

Clement Manor

PASTORAL CARE

SPIRITUAL GROWTH PACKET

33nd Sunday in Ordinary Time **November 15. 2026**

Gospel **Matthew 25:14-15, 19-21**

Jesus told his disciples this parable:
"A man going on a journey
called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them.
To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one--
to each according to his ability.
Then he went away.



"After a long time
the master of those servants came back
and settled accounts with them.
The one who had received five talents came
forward bringing the additional five.
He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents.
See, I have made five more.'
His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant.
Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come, share your master's joy.'"

The Capacity of Your Soul
Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)
Jesus told his disciples this parable: “A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one—to each according to his ability. Then he went away.” Matthew 25:14–15

Today’s parable comes from Jesus’ eschatological discourse (Matthew 24–25), delivered near the end of His public ministry. It speaks of the Final Judgment and calls us to vigilance, fidelity, and spiritual fruitfulness as we await the return of our Divine Master. This eschatological reminder of God’s Final Judgment is especially fitting as we near the end of the Liturgical Year, in anticipation of the Solemnity of Christ the King next weekend.

The story begins with a master who, before departing on a journey, entrusts his possessions to his servants, “each according to his ability.” In this image, Jesus reveals Himself as the Master, whose journey begins with His Ascension into Heaven. The talents—a unit of currency—represent the spiritual gifts, graces, charisms, and opportunities God entrusts to each soul for the building up of His Kingdom.

This raises a profound question: Why are these gifts given in differing measures? Why does one soul receive five talents, another two, and another only one? Is God unjust in the distribution of His mercy? The answer lies in the mystery that, although every soul has the capacity to receive the infinite God who dwells within, not all cooperate with His grace to the same degree.

Saint Teresa of Ávila reflects beautifully on this truth in the opening pages of her spiritual masterpiece, The Interior Castle. She teaches that the soul is like a magnificent castle, in which God dwells in the innermost chamber. The spiritual life is a journey through the many “mansions” of this castle, drawing ever closer to union with the One who already resides within. Saint Teresa affirms that the soul is of “great beauty” and “great capacity” because God is present within us (I.I #2). God has already placed within each soul every spiritual treasure—every grace and gift we need. Yet our experience of those treasures—whether five talents, two, or one—depends upon our willingness to embark on the inner journey of prayer, purification, and transformation.

So, is God unjust in the distribution of His mercy? Certainly not. Each of us is capable of receiving and manifesting that mercy in abundance. The extent to which this takes place is revealed in today's parable, along with the sobering truth that such gifts can be lost through negligence and complacency.

The servants entrusted with five and two talents represent those who actively cooperate with the grace of God dwelling within. That cooperation leads to spiritual transformation and growth, doubling the gifts received and preparing the soul for even greater fruitfulness.

By contrast, the servant who buried the one talent he received represents those who, despite having the infinite God within, remain closed to His grace. To bury the talent is to ignore the divine gifts by hiding them through fear, laziness, or indifference. The result is severe: "Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich… And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth" (Matthew 25:28–30).

Reflect today on the stark contrasts among these servants, and humbly consider which best represents you. God wants you to be spiritually rich. He desires that you use the interior treasure of grace flowing from His indwelling presence. He wants to multiply every spiritual gift you have and use them for His glory and the salvation of souls. Are you willing to work diligently to cooperate with all that God has given you? Do you desire spiritual riches in superabundance? Or are you lazy, ignoring God's invitations? Resolve to grow rich in grace—so that when Jesus returns in glory, it will be a day of great rejoicing, not one of darkness, wailing, and grinding of teeth.

Weekly Prayer Intentions:

- For the Sick: May those residents who are sick feel God's healing presence.
- For the Church, that we may faithfully use the gifts and talents God has given us to serve others and build a world rooted in love and compassion.
- For our residents, that they may recognize the blessings they have received throughout their lives and continue to share their wisdom, faith, and love with those around them.
- For families and loved ones, that they may be strengthened by faith, encouraged by hope, and reminded that even the smallest acts of kindness can make a lasting difference.
- For all who feel they have little to offer, that they may discover their God-given gifts and find meaningful ways to share them with others.
- For our Clement Manor community, that we may be faithful stewards of the time, talents, and blessings entrusted to us, always serving one another with generosity, gratitude, and love.



