

SAINT MICHAEL PARISH
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS
1876–2026
HUDSON, MASSACHUSETTS



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
JULY 26, 2026

PARISH DIRECTORY

Clergy

Parish Administrator

Rev. Bertrand Proulx
Fr.Bert@stmikes.org

Deacon

Deacon Jared Auclair
Deacon_Jared@stmikes.org
Tel. 603-682-8722

Deacon Charles Rossignol
Deacon_Chuck@stmikes.org

Weekend Assistant

Rev. Valdir Lima

Staff

Administrative Assistant

Hannah Smillie
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HelenMarie Choiniere |
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Pastoral Assistant

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Business Manager

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Director of Sacred Music

Paula Lowell | Paula@stmikes.org

Facilities Staff Cemetery Staff

Antonio Gonçalves Steve Geldart
Francisco Pinheiro Kevin Blanchard

Parish Office

20 High St., Hudson, MA 01749
Open Wed/Thu/Fri,
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Tel. 978-562-2552 | www.stmikes.org

Parish Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council helps Fr. Bert with practical parish matters. Please send ideas, talent, expertise or feedback to
PastoralCouncil@stmikes.org.
Note: this email is checked weekly and the PPC meets every 6-8 weeks. For immediate pastoral needs, contact the appropriate clergy or staff above.

St. Vincent de Paul

Tel. 978-618-6328
sudp.hudsonma@gmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass: English

4:00 p.m. (Saturday Vigil)
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Mass: Portuguese

9:15 a.m. Chapel
11:30 a.m. Chapel (*Brazilian*)

Daily Mass: English

Wed-Sat. | 9:00 a.m.

Daily Mass: Portuguese

Mon | 7:00 p.m. Chapel (*Brazilian*)

CONFESSION & ADORATION

Mondays: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Confession
(*Portuguese/Brazilian*)

First Fridays: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Adoration Only

Saturdays: 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Confession & Adoration
Confession also available after most Masses by appointment.

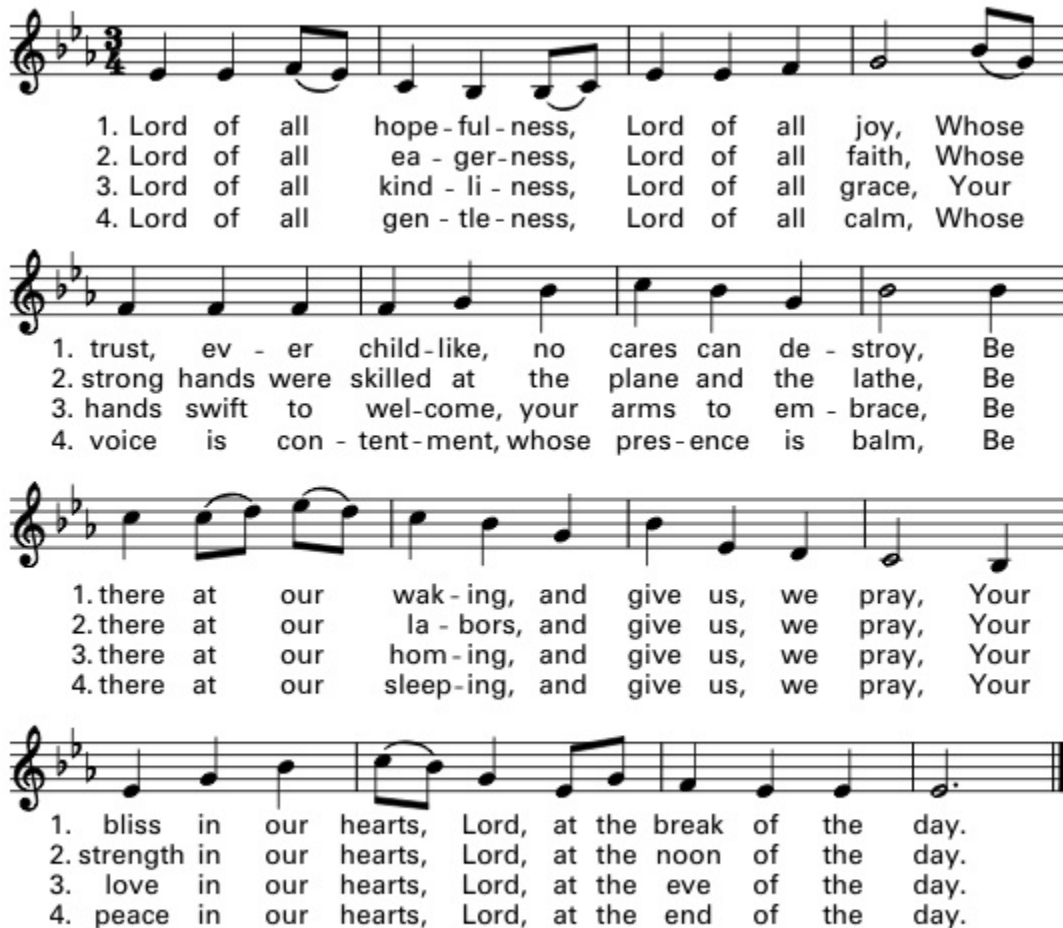
The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 26th, 2026

