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2025

#96 Our Lady of Sierra, Oakhurst



Our Lady of the Sierra Parish

Our Lady of the Sierra Church | St Dominic Mission | St. Joseph Mission

Sunday, August 10, 2025, Vol. 231

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Wis18.6-9; Heb 11.1-2, 8-19
Luke 12.32-48 – The Faithful or the Unfaithful Slave



Focus: The Good and Faithful Steward

In the Gospel parable, Jesus speaks of a faithful and prudent steward, who is aware of the duties given to him by the master and does them faithfully. On the other hand, Jesus speaks of an unfaithful servant, who abuses the gifts that the master has left him. He keeps the property for himself and mistreats the people around him. When the master returns at a time that neither servant expects, he deals with each servant according to their actions. To the faithful steward, the master blesses him even more, but the servant who abused the gifts given to them was punished.

Jesus says to the disciples “You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” There will come a time when each person will be judged, and when we are we will be asked for an account of the ways that we used what was given to us. When Jesus comes again, he will look at our hearts and will examine where our treasure lies, as it says in the Gospel, “Where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.”

What are we doing with the gifts that the master has entrusted to us? Are we watchful and faithful stewards, or are we like the unfaithful servant who would rather use the gifts selfishly? The Lord has given us many gifts, and these gifts are not meant for our consumption. They are given to us to build up the community of God and uplift those around us. Let us spend some time this week examining our hearts, and seeing how we are using the gifts God has given us. If we feel God calling us to give of ourselves in a more profound way, let us take the opportunity to visit our parish priest and see the ways in which we can be a good and faithful steward.

Summary

The readings today speak to us about being prepared for the coming of Jesus, who will come at a time we do not expect. When Jesus comes, he will judge us based on the way that we used the gifts that were given to us, and look at our hearts to examine where our treasure is. Let us spend some time this week examining our hearts, seeing how we are using the gifts God has given us, and ensuring that we are not selfish with God's gifts but rather faithful and prudent stewards. *(Archdiocese of Toronto)*

Self-Examination

How does God ask you to trust in times when God's presence is unclear or God's action is unknown?

Living the WORD

Let us walk without fear, in the certainty that the Lord accompanies us always. And let us stay awake lest we be asleep when the Lord passes by. Saint Augustine used to say, “I am afraid that the Lord will pass by and I will not notice”. To be asleep, and not to notice that the Lord passes by. *(Pope Francis, Angelus, August 7, 2022)*

Vision Statement: Journeying together in our quest for holiness.

Mission Statement: To become intentional disciples of Jesus Christ, nurtured by the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Patron, and accompanied by the shepherds, coordinators and people of our Church

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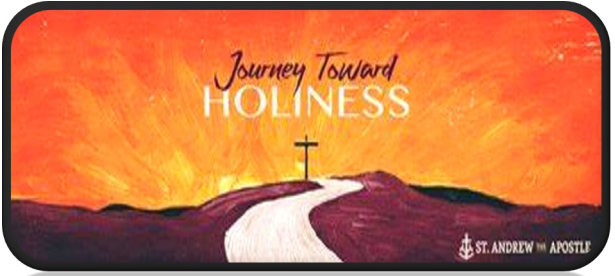
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REFLECTION: Intentional Discipleship –
Journeying Together Toward Holiness



Discipleship is not a solo endeavor. It's a shared journey—imperfect people who are imperfect walking together, striving for holiness through faith, accountability, and love. Intentional discipleship means choosing to follow Christ with purpose, not passivity. It means helping others do the same, not just through words, but by living a life that points to Him.

This journey isn't linear. There are detours, dry seasons, and moments of doubt. But walking alongside others makes the road clearer and the burdens lighter. In the community, we challenge each other to grow. We call each other out when needed, lift each other when we fall, and celebrate victories that reflect God's grace at work.

Holiness isn't about moral perfection. It's about being set apart for God—letting Him transform us daily. That requires humility, obedience, and a willingness to be changed. On our own, we drift. But when we walk together, we sharpen one another like iron. We remind each other of the goal: not comfort, but Christlikeness.

Intentionality is key. Discipleship doesn't happen by accident. It means carving out time for prayer, Scripture, and honest conversations. It means being present in someone else's life—not as a teacher with all the answers, but as a fellow traveler. Jesus modeled this with His disciples. He walked with them, ate with them, corrected them, forgave them. He taught not just with sermons but with His presence.

