St Bernadette Catholic Church 3825 Don Felipe Drive Los Angeles , CA 90008 (323) 293-4877 stbernadettela.org



November 18/19.2023 Volume 3, Issue 45

# What does Matthew 25:29 mean? "For whoever has been given more will be given..."

Some have called this principle, detailed by Jesus, the "kingdom rule." He also describes it in Matthew when the disciples asked Him why He teaches the crowds in parables instead of explaining the truth to them in detail. It is found in Matthew 13:11–12, where it reads very much like this verse: "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away." Within the context of this parable, the principle makes even more sense. The one with ten talents has been the most productive with what he has been given by the master (Matthew 25:16). The one with one talent did absolutely nothing with it. If the master wants the most gain from his investment, he should take the one talent and give it to the one who has the most. The principle illustrates an important truth for followers of Jesus: It matters that we make something of what He gives to us for His good. It matters both to us and to Him. Those who trust in Jesus,

work for Jesus (John 14:15). Those who work for Jesus are rewarded with more opportunities to serve Him and make good use of what they have been given. Those who refuse to work for Him, on the other hand, are just pretending to be His servants (Matthew 25:30).



### The Origins of Thanksgiving

The heart of Christian worship takes its name from the Greek word "Eucharist," which means "thanksgiving." Thanksgiving is a significant aspect of what the Mass is about. There is no separation of church and state when Thanksgiving is considered. Citizens of the United States have celebrated Thanksgiving, at least informally, since before the country's inception. The Mass and Thanksgiving Day, remind us, we must give thanks. What is the reason for our thanksgiving? None of us is self-made and unwilling to declare ourselves a cosmic accident, we turn to the Author of "all that is" and say "thanks". In the face of a gift which cannot be matched in return, all one can do is be grateful." Our last words at Mass are: "Thanks be to God." Gratitude to God shapes our lives, from



beginning to end. Each moment is a gift; each event unfolds under God's loving providence." The challenge for Christians today is to <u>live each day</u> in recognition all is gift — chief among which is our salvation. In 1789, George Washington declared a day of thanksgiving to acknowledge "the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor."



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God Isn't Asking You to Figure it Out? He's Asking you to Trust He Already Has.

# The Dedication of the Basilicas of St Peter and St Paul, St. Peter's is probably the most famous church in

**Christendom.** Massive in scale and a veritable museum of art and architecture, it began on a much humbler scale. Vatican Hill was a simple cemetery where believers gathered at Saint Peter's tomb to pray. In 319, Constantine built a basilica on the site that stood for more than a thousand years until, despite numerous restorations, it threatened to collapse. In 1506, Pope Julius II ordered it razed and reconstructed, but the new basilica was not completed and dedicated for more than two centuries.



St. Paul's Outside-the-Walls stands near the Abaazia delle Tre Fontane, where Saint Paul is believed to have been beheaded. The largest church in Rome until St. Peter's was rebuilt, the basilica also rises over the traditional site of its namesake's grave. The most recent edifice was constructed after a fire in 1823. The first basilica was also Constantine's doing. Constantine's building projects enticed the first of a centuries-long parade of pilgrims to Rome. From the time the basilicas were first built until the empire crumbled under "barbarian" invasions, the two churches, although miles apart, were linked by a roofed colonnade of marble columns. Reflection: Peter, the rough fisherman whom Jesus named the rock on which the Church is built, and the educated Paul, reformed persecutor of Christians, Roman citizen, and missionary to the gentiles, are the original odd couple. The major similarity in their faith-journeys is the journey's end: both, according to tradition, died a martyr's death in Rome—Peter on a cross and Paul beneath the sword. Their combined gifts shaped the early Church and believers have prayed at their tombs from the earliest days.

Join us for Bible Study

1st and 3rd Thursday 1:00 & 7:00 PM Via ZOOM

1:00 pm Meeting ID: 87233018319 Passcode: 689472

Contact: Carolyn James (323) 394-5441

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7:00 pm Meeting ID 811 5705 8134 Passcode: 6FuFf7

Contact: Elsie Dixon (310) 410-2962



### Parable of the Talents The

"Parable of the Talents" (Matthew 25:14–30) tells of a master who was leaving his house to travel, and, before leaving, entrusted his property to his servants. According to the abilities of each man, one servant received five talents, the second had



received two, and the third received only one. The property entrusted to the three servants was worth eight talents, where a talent was a significant amount of money. Upon returning home, after a long absence, the master asks his three servants for an account of the talents he entrusted to them. The first and the second servants explain they each put their talents to work, and have doubled the value of the property with which they were entrusted; each servant was rewarded. Jesus told this parable because he was near Jerusalem and his disciples thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately. Traditionally, the parable of the talents has been seen as an exhortation to Jesus' disciples to use their God-given gifts in the service of God, and to take risks for the sake of the Kingdom of God. These "gifts" include personal abilities ("talents" in the everyday sense), as well as personal wealth. Failure to use one's gifts, the parable suggests, will result in negative judgment. The first two servants are able to see God in a positive perception, as understanding, generous, and kind, while the third servant sees God as harsh, demanding, and critical.

