

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
Resp. Psalm: Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Gospel: Matthew 25: 14-30

[Full readings can be found here!](#)

1. HEAR

Pick up your bible and look up the Gospel reading. Don't have one? No worries; you can find the Gospel reading by clicking [HERE](#).

(Bishop O'Connell's Gospel Reflection page.)

As an alternative to reading the Gospel, you can watch a short video with the proclamation for adults by clicking [HERE](#).

(YouTube, Lumo Project Films channel, 2:54 min)

Children can also watch a video proclamation of the Gospel by clicking [HERE](#).

(YouTube, Daniel England Ministries channel, 3:22 min)

2. PRAY

In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus tell the "Parable of the Talents". He wants to remind us that each of us has received many and different talents from God that we are called to put to good service on behalf of others in our lives. His story shows the different ways in which one person can decide to utilize the talents he/she received.

Invite your family or a friend to sit down in a quiet meditative room in your home. To begin, someone from the group calls on Jesus to be present during this time of prayer.

In silence, each person prays to the Holy Spirit for the inspiration to become a better steward of the gifts and talents God has graced you with. You may invite all to consider writing down some of the gifts you possess. *(For any children present, ask them to draw or paint what they think are their gifts.)*

After some quiet time, someone directs the group by asking these questions out loud:

Do you have the gift of a compassionate, loving heart? Are you a good listener? Are you patient and kind with others? Are you a good teacher? Do you offer to give of your time to charity and service to others? (Continue with more silence after the questions have been stated.)

After this time of reflection and prayer, what is a concrete way you may choose to serve Jesus better in your family, the world, and in your community? Consider committing to share your gifts and talents on a daily basis in order to be a witness of Jesus' love to all those you encounter.

3. TALK

Continue this reflection by inviting the group to identify the gifts or talents they see in each family member or friend. Ask each person to write them down. (You may play instrumental music during this time.)

To begin sharing, ask a family member or friend to select another person from the group to tell them what gifts and talents they see in them. When done, that person who received the affirmation shares the gifts her or she identified about themselves during their praying time.

Do they match? Are the gifts someone else named the same as what the person identified during his/her prayer? Does this affirm what he/she sees in themselves and what others see in them? Is there something new each person discovered about themselves through this conversation? Is Jesus asking each one to explore and expand their gifts and talents?

Once each person has been affirmed in their gifts, it will help them identify where Jesus is calling them to share their gifts.

