

Settling Accounts: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
Copyright 2017 www.salvationhistory.com

First Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | Psalm 128:1-5
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 | Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30



The day of the Lord is coming, Paul warns in today's Epistle. What matters isn't the time or the season, but what the Lord finds us doing with the new life, the graces He has given to us.

This is at the heart of Jesus' parable in today's Gospel. Jesus is the Master. Having died, risen, and ascended into heaven, He appears to have gone away for a long time.

By our baptism, He has entrusted to each of us a portion of His "possessions," a share in His divine life (see 2 Peter 1:4). He has given us talents and responsibilities, according to the measure of our faith (see Romans 12:3,8).

We are to be like the worthy wife in today's First Reading, and the faithful man we sing of in today's Psalm. Like them, we should walk in the "fear of the Lord" – in reverence, awe, and thanksgiving for His marvelous gifts. This is the beginning of wisdom (see Acts 9:31; Proverbs 1:7).

This is not the "fear" of the useless servant in today's parable. His is the fear of a slave cowering before a cruel master, the fear of one who refuses the relationship that God calls us to.

He has called us to be trusted servants, fellow workers (see 1 Corinthians 3:9), using our talents to serve one another and His kingdom as good stewards of His grace (see 1 Peter 4:10).

In this, we each have a different part to play.

Though the good servants in today's parable were given different numbers of talents, each "doubled" what he was given. And each earned the same reward for his faithfulness – greater responsibilities and a share of the Master's joy.

So let us resolve again in this Eucharist to make much of what we've been given, to do all for the glory of God (see 1 Corinthians 10:31). That we, too, may approach our Master with confidence and love when He comes to settle accounts.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
November 18th – 26th, 2017

Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Nov. 18th	Sunday Vigil Rita and Pietro Mosca – RIP – by the family
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Nov. 19th	33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Maria Melo Ponte – RIP – by Maria Bruna Alesi – RIP – by the family
Monday	Nov. 20th	NO MASS
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Nov. 21st	Presentation of Mary Thanksgiving - by the Romea family
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.	Nov. 22nd	Saint Cecilia Annasamypillai Aloysius – RIP – by Julia and family
Thursday 9:00 a.m.	Nov. 23rd	Saint Clement I and Saint Columbian Thanksgiving – by Ruth Gaudreau
Friday 9:00 a.m.	Nov. 24th	Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions Diane des Ormeaux –Good Health and Recovery – by Betty
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Nov. 25th	Sunday Vigil Felix O. Manzanal – RIP- by Jerry and Ofelia Roy
Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Nov. 26th	Christ the King Adrian de Souza – RIP – by the family Maria Branco and Jose Jacinto da Ponte – RIP – by Maria

*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:
November 12, 2017 - **\$2,362.90**
Thank you for your generosity.

PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: November 21



This feast originated as a commemoration of the dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary's the New in Jerusalem in 543. An apocryphal source recounts that Mary's parents brought their three-year-old daughter to the Temple in Jerusalem to offer her to God, as was the custom. Inspired by a priest's vision, they left her there to serve God. This custom continued for centuries.

The feast entered the Western calendar in 1585. Today, the feast celebrates the recognition of Mary as a temple where God lives. (*Living with Christ, November 2017*)

BE MY DISCIPLES NEWS

ADVENT CHRISTMAS TREE ornaments will be available for sale soon. Please look for the next announcement. Thank you everyone for your great generosity and support!

CATHOLIC CALENDARS FOR 2018



The Ladies' Auxilliary will be selling the new calendars for 2018 starting the weekend of December 2-3. The price will be \$5.00 per calendar and will be for sale after every Mass. We are hoping to have your support to raise money for the child we support through Chalice and for the elevator fund. Please help us to make this project a success. Thank you.

PILLARS TRUST FUND ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



For 45 years the Pillars Trust Fund Pillars has offered apostolic, religious, educational, and spiritual programs and services, to the English-speaking Catholic community of Montreal through services such The Catholic Information and Religious Education Centre, Benedict Labre House, Camp Caritas, West Island Citizens Advocacy, Adult Religious Education Services, Montreal Directed Retreats and The Ignatian Spirituality Centre, to name a few. Please support The Pillars Trust Fund. Donation envelopes are available at the entrances. Consider donating online and receive a tax receipt immediately. Visit www.pillarstrust.org. Contact us at ptf@catholiccentre.ca or at 514-937-2301 ext. 255. (*The Grapevine, October 26, 2017*)

ELDER LAW AND YOU

Do you have questions about living wills, power of attorney, or mandates? Lawyer and Elder law specialist Ann M. Soden will be on hand for a free information session in order to discuss her work at the Elder Law clinic and to answer your questions. This free event will take place on **Friday, November 24** from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the New Hope Senior Citizens' Centre (6225 Godfrey Ave., N.D.G., H4B 1K3). Please R.S.V.P. at esc@bellnet.ca or 514-937-2301, ext. 252. (*The Grapevine, November 1, 2017*)