

PractiCe of Charity

Autumn has begun, and many farmers are preparing for harvest. Whether it has been a good growing season or bad, this is a time of settling accounts and planning for the future.

For many reasons, it has been increasingly difficult for the family farm to survive. The National Catholic Rural Life Conference seeks to help others understand the plight of the small farmer. Visit its website, www.ncrlc.com to discover how you may be able to aid the family farmer. Reflections from the late Pope John Paul II on respect for rural life and statements from a variety of U.S. Bishops may be found at the site. Also available there is the book *Agriculture with a Human Face*, by the late Bishop George H. Speltz, who grew up on a farm in Southern Minnesota. NCRLC members receive the Catholic Rural Life Magazine and the Catholic Rural Life Newsletter.

Scripture Insights

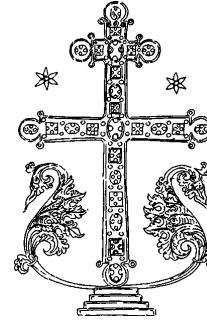
What a contrast there is between the “quiet and tranquil” life for which Paul (or a later disciple) prays in today’s second reading and the agitation and anxiety in our first reading and Gospel! What is this “quiet and tranquil” life? And why the agitation and anxiety?

On the one hand, we have the example of a pastor writing to a co-worker, giving directives for the well-being of the Church. On the other, there are the concerns of merchants and stewards seeking only gain. On the one hand, is the desire to “lead a quiet and tranquil life in all devotion and dignity”; on the other hand, one centered on self-preservation and accumulation of wealth. Today’s scriptures call us to see where we are on this continuum.

Initially, we may be somewhat confused by today’s Gospel. The parable is among the most enigmatic in the Gospels. Is the “dishonest steward” (literally, “steward of injustice”) really to be commended”? Those who study the customs of the times have suggested that what the steward was cutting from the promissory notes was his commission. Thus, without shorting his master even more, he takes a loss that he might gain favor in the eyes of the debtors. A most prudent move, indeed! The last verses consist of various interpretations of the parable and independent sayings of Jesus pertaining to wealth that Luke has placed here.

Today’s scriptures pointedly ask about our loyalties, particularly with regard to wealth. In this regard – as in any other – we can have no other master than Jesus.

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Saint Cecilia Parish

Boston, Massachusetts

A Catholic Community in the Heart of the Back Bay

Saint Cecilia Church

www.stceciliaboston.org

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Parish Staff

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In Residence

Rev. Thomas A. Mahoney

Access for the Disabled

Both the church and parish hall are accessible by elevator.

Parking

Two hours of free parking for parishioners is available before 1:00 p.m. on Sundays at the Fitz-Inn Auto Park at Belvidere and Dalton Streets. Reduced rate parking is available with validation on Sundays in the Prudential Center Garage.

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 7:30 a.m.

Holy Days, 7:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays, 4:30–4:50 p.m., and by appt.

Christian Initiation

Infant Baptisms: Baptisms are celebrated at the 9:30 and 11:00

Sunday Masses and should be scheduled one month in advance.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:

The parish welcomes those seeking fuller participation in the life of the Church. Classes run from September to May. Contact the rectory for more information.

Sacrament of Marriage

Couples preparing for marriage should contact the rectory at least six months in advance.

Religious Education

Classes are held after the 9:30 Mass.

CAP Team Members

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Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 23, 2007



Ministers of the Liturgy

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV, presider
Chris Orrell, lector

Richard Barry, eucharistic minister

Sunday, 8:00 a.m.

Rev. David Beauregard, OMV, presider
Mike Mulka, lector

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Thomas Gariepy, CSC, presider
Kurt Cerulli & Moira Macdonald, lectors

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, presider
Jim Spillman & Sabrina Gillan, lectors

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Rev. John Unni, presider
Beth O'Meara & Amanda Grey, lectors

In this parable, Jesus urges the "children of light" to imitate the "children of this world." Disciples are to act as prudently and decisively as does the dishonest steward in procuring a desired future. They are not, however, to imitate the steward in all things: the dishonest steward served the one master, mammon; disciples must serve God alone. What is the same about us and the dishonest steward is that we are to be as prudent and decisive in securing our future.

