

Lover of Souls: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn
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First Reading: Wisdom 11:22–12:2 | Psalm 145:1–2, 8–11, 13–14
Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:11–2:2 | Gospel: Luke 19:1–10



Our Lord is a lover of souls, the Liturgy shows us today. As we sing in today's Psalm, He is slow to anger and compassionate toward all that He has made.

In His mercy, our First Reading tells us, He overlooks our sins and ignorance, giving us space that we might repent and not perish in our sinfulness (see Wisdom 12:10; 2 Peter 3:9).

In Jesus, He has become the Savior of His children, coming Himself to save the lost (see Isaiah 63:8–9; Ezekiel 34:16).

In the figure of Zacchaeus in today's Gospel, we have a portrait of a lost soul. He is a tax collector, by profession a "sinner" excluded from Israel's religious life. Not only that, he is a "chief tax collector." Worse still, he is a rich man who has apparently gained his living by fraud.

But Zacchaeus' faith brings salvation to his house. He expresses his faith in his fervent desire to "see" Jesus, even humbling himself to climb a tree just to watch Him pass by. While those of loftier religious stature react to Jesus with grumbling, Zacchaeus receives Him with joy.

Zacchaeus is not like the other rich men Jesus meets or tells stories about (see Luke 12:16–21; 16:19–31; 18:18–25). He repents, vowing to pay restitution to those he has cheated and to give half of his money to the poor.

By his humility he is exalted, made worthy to welcome the Lord into his house. By his faith he is justified, made a descendant of Abraham (see Romans 4:16–17).

As He did last week, Jesus is again using a tax collector to show us the faith and humility we need to obtain salvation.

We are also called to seek Jesus daily with repentant hearts. And we should make our own Paul's prayer in today's Epistle: that God might make us worthy of His calling, that by our lives we might give glory to the name of Jesus.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
November 2nd – November 10th, 2019

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| Saturday 10:00 a.m. | Nov. 2nd | COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED Yellow Envelope (Souls) |
| Saturday 4:30 p.m. | Nov. 2nd | Sunday Vigil <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. | Nov. 3rd | Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Deceased Members of the De Souza and Pinto families - RIP Deceased Legionaries - RIP |
| Monday | Nov. 4th | NO MASS |
| Tuesday 7:00 p.m. | Nov. 5th | Weekday Special Intention for Family Member |
| Wednesday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. | Nov. 6th | Weekday For Souls in Purgatory – by Phil <i>Quebec Association of Retired Teachers</i> |
| Thursday 9:00 a.m. | Nov. 7th | Weekday All Souls in Purgatory – RIP – by Connie |
| Friday 9:00 a.m. | Nov. 8th | Weekday Deceased Members of the Family |
| Saturday 4:30 p.m. | Nov. 9th | Sunday Vigil Alban De Souza – RIP – by the family |
| Sunday 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. | Nov. 10th | Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Jeffrey Saldaña – RIP – by Anna Jarone! <i>Pro Populo</i> |

*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 27, 2019 - **\$2,408.75**
Thank you for your generosity.

SAINTS ON ABORTION:

"The so-called right to abortion has pitted mothers against their children and women against men. It has sown violence and discord at the heart of the most intimate human relationships...It has portrayed the greatest of gifts - a child - as a competitor, an intrusion, and an inconvenience. It has nominally accorded mothers unfettered dominion over the independent lives of their physically dependent sons and daughters...The right to life does not depend, and must not be declared to be contingent, on the pleasure of anyone else, not even a parent or a sovereign."

- Saint Teresa of Calcutta (aka Mother Teresa), 1994

SAINTLY WISDOM

"You are full of weaknesses. Each day you see them more clearly. But don't let them frighten you. He well knows you can't yield more fruit. Your involuntary falls — a child's falls — show your Father-God that he must take more care and your Mother Mary that she must never let you go from her loving hand. Each day as our Lord picks you up from the ground, take advantage of it, embrace him with all your strength and lay your wearied head on his open breast so that you will be carried away by the beating of his most lovable Heart."

- Saint Josemaría Escrivá, The Way n. 884

BE MY DISCIPLES NEWS

CHRISTMAS BOXES - As part of our Junior High youth group activities to increase our children's Christian awareness, we are participating again 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. In addition to bringing joy to these children, these will introduce them to 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 \$10.00 per box for shipping costs.**

All parishioners are invited to join this parish activity again this year. Each family can fill up as many boxes as they would like to. There is no limit. You can also use ANY regular shoe box, backpack, duffle bag, etc. **DEADLINE** for returning the filled boxes is **Sunday, November 17th.** **Thank you** to ALL parishioners for your great generosity. For information please contact Frank - 514-333-0791; Connie - 514-747-9347, or the office – 514-747-4226.

HOLY HOUR



Silent adoration every Tuesday evening, following the 7:00pm mass (from 7:30pm to 8:30pm) Also, Adoration every Friday, following the 9:00am mass (from 9:30am to 10:30am). Come and spend some time with the Lord!

"Our Lord hears our prayers anywhere, but He has revealed to His servants that those who visit Him in the Eucharist will obtain a more abundant measure of grace." -St.Alphonsus Ligouri