Most generous Lord, You desire to bestow upon us Your graces in superabundance. I pray that I will always be open to Your generosity and will cooperate fully with Your graced presence in my life. May my cooperation be diligent, so that the capacity of my soul may increase and manifest Your glory in exponential ways. Jesus, I trust in You.

Offer Masses for your Loved Ones
The suggested offering is $20.
Contact Dcn Tom Brefka- 546-7980

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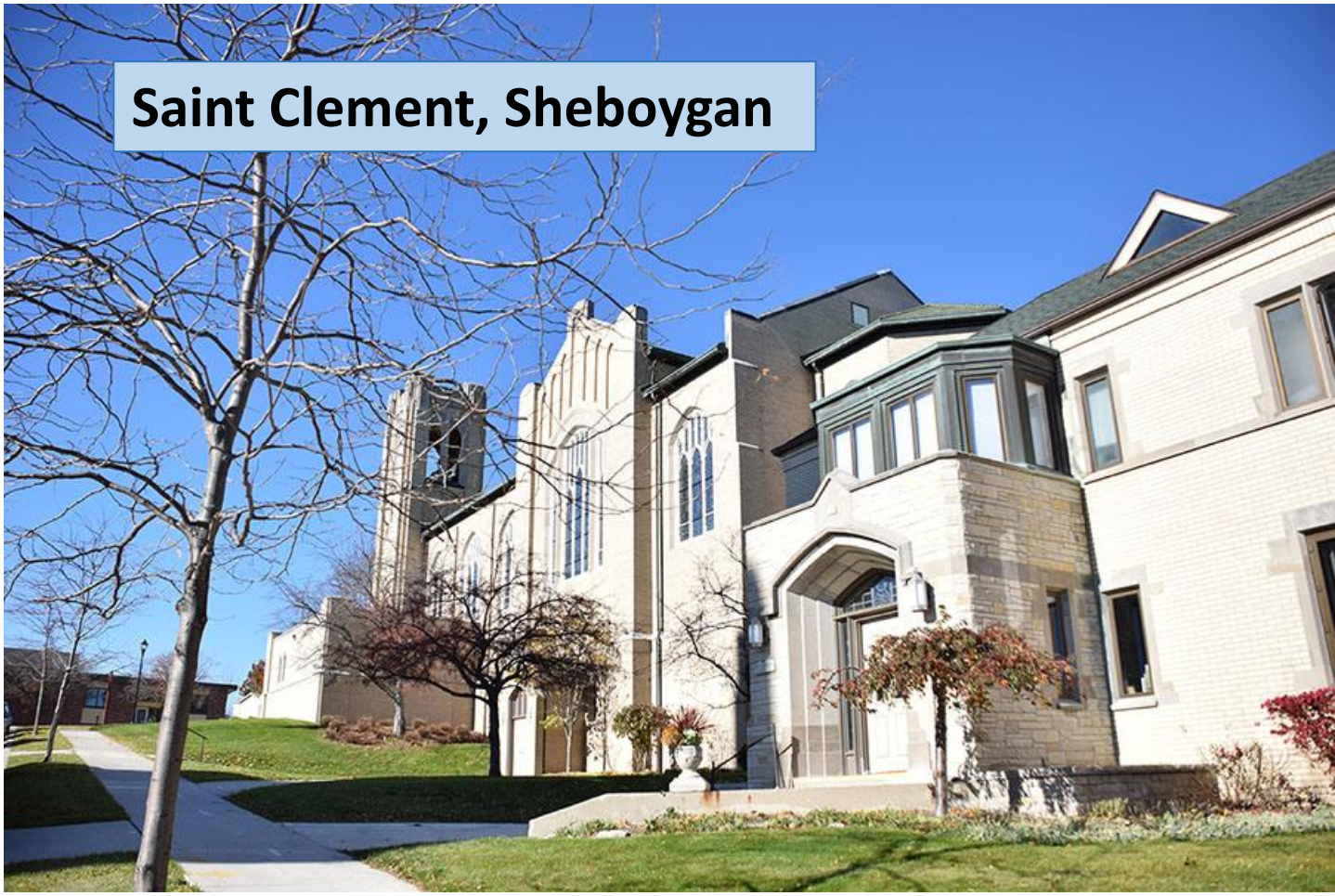
Holy Father's Monthly Intention November 2026
For the proper use of wealth
Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.



