

# No Favorites: Scott Hahn Reflects on the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn

Copyright 2016 www.salvationhistory.com

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18; Psalm 34:2-3,17-19, 23; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

Luke 18:9-14



Jesus draws a blunt picture in today's Gospel.

The Pharisee's prayer is almost a parody of the thanksgiving psalms (see for example Psalms 30,118). Instead of praising God for His mighty works, the Pharisee congratulates himself for his own deeds, which he presents to God in some detail.

The tax collector stands at a distance, too ashamed even to raise his eyes to God (see Ezra 9:6). He prays with a humble and contrite heart (see Psalm 51:19). He knows that before God no one is righteous, no one has cause to boast (see Romans 3:10; 4:2).

We see in the Liturgy today one of Scripture's abiding themes—that God "knows no favorites," as today's First Reading tells us (see 2 Chronicles 19:7; Acts 10:34-35; Romans 2:11).

God cannot be bribed (see Deuteronomy 10:17). We cannot curry favor with Him or impress Him—even with our good deeds or our faithful observance of religious duties such as tithing and fasting.

If we try to exalt ourselves before the Lord, as the Pharisee does, we will be brought low (see Luke 1:52).

This should be a warning to us—not to take pride in our piety, not to slip into the self-righteousness of thinking that we're better than others, that we're "not like the rest of sinful humanity."

If we clothe ourselves with humility (see 1 Peter 5:5-6)—recognize that all of us are sinners in need of His mercy—we will be exalted (see Proverbs 29:33).

The prayer of the lowly, the humble, pierces the clouds. Paul testifies to this in today's Epistle, as He thanks the Lord for giving him strength during his imprisonment.

Paul tells us what the Psalmist sings today—that the Lord redeems the lives of His humble servants.

We too must serve Him willingly. And He will hear us in our distress, deliver us from evil, and bring us safely to His heavenly kingdom.

**ANNOUNCED MASSES**  
**October 22<sup>nd</sup> – October 30, 2016**

<b>Sat. Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup></b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Dedication of Consecrated Churches</b> Maria E.S. Branco and Jose J. Da Ponte – RIP – by Maria Ponte
<b>Sun. Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Claude Dorman – RIP – by William Moran
11:00 a.m.	Bruna Alesi – RIP – by her parents
<b>Mon. Oct. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Tues. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup></b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Weekday</b> Denise Lachance - Thanksgiving – by Ginette Massy
<b>Wed. Oct. 26<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Weekday</b> Theresa Castillo Buguis – RIP – by Elena
<b>Thurs. Oct. 27<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Weekday</b> Emilio Bencito – RIP – by the family
<b>Fri. Oct. 28<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Saints Simon and Jude</b> Thomas Bolohan – RIP – by Joan
<b>Sat. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup></b> 4:30 p.m.	<b>Weekday</b> Jose J. Ponte – RIP – by Maria
<b>Sun. Oct. 30<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Gaudencio Arao arao – RIP – by the family
11:00 a.m.	Benjamin Saldaña – RIP – by Anna Jaronel

---

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

---

**Collection:**

October 16, 2016 - **\$3,128.65**

October 13, 2016 (Consecration Mass) - **\$2,054.25**

**...Thank you for your generosity.**

---

## BE MY DISCIPLES NEWS

**HARVEST PARTY** – Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 9:00 pm, in the church hall, for Be My Disciples children and their families. **All friends are welcome.** This will be an evening of great fun and friendship with activities for every taste. Donation is \$2.00 per person. The harvest equals abundance of God's gifts and generosity, so we ask that **everyone who attends please contribute a non-perishable food item for OASIS.** A box will be available in the hall. Please contact Connie Kuhr if you would like to attend.

**CHRISTMAS BOXES** - As part of our Junior High youth group activities to increase our children's Christian awareness, we will once again participate in Operation Christmas Child in conjunction with Samaritan's Purse. This is a project where every Christmas, millions of shoeboxes filled with gifts are hand delivered to millions of needy children around the world who would otherwise not know God's love for them through His gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. Our youth will be filling the shoeboxes with toys, school supplies, hygiene products (no liquids or toothpaste), and other small gifts such as biblical books, socks, t-shirts, etc. Basically anything that could be useful for a needy child and that will fit in a shoebox, small backpack, duffle bag etc., but nothing battery powered. No guns, knives or anything portraying violence. Please check the pamphlets available for specific information. Choose if the gift is for a **boy** or a **girl** and the **age group**. Please donate \$7.00 per box for shipping costs.

**The shoeboxes are available at the office.** For information please contact Frank - 514-333-0791; Connie - 514-747-9347, or the office – 514-747-4226.

**DEADLINE** for returning the filled boxes is **Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.** **Thank you** to ALL parishioners for your great generosity.

## LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Again this year we are unable to have a Bazaar. We do not have enough people to put on this event and for various other reasons. We are thinking of having a "Spring Fling" in late May and we will be having a shower for Anne's House, a women's shelter sometime soon.

The **yearly calendars** have arrived. They will be on sale on the weekend of October 29-30. The price is \$5 and will be available at the doors of the Church. This money will be used to support our child in the Chalice program.

## HOLY HOUR

Every Friday, following the 9am mass, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for one hour of Holy Adoration, Rosary, silent prayer, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, concluding with Divine Praises and Benediction. Come and spend some time with the Lord.

## ST. MARK'S ANNUAL BAZAAR

St. Mark's Anglican Church at 1650 Decelles Street in Ville Saint-Laurent will be having its Annual Bazaar on Saturday, November 5, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There would be: New Canadian made garments for children and adults, Knitted goods and crafts, Jewellery, Gift Shop, Books and Bake Table. Miscellaneous Items too numerous to list. Everyone is welcome.