Processional Hymn:

LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS

SLANE



1. Lord of all hope-ful-ness, Lord of all joy, Whose
2. Lord of all ea-ger-ness, Lord of all faith, Whose
3. Lord of all kind-li-ness, Lord of all grace, Your
4. Lord of all gen-tle-ness, Lord of all calm, Whose

1. trust, ev-er child-like, no cares can de-stroy, Be
2. strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, Be
3. hands swift to wel-come, your arms to em-brace, Be
4. voice is con-tent-ment, whose pres-ence is balm, Be

1. there at our wak-ing, and give us, we pray, Your
2. there at our la-bors, and give us, we pray, Your
3. there at our hom-ing, and give us, we pray, Your
4. there at our sleep-ing, and give us, we pray, Your

1. bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
2. strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
3. love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
4. peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: 10 11 11 12; 'Lord of all hopefulness', words by Jan Struther, 1901-1953; fr. Enlarged Songs of Praise, 1931.
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Music: Trad. Irish melody; adapt. fr. The Church Hymnary, 1927.

Offertory Hymn: Seek Ye First

(by Karen Lafferty)

Verse 1: Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Verse 2: Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find;
knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Verse 3: You do not live by bread alone, but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

Communion Hymn: Missal #238 Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All

Hymn of Praise:

O HOW BLESSED (THE BEATITUDES)

Dan Schutte

Verses



1. O how blessed are the poor in spir - it, the
2. O how blessed are the meek and low - ly, for
3. O how blessed are the pure of heart, for
4. O how blessed those who fight for peace, the

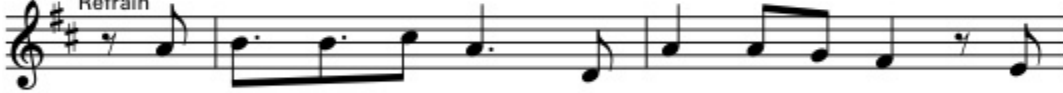


1. king - dom of God is theirs. O how blessed those who
2. they shall pos - sess the earth. O how blessed those who
3. they shall be - hold God's face. O how blessed those who
4. chil - dren of God are they. O how blessed those de -



1. dwell in sor - row, they sure - ly will be con - soled.
2. thirst for jus - tice, they sure - ly will have their fill.
3. mend with mer - cy, for - give - ness is their re - ward.
4. spised and hat - ed, who bear it be - cause of me.

Refrain



Re - joice and be glad, be - loved of the Lord, the



king - dom of heav - en is yours. The first shall be last, the



last shall be first, for such is the wis - dom of God.

Text: Based on Matthew 5:3-12. Text and music © 2015, Daniel L. Schutte.
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Prayer to St. Michael The Archangel (all): See the back cover of the Missal.

Recessional Hymn: Missal #386 To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King

Music used with permission under One License #A-612673.



The last few weeks the Gospel has presented several parables Jesus used to teach the people. These parables were meant, I believe, to be used to help the ordinary people of the world, like you and me, understand what Jesus was preaching. I always find it interesting to try to translate these parables from 2,000 years ago to today, a world not driven by farming and fishing, but instead driven by technology and innovation (at least in our part of the world).

The Gospel of Matthew this week presents four distinct parables: the Hidden Treasure, the Pearl of Great Price, the Net and the Sorting, and the Householder. We interpret these passages as illustrating the supreme value of the Kingdom of God, the ultimate judgment of humanity, and the duty to share both the Old and New Testaments. This week's first reading sets the stage. When God appears to Solomon in a dream and offers him whatever he wishes, Solomon asks not for a long life, nor for riches, nor for the defeat of his enemies, but for an understanding heart to know what is right. In a sense, Solomon has already found the treasure buried in the field and the pearl of great price; and he chooses it above everything else the world could offer. Let's briefly look at these four parables.

