

Dressing for the Feast: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10 | Psalm 23:1-6
Second Reading: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 | Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14



Our Lord's parable in today's Gospel is again a fairly straightforward outline of salvation history.

God is the king (see Matthew 5:35), Jesus the bridegroom (see Matthew 9:15), the feast is the salvation and eternal life that Isaiah prophesies in today's First Reading. The Israelites are those first invited

to the feast by God's servants, the prophets (see Isaiah 7:25). For refusing repeated invitations and even killing His prophets, Israel has been punished, its city conquered by foreign armies.

Now, Jesus makes clear, God has sending new servants, His apostles, to call not only Israelites, but all people – good and bad alike – to the feast of His kingdom. This an image of the Church, which Jesus elsewhere compares to a field sown with both wheat and weeds, and a fishing net that catches good fish and bad (see Matthew 13:24-43, 47-50).

We have all been called to this great feast of love in the Church, where, as Isaiah foretold, the veil that once separated the nations from the covenants of Israel has been destroyed, where the dividing wall of enmity has been torn down by the blood of Christ (see Ephesians 2:11-14).

As we sing in today's Psalm, the Lord has led us to this feast, refreshing our souls in the waters of baptism, spreading the table before us in the Eucharist. As Paul tells us in today's Epistle, in the glorious riches of Christ, we will find supplied whatever we need.

And in the rich food of His body, and the choice wine of His blood, we have a foretaste of the eternal banquet in the heavenly Jerusalem, when God will destroy death forever (see Hebrews 12:22-24).

But are we dressed for the feast, clothed in the garment of righteousness (see Revelation 19:8)? Not all who have been called will be chosen for eternal life, Jesus warns. Let us be sure that we're living in a manner worthy of the invitation we've received (see Ephesians 4:1).

ANNOUNCED MASSES
October 14th – 22nd, 2017

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Oct. 14th	Sunday Vigil Anne Marie Borges – Birthday Blessings – by Nelson, Teresa and family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Oct. 15th	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Louis Ottoni – RIP – by Sabatino and Catherine Sylvie Gonsalves – RIP – by the Canorient Christian Association
Monday	Oct. 16th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Oct. 17th	Saint Ignatius of Antioch Thanksgiving by Naty Arao-arao and family
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Oct. 18th	SAINT LUKE Pedrito Manzanal –RIP – by Ofelia Manzanal and Jerry Roy
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Oct. 19th	Saint Paul of the Cross Beatrice Piper- RIP – by the Piper family
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Oct. 20th	Saint Hedwig Mellie Francisco – RIP – by Tony & family
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Oct. 21st	Sunday Vigil Ofelia Roy – Safe Flight
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Oct. 22nd	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Maria Aninha Pereira – RIP – by Connie and Jim Bruna Alesi – RIP – by the family

*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 8, 2017 - **\$2,555.75**
October 7, 2017 (First Saturday) - **\$381.70**
Thank you for your generosity.

THINKING ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD?



For men 18 to 54 years old, who are discerning a call to the priesthood, the Diocesan Vocations Office is offering an informal get-together on Friday, October 20th from 6 to 9 PM at Our Lady of the Annunciation Parish (71 Roosevelt Avenue in the Town of Mount Royal on the 165 Bus Line or the Mount Royal Stop on the train line). For information, please contact Father

Robert Clark of the Diocesan Vocations Office at 514-903-6200 or by email at mtlvocations@hotmail.com.

SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL CENTER ANNUAL FALL FAIR



The Auxiliary of St. Mary's Hospital Center is holding its annual Fall Fair, also known as the Jingle Bell Fair, on **Thursday, November 2, 2017, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, in the hospital auditorium (B-309) basement floor, 3830 Lacombe Avenue, Montreal, Quebec.

Start your shopping early. There is something for everyone on your list: jewellery, country Kitchen, odds and ends, handicrafts and chance table. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Proceeds will go to the funds to enhance patient care and for the purchase of specialized medical equipment. For more information, please call the gift Shop at 514-345-3511, ext. 3247.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR PRIESTS



Please note the **annual MEMORIAL MASS** for deceased priests will be held this year, **Wednesday, November 8th** at the **12:10 p.m.** Mass at St. Patrick's Basilica (460 René-Lévesque Blvd. W.) in Montreal.

MERCY TRIUMPHS OVER SIN

The Church opposes abortion, but embraces with mercy those who have made this mistake. Let's all take encouragement from these words of Saint John Paul II: *"I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To the same Father and to his mercy you can with sure hope entrust your child."* (The Gospel of Life, #99)