Journeying toward holiness requires trust—in God and in those we walk with. It means being vulnerable, confessing sin, and receiving grace. It also means holding others to the standard of Christ, not culture. That can be uncomfortable, but it's necessary. Love doesn't ignore sin; it helps heal it.

The Church thrives when discipleships are intentional and communal. It's not a program or a ministry, it's a way of life. Every believer is called to both be discipled and to disciple others. This mutual commitment builds spiritual maturity and deepens our witness to the world.

In the end, holiness is not just the destination, it's the shape of the journey itself. When we walk together with Christ at the center, we move toward a life that reflects His character. And that, more than anything else, is what changes the world.

SUPPORT THE BASIC NEEDS OF OUR PARISH.
CONSIDER GIVING A LITTLE MORE TO FIRST COLLECTION!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



BCC



FEFF



OLAS

BCC, or *Basic Catechist Certification*, is a diocesan training course for any practicing Catholic who teaches or facilitates subjects in any area of evangelization—liturgy, religious education, music, sacramental preparation, Bible Study, social service, etc. It is therefore a critical basic requirement for all who serve as facilitators in these areas. **The first class is Saturday, August 23, 2025.** Best way to sign up is online at www.ols-oakhurst.org. Or pick up an application form from the parish office.

FEFF, or *Family Evangelization and Faith Formation*, is Our Lady of the Sierra's faith formation program for students Grade K to 12 and their parents. **Classes begin on September 7, 2025. Parents are encouraged to register their children by August 31, 2025.** Best way to sign up is online at www.ols-oakhurst.org. Or pick up application forms from the foyer of the OLS church, or the parish office.

OLAS, or *Our Lady's Altar Servers*, is a group of older children and youth who serve at the Altar of Our Lord, assisting the priest at Mass and other liturgical celebrations. They are being trained by our Pastor, Fr. Victor, and managed by Catechist Peggy Stewart. **There's training after Mass on Sunday, August 10, after the 11:30 am Mass.** Call the parish office (559) 642-4352 to sign up or just show up!

MASS INTENTIONS

12 Tue	SI—Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham	16 Sat 4 PM	RM — Laurie Spagnolia By Marlene Ybarra
13 Wed	RM — Dave Kappes By Marysia Kappes	17 Sun 8 AM	Pro Populo
14 Thu	SI—Eveline Sykora By Marlen Ybarra	9:30 AM	SI — Mark Chapin By Deborah Graham
15 Fri AM	RM — George French By Bill Kammerer	11:30 AM	RM — Jorge Gonzales By Rosa Gonzales
PM	RM — Madelene French By Bill Kammerer		

CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

11 Mon	Office Closed
12 Tue	8:00 AM Rosary & Mass 9:00 Mother of Perpetual Help 9:30 AM — Social Services Meeting 1:00 PM — Staff Meeting
13 Wed	8:00 AM Rosary & Mass 9:00 Devotion to St. Joseph 10-12 Music Ministry, Practice
14 Thu	8:00AM Divine Mercy & Mass 9:00 Devotion to Padre Pio
15 Fri	8:30 AM Rosary 9:00 AM Mass, Assumption 10:00-12 Noon Sacred Heart ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 6:00 PM Bilingual Mass, Assumption DON'T FORGET –TODAY- AUG. 15, ASSUMPTION, IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION!
16 Sat	3:00 PM Confessions 4:00 PM Mass
17 Sun	8:00 AM Mass-St Joseph 9:30 AM Mass-St Dominic 11:30 AM Mass-OLS

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

11 Mon	(M) St. Clare, Virgin Dt 10:12-22/Mt 17:22-27
12 Tue	Tuesday, 19th Week in OT (m) St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Dt 31:1-8/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
13 Wed	Wednesday, 19th Week in OT; (m) Sts. Pontian, Pope, & Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs] Dt 34:1-12/Mt 18:15-20
14 Thu	(M) St. Maximillian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17/Mt 18:21—19:1
15 Fri	(S) Assumption of the BVM Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 ; Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56
16 Sat	Saturday, 19th Week in OT; (m) St. Stephen of Hungary; Jos 24:14-29/Mt 19:13-15
17Sun	20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53

SECOND COLLECTIONS

17-Aug	Cathedral Maintenance (D)
24-Aug	Maintenance Fund (P)