

September 18, 2016

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

From the Desk of Rev. Msgr. Hugh J. Corrigan:

Similar to last week's Gospel, our Gospel this week praises unethical behavior. Why would such a story be included in the Gospel of Luke? I don't know. Maybe the early church, in trying to raise money to keep themselves going, knew that some of its members were naïve about financial realities. It is the equivalent to today's "Do you think money grows on trees?" It also might be that some people saw no need to raise or save money because the Kingdom of God was about to happen at any moment.

Our first reading reminds us of our obligation to help others less fortunate than us. As a parish we might have the opportunity to help refugees by providing or finding homes for them to live in. I have been contacted by Catholic Charities but I have not received any details. I will keep you informed.

My book on the history of our parish has received very good reviews. It has also received great publicity from articles in Catholic New York and the Journal News. People are not only ordering books by mail but are also sending me stories about their families' history in St. Mary's. Some go back as far as 1848. All the proceeds from the sale of the book go to the repair of the Stained Glass Windows.

Update on my scientific reading: I found a good description of gravitational waves that hold the universe together and allow it to expand. Gravitational waves are so tiny they pass through our bodies without us ever noticing them. They are so tiny that to measure their oscillation would be like measuring the distance between here and the nearest star with a single human hair. Scientists were pretty sure that they existed but were unable to detect them until last year (September 14, 2015). It has opened up a new window on the universe e.g. black holes.

Thank you to the Spanish Community who raised \$2820.00, for the parish in honor of the Cuban fest of Our Lady of Caridad de Cobre.

Congratulations. We surpassed our 2016 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal. Our goal was \$31,500.00 we have raised \$32,389.00 so far and have pledged another \$9,000.00

Parking for Sunday Masses is available at the Cacace Justice Center Public Parking site across from the Church. It is free on Sundays.



COLLECTION: the collection for last Sunday September 11, 2016 was \$4,024. The second collection this Sunday, September 18 will be the Collection for St. Joseph's Seminary and Cathedral Prep.

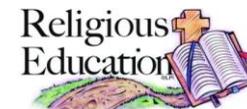
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: As we gather here on the Lord's Day, we will hear once again how we need to lesson our attachment to our possessions. While we can learn to use them to serve God, we must not allow ourselves to become slaves to them. Jesus says, "You cannot serve both God and mammon". May our prayers today be for the grace to do what God is asking us to do.

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7 (page 39) – greed drives some people to oppress others; but God cares for the poor and the lowly, for God cannot forget the sin of those who cheat the poor.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 113 (page 39-40) - "Praise the Lord, who lifts up the poor".

Second Reading 1 Timothy 2:1-8 (page 40) Paul instruction to Timothy is that prayers should be offered for all, for the Lord wants all to be saved.

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13 (page 40-41) –Jesus encouraged his disciples to have and enterprising spirit. He also warned them: "No servant can serve two masters...You cannot serve both God and mammon".



Religious Education News:

Classes have started on Saturdays at 9:30am to 11:00am (children should line up in the Parish Hall by 9:20 am).



Msgr. Corrigan's Book on the History of our Parish: Is on sale in the rectory Monday to Friday and Saturday and Sunday after the Masses. The cost of the book is \$30.00 as a Donation to the Church. If you would like it mailed to you there is an additional \$5.00 fee for the postage.