The Parable of the Hidden Treasure. Here Jesus talks about the Kingdom of Heaven as a hidden treasure in a field. Upon discovering this treasure, the man sells everything to acquire that treasure. Would we sell all we had to acquire that treasure? It's an interesting question to

think about in the context of what the man 2,000 years ago had versus what we have today, even the basic necessities of indoor plumbing, electricity, and the like. I'd like to think I'd sell all to acquire the treasure, but put in the reality of that moment, would I? In considering this question, and this parable, we need to remember that the Kingdom of Heaven surpasses all our worldly possessions and is the ultimate riches. We need to recognize the ultimate worth of the Kingdom of God and surrender all we have, placing God above all else in our lives, in our hearts.

The Pearl of Great Price. In this parable the merchant is searching for a pearl of great price that Jesus is comparing to the Kingdom of Heaven. First, let's consider the searching. Are we searching for such a pearl? I would argue, if you recall my column from last week, that sometimes we are and sometimes we aren't. We should strive to always be searching. When the merchant finds this pearl, he sells all to possess it. Perhaps this seems a little more palatable to us to sell everything to have such a precious pearl. But is it for the pearl itself, or for the Kingdom of God? Nothing can compare to the joy and fulfillment this pearl can bring, but it has to be for the right reasons, for the Kingdom of God.

The Net and the Sorting. In this parable, Jesus refers to the fishing net cast into the seas, gathering fish of every kind, as the Kingdom of Heaven. The net catches all fish, and we should remember to cast our net broadly and to catch all fish (both as individuals and as a Parish). It is not our job to do the sorting, but that of God. When the net is full the good fish are kept, and the bad ones are cast out. This reminds us to live virtuous and good lives, but not only good lives; ones rooted in our Catholic faith. Our actions have consequences and we must strive to live in accordance with God's commandments. Are we living according to God's will and leaving judgment to him?

The Householder. In this parable, Jesus compares the scribe trained for the kingdom of heaven to a householder who brings both new and old treasures. When I hear "scribe," I think of learning and teaching. This parable emphasizes the importance of understanding God's teachings in the broader context of God's revelation. We have the scriptures, we have tradition, we have the Magisterium; we are called to continuously engage with these and to learn, to deepen our wisdom and faith. Yes, even to ask questions. Is this something that we do? If so, do we apply what we learn to our lives, or just set it aside?

I think it is important to reflect on these parables. In so doing, we should remember that the Kingdom of God is not some arbitrary thing. It is real. It is now. Here we hear the echo of this week's second reading, in which Saint Paul assures us that "all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose". Even when our searching falters, God is still at work, calling us, shaping us, and conforming us to the image of his Son. The sorting of the net, the worth of the treasure, the value of the pearl: all of it rests in his hands and his plan. We should keep our hearts open to the Holy Spirit to guide us ever closer to the Kingdom of God.

A Message from Our Clergy

Deacon Jared

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. July 25	9 am	Geri Chimera (Living)
Sat. July 25	4 pm	St. Michael Parishioners
Sun. July 26	8 am	Private Intention
Sun. July 26	10 am	Maria Rosa Braga Jeanne, Jean, and Chalmers Valborge David Mollica (Living)
Wed. July 29	9am	Geraldine Abraham
Thurs. July 30	9am	Corporal Alfred John Gaspar
Fri. July 31	9am	Alan Gigliotti
Sat. Aug. 1	9am	Mary Leary
Sat. Aug. 1	4pm	Private Intention
Sun. Aug. 2	8am	John Harrold (Living)
Sun. Aug. 2	10am	St. Michael Parishioners

July Sponsors

*Bread & Wine are offered in Memory of Mary Bernadette O'Connor Cordeiro
Altar Candles are offered in Memory of Irene and Louis Gotz*

*For weekend Masses in memory of loved ones, please know
that the families of the deceased are invited to bring up the gifts of
bread and wine to the altar during the offertory.*

***ALTAR CANDLES * BREAD & WINE ***

If you would like to reserve a Mass, sponsor a month's supply of Altar Candles or Bread & Wine in honor/memory of someone, please call the parish office.

