

PARISH CALENDAR

Twenty-fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

September 22, 2019

I will be your God, forever!

Saturday, Sep 21	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, Sep 22	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 10:45 a. m.	Religious Education
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, Sep 23	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
	.... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, Sep 24	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
Wednesday, Sep 25	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Communion Service
	.... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, Sep 26	..... 10:30 a. m.	Funeral Service - Gilbert Q (+)
	..... 5:30 p. m.	Feeding Menu - Hamburger Curry
Friday, Sep 27	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, Sep 28	.... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Amos:6:1a, 4-7: Woe to the complacent!

1 Timothy: 6:11-16: How to live until the end comes.

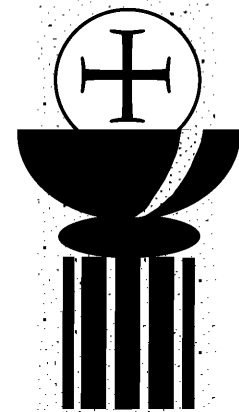
Luke:16:19-31: A warning to those who ignore the need of others

Amos cared a lot. He lived in Israel sometime near but before 750 B.C., in a time of a growing prosperity that was achieved at the cost of the powerless poor. And Amos was blunt. He reminded the rich that he saw their greed. They could hardly bear to waste a day resting on the Sabbath, could hardly wait to measure grain using the illegal ephah measure. They could hardly wait to lighten the weight of the shekel, could hardly wait to weight the grain with chaff. Amos rages against such wholesale greed and promises that such injustice will not be forgotten in heaven. To make a buck is one thing, Amos is saying. To make it on the backs of the helpless is quite another. Such avarice harms both the greedy and the poor. Both are ground down and rendered impotent in their ability to seek and serve God. One is weighted by selfishness, the other crushed by poverty. Money or the desire for money then becomes an idol for both, turning both away from justice and from God.

In the second reading, Paul reminds us of our charge and duty to pray. Notice that Paul's roster of those who have a claim on our prayers is analogous to the form of our own general intercessions (prayers of the faithful) as found in the Eucharistic liturgy. Paul, however, is not offering a format for liturgical prayer, but a call to more expansive prayer, prayer that should mark the daily life of Christians within and without the liturgy.

In the Gospel, Jesus describes the wholehearted effort of a crafty servant who sees "downsizing" heading his way. The wily fellow greases the skids, as it were, and through a series of fabrications creates his own golden parachute. Jesus finds him a marvel and puzzles over why such cleverness is limited to the world of commerce. Jesus wonders why those who seek a "position" in the reign of God lack such wit and wherewithal. Jesus commends the manager for being astute enough to use what was entrusted to him in a way that ensured his future. As Christians, we want to ensure our futures as well. Jesus is urging us to use what has been entrusted to us to do just that. But Jesus also urges us to recognize that the treasure we've been given stewardship over is not one that can be bartered away—only given away, given and shared freely with others, just as it has been given and shared freely with us.

It's important to note that the Gospel addresses the steward's ingenuity—his focused, farsighted, clever, unflinching plan. Likewise, it's also worth noting that in biblical times the manager of a household was often a slave who had earned his august role and who, if he guarded the owner's fortune, was pretty much free to wheel and deal, skim and connive. The crafty manager in today's reading did just that, winning in the bargain the loyalty and gratitude of the creditors and leaving his master's fortune intact



This is the
BREAD
of LIFE
and the
CUP of
SALVATION

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

40 DAYS FOR LIFE campaign begins on **September 25** and runs through **November 3**. Please pray for the end to the injustice of abortion and for the past victims of abortion. The "opening rally" and prayers are on **Saturday, Sept 28** beginning at 9AM on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood at 839 S. Beretania in Honolulu. Please join if you can. If you cannot attend, your prayers offered from wherever you are would be greatly appreciated. This is an international event

WORD OF LIFE: "Suicidal individuals—with our without a terminal illness—typically do not want to die. . . . The patient requesting assisted suicide is often asking, "Does anyone want me to be alive, or care enough to talk me out of this request and support me through this difficult time?" *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Every Suicide is Tragic"*

WEEKLY READINGS

Sep 22 Sun: 25TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amos:8:4-7; Ps:113; 1 Tim:2:1-8; Lk:16:1-13

Sep 23 Mon: Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Ezra:1:1-6; Ps:126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6; Lk:8:16-18

Sep 24 Tue: Ordinary Weekday

Ezra:6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps:122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Lk:8:19-21

Sep 25 Wed: Ordinary Weekday

Ezra:9:5--; Tob:13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8; Lk:9:1-6

Sep 26 Thur: Ordinary Weekday

Haggai:1:1-8; Ps:149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a, 9b; Lk:9:7-9

Sep 27 Fri: Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

Haggai:2:1-9; Ps:43: 1, 2, 3, 4; Lk:9:18-22

Sep 28 Sat: Ordinary Weekday

Zech:2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer:31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Lk:9:43b-45

Justice

The first and third readings of today's liturgy speak messages of justice. And their loudest message is that God alone is true justice. This is good news, but it is not comforting. Once again, the liturgy is challenging our comfort and complacency, our lukewarm ways, our sloppy stewardship.

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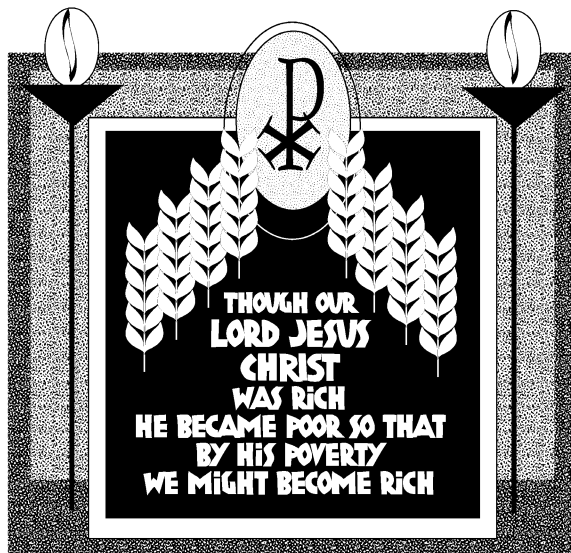
NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

In Jesus' parable of the Unjust Steward, we encounter a financial manager who has wasted his master's wealth and faces dismissal from his position. To overcome the crisis confronting him, the steward reduces some very considerable debts owed by poor neighbors to his master in order to help them out. Though the steward has sinned against god and his maser by squandering what belongs to someone else, both the prudent way in which he goes about resolving the crisis coupled with relieving people who are in need can be seen as a way to better steward the gifts entrusted to us by God. Although good stewards today acknowledge that they may never use their God-given gifts in a way that completely conforms to the demands of the Gospel, a commitment to using their gifts with prudence and for the purpose of helping their neighbors wins god's favor. (International Catholic Stewardship Council)

REFLECTION

It seems that we who seek the kingdom of God in the company of our friends need to be as focused and as careful as the steward in today's Gospel story. We need to assess the gifts we have and then spend them thoughtfully. Our goal is not to secure wealth, but to secure life with God. The gifts we have are to be spent and shared where they will do the most good and where they will yield the most benefits.

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