

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. JOSEPH, PORT FELIX
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR 902-366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 902-358-2346**

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ NOVEMBER 19, 2023

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Donna Jackson, Janet Delorey, Cynthia Creamer,
Calvin Harnish, Agnes Casey, Corrine Munroe,
Gerry Parker, Gelly Parker, Paul Horne,
Sr. Alma, Marie Parker, Fr. Jonathan.

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at
www.cansoparishes.org*

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday, November 25 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - †*Excilda Boudreau*

Sunday, November 26 - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*Jerome Keefe*
- 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - †*Bertha Bond*

NOTE - **St. Vincent de Paul, Queensport** is closed for the winter. Parishioners are encouraged to attend the 6:00 pm Saturday Mass at St. Joseph, Port Felix.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Thursday, November 23 - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

COMMUNION CALLS - If you know of someone who is unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to have their name added to the list.

ADVENT: Sunday, December 3 begins the Season of Advent where we prepare for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming among us, and it is also a time when we look forward to his second coming at the end of the ages. Advent is a time of joyful expectation. Let us remember and respond to this expectation in prayer, quiet time and preparation for the celebration of Christmas.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS

The Time for Reckoning is Coming!!! - Through the parable of the 'Talents', Jesus teaches his followers a great lesson. The disciples are reminded that one day they too will have to give an account of the life they received from God. God's grace and gifts can neither be wasted nor can they remain static, not be hidden. They have to be put to use for the purpose they have been given and should bear fruits. What is evaluated at the coming of the Master is not 'how much' a worker has made but 'how hard' he/she has worked and how committed he/she was to the gifts given to him/her. In the parable, the first and second servants doubled the amount they received. No doubt, these two servants had to exercise considerable shrewdness and astuteness in investing

the money. The third servant, showing no imagination or industry, took an easy path, and hid the resources given to him. He was found lazy and unproductive and was fired from his job. For us, this parable communicates the message that each one of us is given a share in the mission of Christ. Our failure to live up to the call and produce fruits for the kingdom will invite punishment from God. Though the master does not specify how much we should produce, he does not compromise on anything less than the best from us.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Star of the Sea (32)	745.00
Winter Fuel (12)	707.00
Loose	20.00
St. Agnes (19)	255.00
Loose	10.00
Winter Heat (3)	45.00
St. Joseph (15)	187.00
Loose	6.30
Winter Heat (1)	50.00

ST JOSEPH NEWS

Card Plays - continue Tuesdays, at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome

Christmas Prize Bingo - will be held Sunday, December 3, 2:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Donations of prizes would be appreciated.

ST. AGNES NEWS - Bingo - Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall

MEMORY TREES - will be displayed until Sunday, January 7, 2024. Donations will be deposited to the parish of your choice. Memorial cards are available in the entrance of the Church.

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Property/Finance Committee - will meet Tuesday, March 5 at 6:15 p.m.

Ministries Schedule, November 26

Lector - Juanita Dort

Cleaners - November 19 - 26 - Baker Girls

Star of the Sea Christmas decorations - There are FREE decoration items in the entrance of the church. please help yourself.

STAR OF THE SEA EVENTS

Trivia Night - a very special thank you to all who helped in any way, much appreciated. .

Christmas Bazaar - Saturday, December 2, 12 noon at Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Donations of **Baked Goods, Candy/Fudge, Parcel Post, Crafts or a Bingo Prize are needed**. Lunch will be served for \$8.00. Please note: If we have extra donations for bingo, they will be held over for another bingo later in the year. Donations can be dropped off to the vestry or to the Fire Hall on Saturday after 10:00 a.m.

Ticket Draw - Canso Coop Grocery Certificate, value \$300.00. Draw date December 12. Tickets will be available from committee members.

NOTES - World Day of the Poor - Sunday, November 19 - In 2017, Pope Francis instituted the World Day of the Poor so that "throughout the world Christian communities can become as ever greater sign of Christ's charity for the least and those most in need".

World Day of Youth - November 20 - "Young people must say to the world: It is good to follow Jesus! You bring us the joy of faith and tell us that we must live the faith always with a young heart." (Pope Francis)

November 19, 2023 • 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year A

Don't Be Lazy

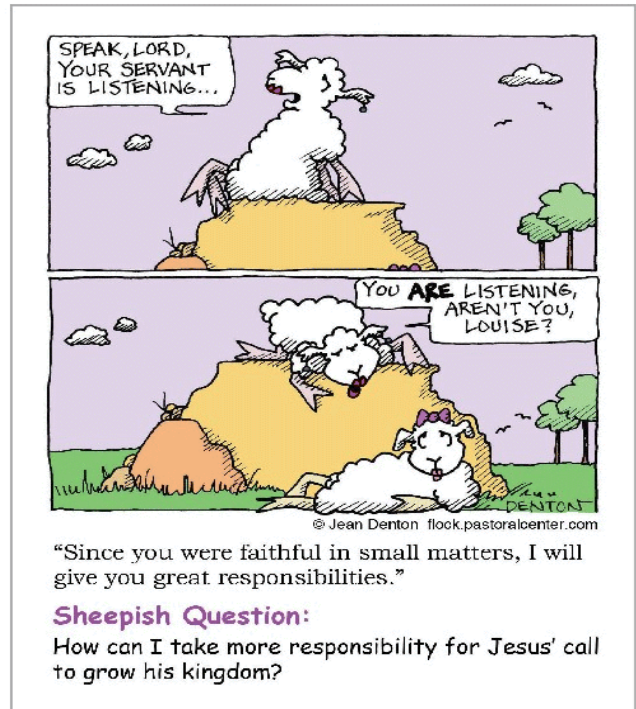
This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 - A Worthy Wife ▶ 1
- Thessalonians 5:1-6 - Stay alert
- ▶ Matthew 25:14-30 - The parable of the talents

We are in the middle of a series of Gospel parables that Jesus tells about staying alert and being prepared for his second coming. We believe that appearance will mark the end of this world as we know it. Jesus cautions his listeners several times to remain at-the-ready, even if their "master" is gone for an extended period like the man in this parable or the groom in last week's parable.

When this Gospel was written, about 50 years after Jesus' death, some of the early Christians had grown complacent and even lazy because Jesus hadn't yet returned. Paul alludes to this in his letter to the Thessalonians. There is a certain percentage of people who live mindlessly, enjoying a false sense of peace and security, unaware that things can change instantly—perhaps like some of us before COVID-19 hit. In a later letter to the same community, Paul calls out those "living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work" (2 Thess. 3:11). Some people figured they didn't need to bother working because Jesus was returning soon. So Paul instilled a new rule: "Anyone unwilling to work should not eat" (2 Thess. 3:10).

The parable of the talents shares the same motif: while awaiting Jesus' second coming, we should work responsibly and for positive action, not be paralyzed by fear or laziness—the equivalent of the servant who hid the money. Ultimately, God will bring about the fullness of the Kingdom of God, but we shouldn't wait passively for God to act. We are all called to participate in the building of the Kingdom. As disciples we are called to action in this world, during a global pandemic or not, not simply accepting suffering while awaiting



a reward in heaven. Jesus calls us to put our talents (gifts, skills, money, and otherwise) to work, alleviating pain, building healthy communities, and fighting injustice—while we stay hopeful and alert for his coming.

Questions of the Week

① Do you ever get weary and feel like giving up in working to build the Kingdom when God doesn't seem to be "showing up"? In what way?

② Who do you know, or know of, who tirelessly works for the building of the Kingdom and stays alert and awake for God's coming?

Word of the Week •
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