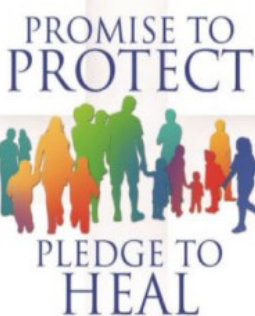
Suggested stipends: Altar Candles \$50 | Bread & Wine \$75.

**MATRIMONY**

Contact the parish office to make an appointment with a member of the clergy **at least eight months prior to the desired wedding date.**

Attention Volunteers

The Archdiocese requires that all parish volunteers must complete the Protecting God's Children seminar. The next session will be held at St. Michael's on Saturday August 22 at 9am. Please register at virtusonline.org. Contact Lori at the Parish Center for any questions.

**Financial Blessings**

July 7-21

COLLECTION SUMMARY		Offertory 7/12
In-Pew/Mailed		\$6,589
Online Giving		\$2,395
GRAND TOTAL		\$8,984
Collection Summary	Offertory 07/19	Venezuela Relief 07/19
In Pew/Mailed	\$8,127	\$8,232
Online Giving	\$2,390	\$0
GRAND TOTAL	\$10,517	\$8,232

Give On-line with
We Share
QR Code

**On-Line Giving Helps us During the Summer**

Please consider On-Line giving as it greatly benefits the Parish, particularly during the summer months when folks are traveling on vacation and Mass attendance drops.

Please use the QR code above to set up your on-line giving. If you need help, please contact Marcy at the Parish Center and she can assist.

Current and Upcoming 2nd Collections

July 26 – No Second Collection

Aug 2 – Maintenance & Development

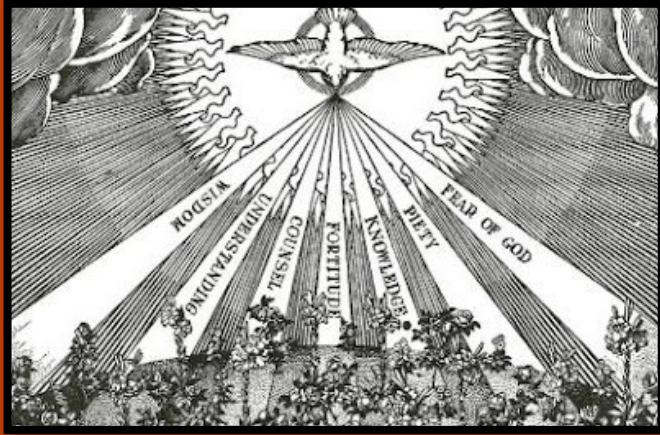
Aug 9 – No Second Collection

Bulletin cover art: The Parable of the Hidden Treasure
-Rembrandt

Adult Confirmation Classes

October 1, 8, 15, and 22, 2026

OCIA 2026-27



Is the Holy Spirit Calling You
into a Deeper
Relationship with Him?

If you are an adult who has received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion but were never Confirmed*, please consider signing up for the fall session of our Adult Confirmation Program, which will run on the first four Thursday evenings in October, from 7 to 8:15pm.

If you are an adult **who has not** received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation, we invite you to register for our OCIA program.

Preregistration is required. To register, please call Lori at the parish center at 978-562-2552 x -6.

Please spread the word about this wonderful opportunity!

SAINT MICHAEL
THE ARCHANGEL
— PARISH —

**BRAZILIAN
— AND —
PORTUGUESE
Festival**

SATURDAY AUGUST 22ND

RAFFLE:

1ST	1ST PRIZE	\$2000
2ND	2ND PRIZE	\$1000
3RD	3RD PRIZE ELECTRIC BIKE	

DRAWING: 5:00 PM TO 10:30 PM

PORTUGUESE CLUB
13 PORT STREET, HUDSON, MA 01749

CONTACT: (508) 733-8908



YOUNG ADULTS

*Saturday morning
Mass • Confession
Adoration • Coffee*

All are welcome

Start your weekend right with Mass, prayer, and good company.

All young adults of the parish are invited to join us for:

- | | |
|------------|---------------------|
| • 9:00 AM | Saturday Mass |
| • 9:30 AM | Confession |
| • 9:30 AM | Adoration |
| • 10:30 AM | Coffee at Wild Hare |

Come for all of it, or just part — everyone's welcome, including young married couples and their kids! It's a great way to start the weekend grounded and connected with others in the parish.



