

We Are Gifted to Become Gifts to Others!

The celebrations of the feasts of All Saints and All Souls at the beginning of this month invite us to continue to reflect deeply on the last things of our life- death, judgment, and verdict. It is a reflection not meant to frighten us; rather it invites us to “stay alert and sober” as St. Paul tells us in the 2nd reading today. Staying alert and sober means that we continually use both the spiritual and material gifts God has given us to His greater glory with the faith that God will reward our earthly efforts with eternal life.

The first reading, the book of Proverbs, describes the virtues and qualities of a good wife. Simply put, a good wife is a woman who is making proper use of the gifts God has given to her to bring hope and happiness to her family and others. The fear of God, which is the beginning of wisdom is what helps a good wife to use her gifts fruitfully. The parable of the talents in the gospel invites us to reflect all the more on how we use the gifts, both material and spiritual gifts God has given us for us to become the best of gifts to each other.

The parable of the talents, reminds us that each of us made in the image of God has been blessed with different gifts. What we make out of these is the gift we give back to Him. The gospel invites us to follow examples of the first servant who made the best out of the talents/gifts he received. To be able to do this, we need to recognize and appreciate the gifts we have received and ask God for wisdom and strength to use them to serve others by becoming gifts to them. Let us always pray for wisdom to discover and use both the material and spiritual gifts God has given us and use them to bear fruits for His greater glory. Amen.

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last” (John 15: 16)