Prayer for the Proper Use of Wealth
Gracious and Generous God,
You bless us with gifts and resources, not simply for our own comfort, but so that we may share them with others. Help us to see that true wealth is measured not by what we possess, but by the love, kindness, and generosity we offer. Keep us from becoming selfish or taking our blessings for granted. Open our hearts to those who struggle, those who are forgotten, and those in need of hope. May we use what we have wisely and compassionately, always remembering that we are called to serve one another and work for the common good.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thanks for Blessings Past and Present

Lord God, we gather around this table to humbly thank You for all that You have given us this past year – not just what is on this table, but who is sitting around this table. Thank you for life and laughter, for health and happiness, for relationships and memories. Thank you, too, for the lessons learned and the tears we've cried because of Your ability to grow us through them. Thank You for Your comfort and Your presence, in light of good days and bad. Thank You for what we have now, for what we had yesterday, and for what You will continue to give tomorrow. Let us never take that for granted, but to always be grateful for every good and perfect gift that comes from You. May we have hearts full of thanksgiving not only today but every day of our lives. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Amen.



Prayer for Hope and Healing

In our mission to extend compassionate care like You modeled, may we be a light within our communities, working together for justice and advocating for those in need. God of hope, move our hearts.

As we work to love our neighbors as You do, may we over flow with the mercy You freely give so that all may know what it means to belong to the family of God.

God of hope, move our hands.

In Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, You show us how Your faithful and compassionate love established eternal hope forall. When our trust wavers, steady us in Your unrelenting goodness and the certainty that You always make a way. God of hope, move our feet.

AMEN

Anointing of the Sick

During Masses

November 14 4pm

November 15 9:30am

November 17

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, wife, mother, religious

God our Creator,
Your call comes to us in many ways through our lifetime.
May Saint Elizabeth's dedication to her family and care for the poor and the sick touch our hearts with compassion.
Give us a generous spirit to remember all who are less fortunate than we are.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Christ.
AMEN.
***Saint Elizabeth, PRAY FOR US*.**

November 18

Dedication of the Basilicas of SS. Peter and Paul

Saints Peter and Paul, God used you in unique and powerful ways that continue to have a profound impact upon the lives of God's people today. Please pray for me, that I will also become a foundation upon which God continues to build His Church and from which the message of salvation goes forth. Saints Peter and Paul, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.
AMEN
Saints Peter and Paul, PRAY FOR US.

November 21

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection,implored thy help, or sought thy intercession,was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidenceI fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.To thee do I come, before thee I stand,sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate,despise not my petitions,but in thy mercy hear and answer me.Amen.
St. Mary, PRAY FOR US.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS:



Daily Reading for
Sunday November 15, 2026
Reading 1, Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5
Reading 2, Thessalonians 5:1-6
Gospel, Matthew 25:14-30

Daily Reading for
Monday November 16, 2026
Reading 1, Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6
Gospel, Luke 18:35-43

Daily Reading for
Tuesday November 17, 2026
Reading 1, Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 15:2-3, 3-4, 5
Gospel, Luke 19:1-10

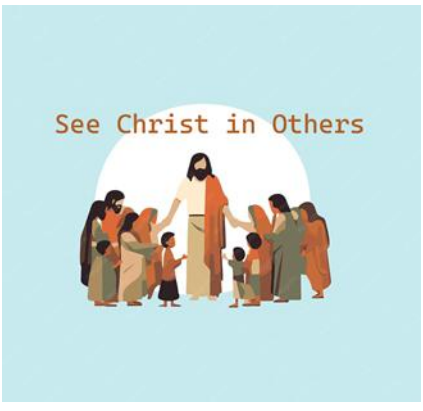
Daily Reading for
Wednesday November 18, 2026
Reading 1, Revelation 4:1-11
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 150:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Gospel, Luke 19:11-28

Daily Reading for
Thursday November 19, 2026
Reading 1, Revelation 5:1-10
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 9
Gospel, Luke 9:41-44

Daily Reading for
Friday November 20, 2026
Reading 1, Revelation 10:8-11
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131
Gospel, Luke 19:45-48

Daily Reading for
Saturday November 21, 2026
Reading 1, Revelation 11:4-12
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 144:1, 2, 9-10
Gospel, Luke 20:27-40

Daily Reading for
Sunday November 22, 2026
Reading 1, Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
Responsorial Psalm, Psalms 23:1-2, 2-3, 5, 6
Reading 2, Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Gospel, Matthew 25:31-46



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