We'd love to see you there!

Contact Hannah Smillie in the Parish Office for more information.



TEEN VOLUNTEER MINISTRY

ENCOUNTER CHRIST

ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE IN OUR
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM?

CONTACT: HELENMARIE@STMIKES.ORG

Upcoming Events at St. Michael's

August 1: St. Vincent de Paul monthly meeting @ 5pm

August 7: NO Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

August 15: Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady (Not a holy day of obligation)

August 17: Faith Formation Registration due

August 19: Join us in praying the Novena to St. Monica, August 19-27. More details to follow

August 22: Protecting God's Children @ 9am

August 22: Brazilian and Portuguese Augustine Festival. All are welcome for good food and fun!



August 27: Gathering for the last day of the St. Monica Novena @ 7pm; led by our Deacons

Jubilee Year Honors St. Francis' 800th Anniversary

Pope Leo XIV has declared a special Jubilee Year marking the 800th anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi's passage into eternal life, running January 10, 2026 to January 10, 2027. A plenary indulgence is available to the faithful who devoutly visit a chapel, parish, or shrine connected to St. Francis, pray for the pope's intentions, and reflect on his example of peace and charity — after fulfilling the usual conditions (confession, Eucharist, detachment from sin).

weekly faith facts

Did you know?

a little wonder for your week

a closer look

Sacred Art Spotlight

the art and artifacts of our church

The Pelican Behind Our Altar



If you've ever glanced up during Mass and noticed the mosaic of a pelican behind the high altar on the right, you may have wondered why a bird holds such a prominent place in our sanctuary. Far from decorative flourish, the pelican is one of the oldest and most meaningful symbols in Catholic art — a quiet visual sermon on the Eucharist itself.

An Ancient Legend, A Lasting Symbol

The tradition dates back to early Christian bestiaries, medieval collections of animal lore used to teach spiritual truths. According to legend, a mother pelican, unable to find food for her starving chicks, would pierce her own breast and feed them with her blood — even to the point of giving her own life so that they might live.

While not zoologically accurate, the story became a powerful image of self-sacrificing love. Early Christians saw in it a natural parallel to Christ, who gave His own body and blood so that humanity might have life. The image came to be known as the "pelican in her piety" — a mother bird wounding herself out of love for her young.

A Eucharistic Image

Because of this legend, the pelican became one of the most recognizable symbols of the Eucharist in Christian art, often appearing near altars, tabernacles, and communion rails — exactly where you'll find ours. Every time the pelican appears in this context, it points worshippers toward the same truth proclaimed at every Mass: that Christ gives Himself completely, under the appearance of bread and wine, so that we might have eternal life.

The symbol was cherished enough that St. Thomas Aquinas included it in his Eucharistic hymn *Adoro Te Devote*, addressing Christ directly as the "loving pelican" who feeds His children with His own life.

Worth a Second Look

Next time you're in the pew, take a moment to look up at the mosaic behind the altar. It is to the right of the altar. It's easy to walk past sacred art without a second glance, but this small image carries centuries of devotion within it — a reminder, rendered in glass and stone, of the love poured out for us at every celebration of the Eucharist.

Have a favorite piece of art or symbol in our church you'd like to see featured? Let us know — we'd love to highlight it in an upcoming bulletin.

Brazilian & Portuguese Community Information

Nas últimas semanas, o Evangelho apresentou várias parábolas que Jesus usou para ensinar o povo. Acredito que essas parábolas tinham o objetivo de ajudar as pessoas comuns — como você e eu — a compreender o que Jesus pregava. Acho sempre interessante tentar transpor essas parábolas de dois mil anos atrás para os dias de hoje: um mundo não mais movido pela agricultura e pela pesca, mas sim pela tecnologia e pela inovação (pelo menos nesta parte do mundo).

O Evangelho de Mateus apresenta, nesta semana, quatro parábolas distintas: o Tesouro Escondido, a Pérola de Grande Valor, a Rede e a Separação, e o Pai de Família. Interpretamos essas passagens como ilustrações do valor supremo do Reino de Deus, do julgamento final da humanidade e do dever de compartilhar tanto o Antigo quanto o Novo Testamento. A primeira leitura desta semana prepara o cenário. Quando Deus aparece a Salomão em sonho e lhe oferece o que ele desejar, Salomão não pede vida longa, nem riquezas, nem a derrota de seus inimigos, mas sim um coração compreensivo para saber o que é correto. Em certo sentido, Salomão já encontrou o tesouro escondido no campo e a pérola de grande valor, e os escolhe acima de tudo o mais que o mundo poderia oferecer. Vamos examinar brevemente essas quatro parábolas.

