

November 19, 2017

Ordinary Time
Thirty-third Sunday



Taking Risk with Our Talents

The parable of the talents reveals the importance of the time that elapses between the master's departure on his journey and his return after a long time. The time of the Lord's absence is for us, the time of active waiting. Our talents are gifts on loan from God, not our personal possession. Whatever talent we have is an opportunity for acknowledging God and serving others. The parable challenges us to be risk takers who use our talents wisely while we await the coming of the Lord.



Flowers for the Altar this weekend are donated by Staci & Donnell MacDonald in thanksgiving to God on the occasion of their wedding.

MASS INTENTIONS



Wednesday, November 22

5:30 p.m. Benefactors of the Parish

Saturday, November 25

4:30 p.m. Lillie Zimmerhanzel

Sunday, November 26

8:00 a.m. Lillie & Gary Zimmerhanzel

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy

Next weekend is *The Feast of Christ the King*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund
Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Ronnie Kainer, Hallettsville, TX - \$20

To make a tax deductible donation towards *St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha* contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Nov. 22 – Thanksgiving Vigil Mass, **5:30 p.m., Praha**

Nov. 23 – Thanksgiving Day Mass, 6:30 a.m., Moulton

Come celebrate God's goodness with the community. Canned goods and monetary offering will be collected to help our less fortunate brothers and sisters.



Food baskets have been made available at the Church entrance for canned goods. You may drop your canned goods at any time. Drop the envelope for monetary donations in the collection basket or mail during the month of November.

Thanksgiving Day Prayer

God, our Father, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite. On Thanksgiving Day we come before you with gratitude for your kindness. We have received generous gifts from your hand so that we may learn to share your blessings in gratitude. Open our hearts to concern for others so that we may share your gifts in loving service. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The New Liturgical Year Begins December 3

- Free copies of *At Home With The Word* are available for those who put in an order.
- The *Workbook For Lectors* are available in the sacristy.

Mark Your Calendar

Dec. 3 – Czech Christmas Mass Concert, 3 p.m.

Dec. 6 – Community Pre-Christmas Concert 7 p.m., Moulton

Dec. 12 – Parish Advent Confessions, 5:30 p.m., Moulton

Dec. 13 – Parish Advent Confessions, 5:00 p.m., **Praha**

Through the waters of Baptism

Ellie Jo Klein

child of Amanda (Herzik) & Joseph Klein has begun her journey of faith in our Christian faith community.



REFLECTION

Keeping Watch While Working For the Lord

As the liturgical year winds down, the scripture texts draw our attention to the ultimate winding down of our lives, and our world, and we are reminded that there will be a final reckoning. Each of us has been given unique gifts and abilities that we must put to the best possible use. Discovering our particular talents can be a delightful adventure; helping others to discover theirs is equally rewarding. But the real challenge lies in translating that delightful discovery into serious, practical service of God and others. This can be a rather risky enterprise. Sometimes our talents placed in the service of others are open to criticism, scrutiny and ridicule. Nevertheless, even if our efforts will never be acknowledged as eloquently as those of the worthy wife in the Proverbs reading, our belonging to Jesus calls forth our generosity and perseverance.

In all we are and all we do, we keep in mind that there is no room here for procrastination. God's gifts cannot be left on the shelf until we retire or find a more convenient moment. On the contrary, these gifts have a very short shelf life, and the precious fragility of life should spark a sense of immediacy that makes us willing to share our talents and ourselves now. Moreover, we are called to praise and foster the talents we see in others.

VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Catholic custom of lighting candles is rooted in Church teaching that Christ is the Light of the World. Candles serve as an outward sign of the light of faith burning in our hearts. They are our silent sentinels lifting up our prayer intentions to the Lord.



Remember to pray for the following intentions:

For Healing
For Mary Yargo
For Fuiesun Culy
For Decision To Move
For Linda Massengale
Please Pray For My Son
For Peace For My Family
For A New Home & Pay Bills
Pray For My Son, Dean Salazar
For Kendall Veazey to Fight Cancer
Successful Surgery For My Brother Dennis
Dear Lord Heal Me & My Mother of Cancer
Pray For The Soul Of My Deceased Husband, Mike
Please Pray For All My Children To Return To God
For Mental, Spiritual, Physical Health of Son-in-law
Pray For All My Extended Family To Be Safe & Healthy
Pray For All My Nieces & Nephews To Heal And Return to God

– Votive Candle Intentions to be continued

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Campaign For Human Development (CCHD)

The CCHD works to transform lives and communities, focusing steadily on breaking the cycle of poverty in thousands of communities across the U.S.

Please be generous.

Czech Christmas Mass Concert in Praha December 3rd, 3:00 p.m. Reception to Follow



To open this year's season of Advent, you are invited to a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to hear our *Česká mše vánoční* (Czech Christmas Mass) as it was performed on Christmas Eve 1796 in Rožmitál pod

Třemšínem (south Bohemia). This will be a historically accurate re-creation of that first performance, given by "a small handful of villagers, the organist's wife, and the organist himself singing from the keyboard," with the singers and musicians dressed in late 18th-century costume. The village priest offered a "fiery sermon" under the title *The Waste and Folly of the Season*; the performance will include a sermon similar to that which accompanied the first performance of the *Česká mše vánoční*, preached in the Czech language (English copies will be provided).

The performance will take place at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, December 3. A reception will follow with an opportunity to meet Mr. Zdeněk Beránek, Deputy Head of Mission at the Czech Embassy in Washington, D.C. This event is being sponsored by the Czech Educational Foundation of Texas in partnership with the College of Music at the University of North Texas. All are invited.

* *There is no charge to attend the Concert. A free-will offering will be taken up at the Concert for the St. Mary's, Praha Church Restoration Fund.*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



November 21 – Elmer Michna
– Susan Velasquez
November 24 – Nick Patalik

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



November 23 – Delia & Mike Moeller