ann Naffziger. Published by the Pastoral Center / PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved.

DEAR VISITOR,
TO ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH, ALOHA! THANK YOU FOR VISITING US TODAY! WE WISH YOU A BEAUTIFUL EXPERIENCE AND THAT YOU LEAVE ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH TODAY, REFRESHED IN SPIRIT AND WITH PEACE IN YOUR HEART! SINCE THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CHURCH, IT HAS BEEN CATHOLIC TRADITION TO OFFER A "MASS INTENTION". THIS IS A WAY OF REMEMBERING A PERSON AND LIFTING THEM UP IN PRAYER. YOU MAY ASK THE GREETER FOR A FORM AND ENVELOPE.

Dear Padre,

At Mass, I have difficulty communing with God after receiving Communion because of the noise and activity. Why not more silence?



JESUS FERNANDEZ / SHUTTERSTOCK

During Mass, communal silence is called for within the Penitential Act, for people to recollect themselves; at the end of a reading or the homily, so all can meditate briefly on what they've heard; and then after Communion, for people to praise and pray to God in their hearts. (See *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 45.) In other words, there is a silence that reflects our contrition before God; a silence that reflects our need to ponder his word; and a deep silence before God that reflects awe and incapacity for words after receiving the Body and Blood of Christ!

After Communion, a period of communal silence for personal prayer is intended before other activities, such as a second collection or announcements. Also, a psalm, canticle of praise, or hymn may be sung. (See *GIRM* 88, 164.) "Liturgical silence is indispensable to the rhythm of a balanced celebration. Without it, the celebration can become perfunctory in its haste or burdensome in its unrelieved sound and song" (*Introduction to the Order of Mass*, 48, USCCB, 2003). As St. Alphonsus wrote in *The Holy Eucharist*: "There is no prayer more agreeable to God, or more profitable to the soul, than that which is made during the thanksgiving after Communion."●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



FABRIZIO MAFFEI / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

To those who seek to alleviate the conditions of the poorest, I express my gratitude.... You know well that the question of the poor leads back to the essence of our faith, for they are the very flesh of Christ.... "Where the world sees threats, [the Church] sees children; where walls are built, [the Church] builds bridges."

HOMILY, ROME, NOVEMBER 16, 2025

The quotations from Pope Leo XIV are printed with permission, copyright © *Dicastero per la Comunicazione–Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. All rights reserved.

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about ***Dear Padre***.

Monday
November 16
Weekday
Rv 1:1–4; 2:1–5
Lk 18:35–43

Tuesday
November 17
St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
Rv 3:1–6, 14–22
Lk 19:1–10

Wednesday
November 18
Weekday
Rv 4:1–11
Lk 19:11–28

Thursday
November 19
Weekday
Rv 5:1–10
Lk 19:41–44

Friday
November 20
Weekday
Rv 10:8–11
Lk 19:45–48

Saturday
November 21
The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Rv 11:4–12
Lk 20:27–40

Sunday
November 22
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Ez 34:11–12, 15–17
1 Cor 15:20–26, 28
Mt 25:31–46

Liguori Publications
A Redemptorist Ministry

Catholic. Pastoral. Trusted. © 2026 Liguori Publications. *Imprimi Potest:* Fr. Kevin Zubel, CSsR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists. Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from *The New American Bible, Revised Edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.