Uma Mensagem do Nosso Clero

Deacon Jared

A Parábola do Tesouro Escondido. Aqui, Jesus fala sobre o Reino dos Céus como um tesouro escondido em um campo. Ao descobrir esse tesouro, o homem vende tudo o que possui para adquiri-lo. Será que nós venderíamos tudo o que temos para adquirir esse tesouro? É uma questão interessante para se refletir, considerando a diferença entre o que aquele homem possuía há 2.000 anos e o que temos hoje — incluindo comodidades básicas como água encanada, eletricidade e outras facilidades. Gosto de pensar que eu venderia tudo para adquirir o tesouro, mas, diante da realidade daquele momento, será que eu o faria? Ao refletirmos sobre essa questão e essa parábola, precisamos lembrar que o Reino dos Céus supera todas as nossas posses terrenas e representa a riqueza suprema. Precisamos reconhecer o valor inestimável do Reino de Deus e entregar tudo o que temos, colocando Deus acima de qualquer outra coisa em nossas vidas e em nossos corações.

A Pérola de Grande Valor. Nesta parábola, o mercador busca uma pérola de grande valor, a qual Jesus compara ao Reino dos Céus. Primeiramente, consideremos a busca. Estamos nós à procura de tal pérola? Eu diria — se vocês se lembram da minha coluna da semana passada — que, às vezes, estamos, e outras vezes, não. Devemos nos empenhar para estar sempre buscando. Quando o mercador encontra essa pérola, ele vende tudo para possuí-la. Talvez nos pareça um pouco mais aceitável vender tudo para ter uma pérola tão preciosa. Mas será que o fazemos pela pérola em si ou pelo Reino de Deus? Nada se compara à alegria e à plenitude que essa pérola pode proporcionar, mas é preciso que isso ocorra pelas razões certas: pelo Reino de Deus.

A rede e a separação. Nesta parábola, Jesus compara o Reino dos Céus a uma rede de pesca lançada ao mar, que recolhe peixes de toda espécie. A rede captura todos os peixes, e devemos nos lembrar de lançar nossa rede de forma ampla e de acolher a todos (tanto individualmente quanto como paróquia). Não nos cabe fazer a separação, mas sim a Deus. Quando a rede está cheia, os peixes bons são guardados, e os ruins são descartados. Isso nos recorda de viver uma vida virtuosa e boa — mas não apenas boa; uma vida enraizada em nossa fé católica. Nossas ações têm consequências, e devemos nos empenhar em viver de acordo com os mandamentos de Deus. Estamos vivendo segundo a vontade de Deus e deixando o julgamento para Ele?

O proprietário. Nesta parábola, Jesus compara o escriba instruído para o Reino dos Céus a um proprietário que traz tesouros novos e antigos. Quando ouço a palavra "escriba", penso em aprendizado e ensino. Esta parábola enfatiza a importância de compreender os ensinamentos de Deus no contexto mais amplo da revelação divina. Temos as Escrituras, a Tradição e o Magistério; somos chamados a nos envolver continuamente com eles, a aprender e a aprofundar nossa sabedoria e fé. Sim, até mesmo a fazer perguntas. Será que fazemos isso? E, se fazemos, aplicamos o que aprendemos em nossas vidas ou simplesmente deixamos de lado?

Acredito ser importante refletir sobre essas parábolas. Ao fazê-lo, devemos lembrar que o Reino de Deus não é algo arbitrário. Ele é real. Ele acontece agora. Aqui ouvimos o eco da segunda leitura desta semana, na qual São Paulo nos assegura que "todas as coisas concorrem para o bem daqueles que amam a Deus, daqueles que são chamados segundo o seu propósito". Mesmo quando nossa busca vacila, Deus continua agindo, chamando-nos, moldando-nos e conformando-nos à imagem de seu Filho. A separação da rede, o valor do tesouro, o preço da pérola: tudo isso está em suas mãos e em seu plano. Devemos manter nossos corações abertos ao Espírito Santo, para que Ele nos conduza cada vez mais perto do Reino de Deus.