## Children's Christmas Eve Choir

Calling all children! We need your angelic voices for our Children's Christmas Choir. Children's choir rehearsal will take place after the 10:00 am Mass in the sanctuary choir area. The Children's Choir Performs every year at the 7:00 pm Christmas Eve mass. For more information contact the Parish Office (323) 293-4877



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ALL YOU NEED DO IS: DONATE ALL OR PART OF THE (ONE TIME) WEEKLY COST TO THE CHURCH, WE TAKE CARE OF THE REST. FOR DETAILS CALL THE PARISH OFFICE at (323)293-4877

<u>Call Out for New Altar Servers:</u> Anyone interested in becoming an Altar Server, Please see Deacon Jim after Mass or call the Parish Office at (323)293-4877. If you have already completed training, please contact the Parish Office at the Phone# above to schedule your alb fitting!

## Why Do We Celebrate the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Scholars debate the authenticity of the feast of the Presentation of Mary, which finds its origin in the apocryphal work *The Protoevangelium of James*. The Marian biographies published by Maximus the Confessor, Venerable Maria of Agreda and Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich, each give an account of Mary's presentation in the temple at the age of 3. Why do we celebrate Mary's presentation? The answer is straightforward: The life of Mary provides an example for us, especially in our own spiritual lives. Christians can appropriate spiritual insights for ourselves from the feast of Mary's Presentation. The Presentation of Mary reminds us we can go on a pilgrimage of thanksgiving, to give thanks to God for a blessing received. In their gratitude, Joachim and Anne pledged to dedicate Mary to God and give her to His service in the temple. To carry this out, it meant they had to make sacrifice and go on pilgrimage.

## Worried About "Keeping Christ in Christmas? Here are Six Simple "Rhythms" for Advent to Get you Started.

- **1.** Use a short advent bible study/devotional plan as a focus for each day. (This might mean pausing other books you are reading or audio books your listening to, and reading some advent related content instead.)
- 2. Light a simple advent candle at your family evening meal each day (it's also a good time to pray)
- **3. Keep a daily gratitude list in a journal or on your phone.** (set a goal to write three different things each day)
- 4. Work through the Christmas nativity story as bedtime reading (There is so many wonderful resources available to help really bring this story alive for kids even kids with short attention spans.)
- **5. Start off the season with some giving** This might be making Christmas cookies and blessing elderly neighbors with them)
- 6. **Make some extra space** (whether it be in your home or in your heart).





LITURGY SCHEDULE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023 TO SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023

Monday, November 20, 2023 8:00 Communion Service Live-Streamed and In-Person

Tuesday, November 21, 2023
Presentation of Mary
8:00 Communion Service
Live-Streamed and In-Person

Wednesday, Nov 22, 2023 8:00 am Mass Live-Streamed and In-Person

\*Thursday, Nov 23, 2023
Thanksgiving Day
8:00 am Mass
Live-Streamed and In-Person

Friday, Nov 24, 2023 8:00 am Mass Live-Streamed and In-Person

> \*Saturday, Nov 25, 2023 3:00 pm Reconciliation 4:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, Nov. 26, 2023

Jesus Christ,

King of the Universe
10:00 am Mass

Coffee & Donuts

Parish Hall

Following Mass

Other Sacraments
(as Scheduled)

Mass Intentions
(323) 293-4877
j.carper.sbcc@gmail.com

\*LOTW: Liturgy of the Word

#### **PARISH STAFF**

DCN JIM CARPER, PLD
MSGR LORETO GONZALES
FR MARCELLINUS MBATA
DCN EMILE ADAMS, RIP
DAVID CHRISTENSEN
EMANUEL HOLDER
CLARENCE DIXON
MARGARITA HURST
MARINA AYALA

(OFFICE VOLUNTEERS) TERESA CARPER

## 1 Corinthians 15:58

Oh Lord, help every worker to work wholeheartedly for the church. Help them to remember the work they do in the church is not in vain as Your Word declares Your work is never wasted.

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Website stbernadettela.org

Facebook https://www.facebook.com/ SaintBernadetteCatholicChurch

Twitter
https://twitter.com/stbernadettecc\_



### Mass Intentions: November 18 to November 24, 2023

Saturday 4:00 pm Camille East Long

Sunday 10:00 am
Phillip Jolivette (RIP)
Elisha Telfort

Requesting a Mass Intention?

Contact the Parish Office (323) 293-4877

## November 18-19||

Holiday hugs and boundaries As children get older, they need to understand not just the rules of social interaction but why people act (or don't act) these ways. Children need to know how to set their own boundaries. The approaching holidays are a great time to discuss these boundaries and how to express them politely. Talk to your children about whether they would like to give hugs to family members, whether they

want to give or receive any other forms of affection. For more information, read the article "Teaching Kids about Boundaries" at <a href="https://childmind.org/article/teaching-kids-boundaries-empathy/">https://childmind.org/article/teaching-kids-boundaries-empathy/</a>.