Living Liturgy™

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2007

Save the Date!

- Pax Christi Boston invites you to participate in a nation wide reflection process of the Faithful in collaboration with "A Peoples' Peace Initiative." The results will be collated by Pax Christi USA into a document to influence a future publication on peace in justice by the US Bishops which will inform Catholic justice/peace-making in the United States for years to come. So come and share your insights on Monday, October 1, 2007 at The Paulist Center at 5 Park St., Boston. For details: contact Cornelia Sullivan at corneliasull@hotmail.com or 617-262-9461.
- Agape Community's 25th Annual St. Francis Day Celebration, featuring Arun Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi. "Looking Forward and Looking Back: Our Great Non-violent Lineage". Saturday Oct. 6 at 10 a.m. in Ware, MA. For more info., contact Suzanne at 413-967-9369 or peace@agapecommunity.org.

Special Intention

Thursday, September 27, 7:30 a.m.

Patrick Currivan, Memorial

Parish Registration

If you are new to the parish, or if you are a regular communicant who has never formally registered, there are registration forms at the rear of the church for this purpose. You can also register online by visiting our website: www.stceciliaboston.org.

Eucharistic Visitation

If you are aware of anyone who is homebound for any reason who would like to receive the Eucharist, please call the parish office.

Coffee Hour

Join us after the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses for coffee in the parish hall.

Religious Education

Religious education for children will begin on next Sunday, September 30. If you are new to the parish or think that we do not have your mailing information, please e-mail or call the parish office. Classes are held immediately after the 9:30 Mass and end at 11:45.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) will begin again at St. Cecilia's on Monday, October 1 at 6:15 p.m. in the parish hall. This is a program offered each year to those who wish to be baptized into the Catholic faith and to those who are already baptized Christians who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact Mark Donohoe at 617-536-4548 or mtonohoe@rcn.com. We look forward to having you join us!

Social Justice Committee

There will be a meeting of the Social Justice Committee next Sunday, September 30 at 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall. All are welcome!

Holy Family Shelter – Thanks!

Many thanks to all who donated dishware for the Holy Family Shelter. Your generosity is much appreciated!

NU Catholic Center News

- NULIFE Meeting is every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at 68 St Stephen Street. Come on over for some fellowship, faith, and fun!
- Northeastern's Fall Retreat is next weekend! Friday to Sunday, September 28-30, in Billerica, MA. The cost is \$45, and it is first come, first serve. For more information, call the Catholic Center at 617-373-8964.

"What We've Got Here is a Failure to Communicate."

Well, not exactly a failure, but we'd like to do better! We are putting together a Communications Board to look at and improve the way we communicate. If you have career experience in any of the following areas, we'd love to hear from you: Creative Director, Copywriter, Proofreader/Copyeditor, PR, Production Coordinator. We already have a great graphic designer and need to fill these other positions. If you think you can help, please contact Scott MacDonald (sj_macdonald@msn.com). Our projects will include the design and production of a new weekly bulletin, creation of a new website, occasional press releases with local press, p.r. with local hotels, colleges & universities, and the creation of a full color brochure.

Tripping the Shutter Fantastic!

We are looking for a parishioner who is a professional photographer and can help us with some photography needs for our new parish bulletin and website. If you would like to share your gift with us, please contact Scott MacDonald (sj_macdonald@msn.com).

A New Parish Bulletin

We are in the early stages of designing a new parish bulletin. The good news is, we've outgrown our present bulletin and need more space! We will be looking to you and to local businesses to consider sponsoring our bulletin through full color advertisements. Please give some thought to advertising with us. Our sponsors will help us produce a great looking, informative bulletin at no cost to the parish. If you would like more information about being a sponsor or helping to find sponsors, please e-mail Scott MacDonald at sj_macdonald@msn.com. We need your help!