

SUNDAY GOSPEL BIBLE SHARING



Wednesday Nov 6th for the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

OPENING PRAYER: Loving and gracious Lord, thank you for gathering us together. Bless our time together and open our minds and hearts to hear the Word you want us to hear in this time of faith-sharing and fellowship. This we pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

- In the words of Saint Benedict, “Listen with the ears of your heart.”
- Please note a word, phrase, or verse that seemed to really catch your notice.
- A volunteer slowly read aloud today’s passage Afterwards, we have a few minutes of silent reflection.

READING OF THE ASSIGNED GOSPEL ACCORDING TO Mark Mk 12:38-44

Denunciation of the Scribes.*

38 In the course of his teaching he said,^p “Beware of the scribes, who like to go around in long robes and accept greetings in the marketplaces,
39 seats of honor in synagogues, and places of honor at banquets.
40 They devour the houses of widows and, as a pretext, recite lengthy prayers. They will receive a very severe condemnation.”

The Poor Widow’s Contribution.*

41 He sat down opposite the treasury and observed how the crowd put money into the treasury.^q Many rich people put in large sums.
42 A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents.
43 Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, “Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury.
44 For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood.”

Notes * [12:38–40] See notes on Mk 7:1–23 and Mt 23:1–39.

*** [12:41–44] See note on Lk 21:1–4.**

QUESTIONS FOR SHARING

1. Placing one's total trust in God is very hard for the vast majority of us. What has helped or currently helps you to be trustful in difficult situations?
2. In the Gospel, Jesus condemns the Pharisees for seeking to take places of honor and draw attention to themselves. What word is at work in us when we seek attention? What can help us to do good without seeking attention or applause?
3. What helps you to be a good steward of your time, treasure and talent?
4. Name one thing today's Gospel says to us that we disciples of Jesus need to heed/act on.

Commentary

Jesus differentiates the false religious spirit with the true one. He does not condemn scribes who are the religious professionals, but he roundly denounces the ones who misuse their authority. He rebukes them for (1) their hunger for prominence, (2) their desire for deference, and (3) their propensity to use their position for self-gain and self-advancement. In stark difference to these false disciples, there is the poor widow who seeks no attention and is a wonderful example of sacrificial giving. Mark tells us that Jesus wants to make sure that his disciples notice the generosity of the poor widow: "Jesus calls his disciples to himself. 'Look, she has given more than all the rest. For they all contributed from their surplus wealth while she gave from her poverty.'" Jesus is not telling us to bankrupt ourselves and put all our money in the next collection. But he is holding up the poor widow as a symbol of faithful discipleship, an example of one who has

radical trust in God care for all her needs. The sacrificial giving spirit of the poor widow also symbolizes Jesus who sacrificed all for us. In today's lesson on true discipleship, Jesus tells us that true disciples never seek to draw attention to themselves. Rather, they are known for their spirit of sacrificial giving to God and others.

IS THERE A CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE THIS WEEK?

IS THERE A PRAYER REQUEST YOU HAVE?

CLOSING PRAYER - The Lord's Prayer

Bible Sharing Parish Hall and Zoom
Wednesday, Nov 6 6:30 – 7:30pm
Weekly on Wednesday
Zoom Meeting

Description: Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Blessed Sacrament's Zoom Meeting
Time: Nov 6, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZolduisqDosEg23wHRoszXqNBSkCL57ORPg/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhpjorHtKTthCORpx5Goj4d-jwpiFdj_oPzwjNMS9AeDvnGMBxOZFTRY

Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85136740699?pwd=Q2pXLzdzZFdNNU1NajVpeEtKUohJQT09>

Meeting ID: 811 6265 5618
Passcode: 280607