



WELLSPRING

Fransalain Center for Spirituality

16828 FM 2964, P.O. Box 440, Whitehouse, Texas 75791

Phone: 903-839-1280

Email: frgusmsfs@gmail.com

Wellspring Community Outreach

Monday, July 27, 2026

Brothers and Sisters,

If you had been to Mass yesterday, you would have heard Jesus comparing the Kingdom of God to a treasure buried in a field. A man found it, hid it, rejoiced in his find, and sold all he had and bought that field. He did not just pick up the treasure ...he bought the whole field. All that surrounds the kingdom gains a new meaning and value because the treasure of the kingdom has been found. This treasure and the field that held the treasure were found to be worth sacrificing everything.

What could this mean for us today as we listen to this parable two thousand years later? Could it be that we must accept ourselves with all our imperfections and limitations because we hold the treasure of the kingdom of God within us? St. Paul tells us that we are earthen vessels holding the glory of God (2 Corinthians 4:7). The treasure makes the vessel priceless and it is worth sacrificing everything that we have. St. Irenaeus tells us, "the glory of God is man fully alive". We are fragile, earthen vessels holding the glory of God! We are called to find and re-find the treasure within and to accept and tenderly care for the fragile, earthen vessel that holds the treasure!



Jesus then compared the Kingdom of God to a merchant finding an incredibly valuable pearl. The merchant is savvy enough to recognize that he needs to sell everything he owns in order to obtain the one pearl of great price. Before the discovery of the diamond, the pearl was the most precious "thing" on earth. Jesus calls us to follow the example of the merchant who sold other pearls of lesser value to obtain that one truly priceless pearl.

What could this mean for us today as we listen to this parable two thousand years later? We must continue to search for that fine, priceless pearl as well as the pearls of lesser value that we are holding on to. Pearls of lesser value may be people or things or ideas or institutions or positions or power or prestige or anything that keep us from God or distract us from following the way Jesus or keep us from fulfilling our baptismal commitments or lead us away from God

and God's way. All that we hold as important must be measured, weighed, and prioritized against the "pearl of great price." Mathew left the tax collectors post, Peter left his fishing gear, Zacchaeus gave up his riches, Francis of Assisi gave up his wealth, Thomas Merton gave up his bohemian lifestyle and communist beliefs and many other great men and women found their "pearl of great price" in Christ and sacrificed the lesser ones. They found their "pearl of great price" and sacrificed the ones they were holding on to and their life was changed forever.

During the coming week, take a few moments to be still. Reflect on finding and re-finding the amazing treasure within and the pearl of great price and restructuring your life in response to your amazing discovery!

**Be sure to take a few still moments during the week.
Bless yourself with stillness!**

Be Still Moment - Allow yourself to be still for a moment

Be still! Look for the best in and around you. Take a vacation from dwelling on your own failures and imperfections and those of others.

Salesian Moment – A moment with St. Francis de Sales

I would rather account to God for too great gentleness than for too great severity. Is not God all love? God the Father is the Father of mercy; God the Son is a Lamb; God the Holy Spirit is a Dove—that is, gentleness itself.

Learn patience where you are.....

There was a monk who was very impatient. You may wonder, why would a monk be impatient? Don't they become monks so that they don't have to deal with the world? Yes, that's true. So, imagine how impatient this monk was!!!

The more he tried, the more impatient he became. So, he decided that he must get away to learn to be patient. So, he built himself a little home deep in the woods, far away from civilization. Years later, a man was traveling in those woods and met him. The man was amazed to find anyone living so far away from the rest of the world, so he asked the monk why he was there all by himself. The monk said that he was there to learn to be patient.

The traveler asked how long he had been there, and the monk replied: seven years. Stunned, the traveler asked, "If there is no one around to bother you, how will you know when you are patient?" Annoyed, the monk replied, "Get away from me... I have no time for you."

Every time you feel that you are becoming impatient, remember the monk! Learn patience where you are, with people and situations that challenge your patience!



A bar opened opposite a Church! The Church prayed daily against the bar business. Days later the bar was struck by lightning & caught fire which destroyed it.

Bar Owner sued the Church authorities for the cause of its destruction, as it was an action because of their prayer..

The Church denied all responsibility!

So, the judge commented, "It's difficult to decide the case because here we have a Bar Owner who believes in the power of prayer & an entire Church that doesn't believe in it!"

Did you Know?

Satan's Drink.....

A cup of hot coffee is the favorite drink of many to begin their day. However, coffee was not always accepted in Western society. Arab shepherds and Islamic clerics were the first to cultivate and brew coffee beans. Because of these origins, Europeans originally did not embrace coffee. Some even called it "Satan's drink."

When Pope Clement VIII encountered coffee in the 16th century, his advisors encouraged him to ban the drink. However, Pope Clement VIII tasted it and said, "This Satan's drink is so delicious that it would be a pity to let infidels have exclusive use of it". Pope Clement VIII then blessed coffee beans and encouraged people to drink it instead of alcohol. After he baptized coffee, Catholics around the world were welcome to partake in the delicious drink we enjoy today. Thanks to Pope Clement VIII

Pope Leo XIV.....

Pope at Angelus: God brings true fulfilment....

In his Angelus address, Pope Leo XIV reflected on the Kingdom of God as a treasure that transforms lives, calling Christians to recognize what truly matters. Commenting on the Gospel parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great value (Mathew 13:44-52), the Pope said that the Kingdom of God brings a joy so profound that leaving everything behind is no longer experienced as a loss, but as a gain. Encountering his Kingdom marks a turning point that does

not limit life but enlarges it, Pope Leo said. “If anything must change on our part, it is only so that our lives may be opened to greater possibilities, not fewer.”

The Pope noted that Jesus reveals the beauty of the Kingdom through images drawn from the lives of ordinary people: farmers, merchants, fishermen, scribes, women preparing bread, builders, administrators, shepherds and farmers. Through these examples, Jesus shows that the Kingdom can be encountered in many different circumstances and calls everyone — men and women, young and old, poor and rich — to a profound renewal.

Pope Leo said that the Church today reflects this same diversity, bringing together people of different origins, cultures and responsibilities, all called to recognize their unity in Jesus Christ. “He is the hidden treasure, the pearl of great price, the net that gathers those who are scattered,” the Pope said. From the beginning, Jesus gathered around himself people who otherwise might never have met, showing that God does not show partiality and that his love is especially directed towards those who are small and overlooked. Christians, he said, must learn to recognize the true treasure: a relationship with God that opens people to joy and helps them build better relationships with one another.

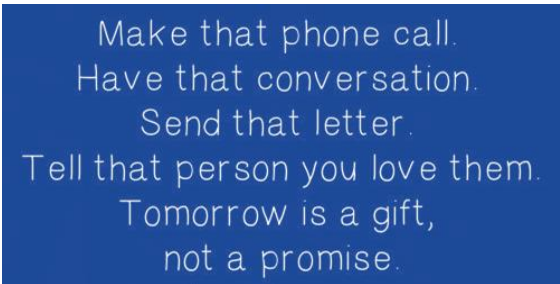
Pray for each other.....

Let us stay close to each other in spirit and prayer as we continue our journey through life with all its joyful moments as well as moments not so joyful. Be faithful to your calling! All you do may not be successful in your eyes or in the eyes of others. The real success lies in your fidelity to who you are and what you have come to know as your calling. Just be faithful and be joyful!

God bless you and your families,

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs

**You may fail many times.
You are not a failure until you begin to blame someone else.**



Make that phone call.
Have that conversation.
Send that letter.
Tell that person you love them.
Tomorrow is a gift,
not a promise.