Wellspring
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November 8, 2026

Brothers and Sisters,

Today, we celebrate the thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time of the Year. Our Scripture readings of the past five weeks called us to be faithful to who we are called to be, fruitful as disciples of Jesus, joyful as disciples sent to proclaim good news, witnesses of Jesus and His Gospel as we go about doing our daily chores, loving God above all else and letting that love become inclusive and all-embracing and to be men and women of integrity, living lives that are authentic, credible and holy so that the messages they are privileged to carry are not just fine words, but lives that are lived out in truth.

Our Scripture readings of this Sunday advise us to live faithful and virtuous lives today and not put it off for tomorrow. Our first Scripture reading today invite us to be faithful to God's law today and desire and seek God's wisdom now and not in some distant future. The wise sage assured his readers that Wisdom will not elude the sincere seeker. She will place herself on the road of the seeker so that he may find her. God himself would instruct those who desire his wisdom. However, if one has to understand God's instruction, one must desire and seek God's wisdom. Wisdom is a divine gift that will reveal itself to the seeker now (first reading).

In the second reading of today's mass, we read about Paul encouraging the Thessalonians, who believed the return of Jesus to be imminent, not to be anxious but to live faithful lives and be filled with hope. Jesus told his listeners the parable of the ten virgins who were unprepared to welcome the groom when he arrived (Today's Gospel Reading). This parable teaches us that certain things cannot be obtained at the last minute. We must be prepared and preparation must be done now, not in some distant future. Patient waiting for tomorrow can be a blessing. It can also stifle our power to get things done today.

Knowing that there is tomorrow can be a blessing and a challenge. It can bring us hope and nurture optimism. It can help us plan, gather necessary information, material and people for help and support. It can be exciting to wait in anticipation for great and joyful things to happen. Tomorrow can be exciting and challenging and a blessing! Knowing that there is tomorrow can also make a person put things off, become lazy, careless, irresponsible, and unprepared. Certain things cannot be put off for tomorrow and certain things cannot be borrowed or obtained at the last minute. A good name, a good character, noble virtues, healthy relationships, etc. can never be borrowed or obtained at the last minute or nurtured on a convenient date in the future. No one can live on the spiritual capital of others, and no one can develop a spiritual life

in the future. Now is the moment of Grace. Now is the God-moment! Now is the only moment that is available to us!

Three little devils were in training to go to earth to tempt people. At the end of their training, the master devil gave them a test. "What would you do to tempt men when you go to earth? Tell me about your strategy," said the master devil to his disciples. The first one said that he would tell men that there is no God. The master said, "it wouldn't work because the men know there is a God." The second one said that he would tell men that there is no hell. The master said, "it wouldn't work either because the men in the world know that there is a hell." The third one said that he would tell men that there is tomorrow. The master said, "Congratulations! You got it right. You are ready to go to earth. You tell those men that there is tomorrow and they will put things off for tomorrow."

We have no hold on the past - we can't change even the smallest bit of it. We have very little hold on the future. We can't program life in advance but can only receive it moment by moment. All we have is the present moment. Only in the present moment are we truly in contact with reality. In the present moment, we always have the possibility of starting again, not being impeded by the past, or tormented by the future. The past is in the hands of the Merciful God, who can draw benefit from everything; the future is in the hands of our God who will never forget us. St. Francis de Sales tells us, "the God who brought you to this moment will carry you to the next." Our faith in a merciful God keeps us from living, as many people do, oppressed by a burdensome past or worrisome future or both. Living in the present permits our hearts to open and expand.

The secret of health for body, mind and spirit is not to mourn for the past or worry about the future, or anticipate troubles, but to live in the present moment intentionally, purposefully and wisely. Living in the present moment means letting go of the past and not, anxiously, wait for the future. It means living your life consciously and intentionally now, in this moment, aware that each moment you breathe is God's gift. Taking care of today is the best preparation for tomorrow. If we are in God's presence today, we will stay there when tomorrow arrives. St. Francis de Sales suggests, "Think only of today and when tomorrow comes, it too will be called today and we will think about it then."

I encourage you to take a few moments each day of this week to be still and to reflect on how your day has been and how you are striving to live a life of honor and virtue, a godly life, today, now, in this moment! Embrace this moment and make the best of it. Tomorrow will be a blessing if you make this moment a blessing. Choose this moment and make it a blessing for you and others!

God bless you and your family.

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs

Scroll down to read the reflections on the Scripture readings of todays' mass….

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 8, 2026

**Christian faith is not only a matter of believing that certain things are true,
but above all a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
It is an encounter with the Son of God that gives new energy to the whole of our existence.
When we enter into a personal relationship with him, Christ reveals our true identity
and in friendship with him, our life grows towards complete fulfilment.**
(Pope Benedict XVI)

Collect

Almighty and merciful God,
graciously keep from us all adversity,
so that, unhindered in mind and body alike,
we may pursue in freedom of heart
the things that are yours.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Liturgy of the Word

Prayerfully read the first reading and then read my reflections below and spend a few moments of personal reflection. Do the same with Responsorial Psalm and other readings.

Be content with what you have now without desiring for more and better and you will find peace and serenity.

