

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT

An Allegory has a hidden spiritual meaning. It transcends the literal sense of a sacred text. It's a story that points to something else. In the case of the Gospel, Jesus uses an allegory. He tells us a story of the deceitful business practices of a dishonest steward to make a point about the reign of God.

During the time of Jesus, there were rich masters and poor stewards. Masters made daily payments to their stewards, provided them with housing, built temples for them, and fed them. In return, the stewards were indebted to their masters. The steward in the Gospel was lazy. He was totally dependent on his rich master. He squandered his property and money. Then after his master chastised him, he used dishonest business practices when reducing the loans of the master's other stewards. Surprisingly, the rich master commended him.

Jesus meant the immoral business story to point to something else. It points to something heavenly that transcends mere earthly practices.

When the master fired the steward, the steward became worried and took action. He secured a new role for himself. By decreasing those merchant's loans, the steward became their new master. Believe it or not, in those days, this was common practice. The steward was trying to survive in a world full of corruption, deceit, and dishonesty. The steward had a conversion experience. He stopped being fraudulent and dishonest and became wise and perceptive. The steward was quick thinking. He was realistic in assessing his situation. He was resourceful in acting to secure his future. He needed a sharp, quick, and ingenious response to survive.

Here is the allegory. The Gospel demands a similarly sharp response. We are desperate people. We are all urgently in need of God's grace. God is calling us to be more than stewards, but masters! A master or patron is a person chosen by God to be a special protector of God's people, a guardian of our beliefs and faith, and a supporter of good.

The Gospel inspires us to decide without hesitation to do the right thing, the good thing, and the just thing. We must transform ourselves from being lazy stewards to be the masters God called us to be.

A master is creative. Think of new ways to incorporate God into your life, like praying every day and asking the Holy Spirit to guide your relationships.

Masters are resourceful with time, food, and money. They do not waste food, do not over extend themselves, and budget their money. Masters are realistic. They realize that they are totally dependent on God for everything and humble themselves accordingly.

Secure your future living with God forever in heaven. Struggle with lying and try to stop. Struggle with being wasteful and try to stop. Struggle with gossip, and try to stop. Take control of your spiritual lives. Today, start making that transformation from dishonest lazy stewards to wise, prudent, moral, and honest masters.

STEWARDSHIP

Sept. 15, 2013	\$6,380.85	Online	\$1,305.00
Last Year	\$6,197.10	Online	\$105.00
Blue Env. New Sign	\$0.00	Online	\$110.00
Fr. Emmanuel	\$2,440.85		

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Sept. 23

Ezr 1:1-6 Ps126:1-6 Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday Sept. 24

Ezr 6:7-8,12b,14-20 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday Sept. 25

Ezr 9:5-9 (ps) Tb 13:2-4,7-8 Lk 9:1-6

Thursday Sept. 26

Hg 1:1-8 Ps 149:1-6a,9b Lk 9:7-9

Friday Sept. 27

Hg 2:1-9 Ps 43:1-4 Lk 9:18-22

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday

Sept. 21

5:00pm

+ Michael & Margaret Lajcsak

Sunday

Sept. 22

9:00am

For the People of the Parish

11:30am

Monday

Sept. 23

9:00am

Tuesday

Sept. 24

9:00am

+ Dennis Molepske

Wednesday

Sept. 25

9:00am

Thursday

Sept. 26

9:00am

+ Dennis Molepske

Friday

Sept. 27

9:00am



FAITH FORMATION

Classes for Faith Formation and Confirmation will resume September 22. Registration is on line. We are looking for a 3rd grade catechist. If you would like more information, contact the office.

1ST RECONCILIATION

Classes began Saturday, September 7 at 3pm in the All Saints Center. Students must also register in Faith Formation classes that begin Sept. 22 at 10am.

CONFIRMATION YEAR 1

Parents, candidates, and sponsors for the Year 1 class must attend a meeting on Sept. 22 at 1pm in the Social Hall.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

What is the feast of Saint Padre Pio?

MINISTRY TRAINING

On October 12, Valley parishes will gather for ministry training: Eucharistic Ministers, Homebound Eucharist, Hospitality, Servers, Music, Linens, Art & Environment and Lectors. Please join us.

WHY CATHOLIC

Small faith groups will be forming for 6 sessions that focus on prayer and how God communicates with us. Pray is one of the four pillars of the Sacred Scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. For more information Jacque Briskey at countess@gci.net

OLV & KNIGHTS

OLV would like to thank the Knights of Columbus Arctic Madonna Council for donating 50% of the proceeds from last weekend's breakfast to the school. This was in addition to a donation of \$1500 to the school's scholarship fund from the Knights. Thank you gentleman!

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The 5pm Mass still has a chance to attend the first Steak Dinner fundraiser of the school year on Sept. 21st at the American Legion. Students will present the "Nifty Fifty Pageant" for diners.

The collection for Catholic schools by the Archdiocese is this weekend. You are invited to support any of the five catholic schools in the Archdiocese or an endowment fund for scholarships. If you would like your gift to go to Our Lady of the Valley, you must check our box on the envelope. Alternatively, you may make a donation directly to OLV in October when we kick off our Faith and Knowledge Fund drive (formerly known as the annual appeal or annual fund). Your support of Catholic Education is greatly appreciated.

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 21 OLV Steak Dinner—American Legion
Reconciliation Class 3-4:30pm All Saints
- 22 Faith Formation begins
Confirmation Year 1 Meeting 1pm Social Hall
Catholic Schools Collection
- 23 Centering Prayer 6:30pm
- 26 Rosary 7pm
- 28 Reconciliation Class 3-4:30pm All Saints
- 28 Youth Mass 5pm
- 28/29 Debra Lighthart—Rosaries & Gifts

OCTOBER

- 5 ACTS Oktoberfest
- 6 Middle School Sandwiches for Br. Francis
- 12 Ministry Training

OLV VENDOR FAIR—NOVEMBER 9

The OLV Parent Volunteer Organization (PVO) vendor fair is Saturday, November 9th. If you are a home demonstrator and would like to purchase a table please contact Donna Green 373-1310 or Karena Forster 354-6824. All proceeds will help fund student activities. Thank you for your support!

OKTOBERFEST—OCTOBER 5

The whole family is invited to the Oktoberfest and Silent Auction on October 5 from 6-8pm in the Social Hall for music, food, and fun. Pre-order forms will be available September 21/22 and 28/29.

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS

Our gluten free hosts are made by the Benedictine Sisters using a formulation that fully complies with the requirements of Canon Law. Please contact hospitality or Fr Scott before Mass if you have wheat gluten intolerance.

FOOD PANTRY

Items needed:
toilet paper,
flour, sugar,
cereal, oatmeal,
all kinds of baby food
357-3769

THANK YOU

Fr. Emmanuelle extends his deepest thanks for the gracious and kind reception he received at Sacred Heart. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

FUNERAL MINISTRY NOTE

We are in the process of compiling a cookbook of the excellent casseroles, special salads, and delectable desserts served at our funeral receptions. We invite all to contribute their recipes to Sharon or Judy as soon as possible. We would like an entry from every one you!!

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Children must be supervised and accompanied to the rest rooms by an adult.