Wisdom 6:12-16

The author encourages his readers to be faithful to God's law and desire God's word of wisdom. God will instruct those who desire his wisdom (6:2-11). In today's reading, the author says, if one has to understand God's instruction, one must desire and seek God's wisdom, personified as a woman. Wisdom is a divine gift. This divine gift will reveal herself to the seeker. Wisdom will not elude the sincere seeker. She will place herself on the road of the seeker so that he may find her.

Jeremiah, the Prophet, tells us, “When you look (search) for me, you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart……. you will find me.....I will let you find me. (Jeremiah 29:13ff). This is also the wisdom that Jesus taught: “Ask and you will receive…seek and you will find…knock and the door will be opened.” (Luke 11:9) St. John Vianney tells us, “If you set out to meet God, He will come to meet you”.

Keep seeking! Keep listening! Stay focused! Never give up!

Psalm 63

The Psalmist has known the living God who carries his people in His arms. So, he can proclaim boldly, “for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts” - flesh & soul refer to the whole person. He has found the “loving kindness”, “steadfast love” or “covenant love” better than life itself. The “love” of God is better than the gift of life itself!!! So, he praises, meditates, contemplates “God” day and night. Remembering “Covenant love” he can only shout for joy.

O God, You are my God whom I seek;
For you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts,
Like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

During the past few Sundays, we have been reading Paul’s encouraging and appreciating words to the Thessalonian community. They had welcomed the good news that Paul brought to them and gave themselves to living their commitment to Christ. Paul was full of appreciation and gratitude for the witness of their life.

The Thessalonians, believing that Christ’s final coming was immanent, were concerned about those who were dying before his coming. They had believed that the return of Jesus was imminent. Some of them believing in this immediate return of Jesus, quit their jobs and made waiting their full-time occupation. They found that some of them had died before Jesus returned. And they became concerned about what would happen to those who died before the return of Jesus.

In this excerpt, like a good, sensitive and compassionate pastor, Paul brings comfort to his Thessalonian readers. He advised them not to “grieve as those who have no hope”, rather, “console and encourage one another”. Paul encouraged them to trust in Christ and remain faithful to him without becoming anxious and losing hope. Console one another with the simple message: “God’s Grace is there for all. We shall be with him...we belong with him”.

Don’t be anxious! Be filled with hope! Be optimistic and positive about life, death and the world.

Mathew 25:1-13

Jesus told his listeners the parable of the ten virgins who were unprepared to welcome the groom when he arrived and so missed the wedding celebrations. Last minute bargains did not work out for them.

This parable teaches us to be awake, alert, attentive, ready and prepared! Knowing that there is tomorrow can be a blessing and a challenge. It can bring us hope and nurture optimism. It can help us plan, gather necessary information, material and people for help and support. It can be exciting to wait in anticipation for great and joyful things to happen. Knowing that there is tomorrow can also make a person put things off, become lazy, careless, irresponsible, and unprepared. We must be prepared and preparation must be done now, not in some distant future. Patient waiting for tomorrow can be a blessing. It can also stifle our power to get things done today.

Certain things cannot be put off for tomorrow and certain things cannot be borrowed or obtained at the last minute. A good name, a good character, noble virtues, healthy relationships, etc. can never be borrowed or obtained at the last minute or nurtured on a convenient date in the future. No one can live on the spiritual capital of others, and no one can develop a spiritual life in the future. Now is the moment of Grace. Now is the God-moment! Now is the only moment that is available to us!

The secret of health for body, mind and spirit is not to mourn for the past, worry about the future, or anticipate troubles, but to live in the present moment intentionally and wisely. Living in the present moment means letting go of the past and not waiting for the future. It means living your life consciously and intentionally now, aware that each moment you breathe is God's gift. "Every moment comes to us pregnant with a command from God, only to pass on and plunge into eternity, there to remain forever what we have made of it." (St. Francis de Sales)

Tomorrow will be a blessing if you make this moment a blessing. Choose this moment and make it a blessing and make tomorrow a blessing for you and others! And you will find peace and serenity!

Be awake! Be alert! Be attentive! Be ready!

Saint of the day, November 12 - St. Josaphat and 22 other saints are remembered this day.

St. Josaphat was born John Kuncevic around 1580 in Vladimir, a village of the Lithuanian Province of Volhynia (then a part of the Polish Kingdom begun under the Jagellonian Dynasty). His parents belonged to the Eastern Rite Church of Kyiv (Ukraine) which was then separated from Rome.

In 1595, the Orthodox bishop of Brest-Litovsk in present-day Belarus and five other bishops representing millions of Ruthenians, sought reunion with Rome. John Kunsevich, who took the name Josaphat in religious life, was to dedicate his life, and die for the same cause. He became a Basilian monk, then a priest, and soon was well known as a preacher and an ascetic.

St. Josaphat is the first Byzantine-rite saint to be formally canonized. As Bishop, he worked for better understanding, acceptance and fair treatment of Byzantine Catholics in Poland. One day, he offered himself in the place of the servants being beaten by an angry crowd and the crowd hit him with an ax, shot him and threw him in the river. He died on November 12, 1623. He kept his faith alive and stirred into flame the faith of many others.

Fr. Gus Tharappel, msfs

Consider your house your home,
a very special and sacred space and not a storage place.
Keep it simple, elegant and welcoming!

