

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 7, 2021

Gospel

Mark 12:41-44 (shorter form)

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury
and observed how the crowd put money
into the treasury.

Many rich people put in large sums.

A poor widow also came and put in two
small coins worth a few cents.

Calling his disciples to himself, he said to
them,

“Amen, I say to you, this poor widow
put in more
than all the other contributors to the
treasury.

For they have all contributed from their
surplus wealth,
but she, from her poverty, has
contributed all she had,
her whole livelihood.”



Readings for the week:

32nd Sunday in Ord. Time

1 Kgs 17:10-16
Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10
Heb 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44 or
12:41-44

Monday

Wis 1:1-7
Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6,
7-8, 9-10
Luke 17:1-6

Tuesday Lateran Basilica

Ezek 47:1-2, 8-9, 12
Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17
John 2:13-22

Wednesday

Wis 6:1-11
Ps 82:3-4, 6-7
Luke 17:11-19

Thursday

Wis 7:22b-8:1
Ps 119:89, 90, 91,
130, 135, 175
Luke 17:20-25

Friday

Wis 13:1-9
Ps 19:2-3, 4-5ab
Luke 17:26-37

Saturday

Wis 18:14-16;
19:6-9
Ps 105:2-3, 36-37,
42-43
Luke 18:1-8

33rd Sunday in Ord. Time

Dan 12:1-3
Ps 16:5, 8,
9-10, 11
Heb 10:11-14, 18
Mark 13:24-32



Opening Prayer

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. **Amen.**

Reflecting on Living the Gospel

In today's gospel reading, Jesus is described as sitting "opposite the treasury," and so opting to teach in the Woman's Court of the Temple. In this area were thirteen trumpet-shaped receptacles to receive alms for the upkeep of the Temple. In the Temple, devoid of paper money, it was the large donations that reverberated loudly through the court to trumpet the generosity of the donor. But Jesus listens with the ear of his heart to the whisper of the two small coins dropped in by the poor widow. She gives two *lepta*, the least valuable coins in circulation at the time, and worth "a few cents," the average daily wage of an unskilled laborer. And the widow gives *two* coins, not just one.

Jesus's condemnation of the unscrupulous scribes is part of his public teaching, but then he calls his disciples to himself to impress on them the significance of the widow's action. He solemnly comments that the widow has given God "all she had, her whole livelihood."

We should not read into this gospel a romanticization of poverty nor a condemnation of large donations. It is the motivation behind gifts, large or small, that is important. To give out of our surplus may be useful for taxation purposes, or a generous donation may be great publicity for the corporate business image; contributing to costly buildings or supporting grandiose schemes may often have the aim of making a name for the donor, regardless of the consequences, especially for the poor. We may be able to think of times and places when the church is not exempt from such temptations. It is acting out of love, the motivation that is not economic, promotional, or ostentatious, that makes the difference in the eyes of God.

Closing Prayer

Provident God, we are scared to give up the things we think give us security: wealth, power, influence. Yet we know your continuing call to us, to give you our *whole livelihood*. Help us to not be afraid, and to place our whole trust in you. **Amen.**

For Reflection:

- When have you witnessed someone giving not from their surplus, but from their lack? How do you strive to be charitable and generous to those in need?

Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the "Opening Prayer" (in *The Roman Missal* called the "collect").
2. One person read aloud the gospel.
3. Each read prayerfully "Reflecting on Living the Gospel" and spend some time in personal prayer.
4. Share together responses to "For Reflection."
5. Pray the "Closing Prayer."

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Announcements
11/06/21 to 11/07/21

Financials: Last Week 10/27/21-11/02/21

Weekly Collection Goal \$2400	Total \$1706.00 Short \$694.00	
In Church	\$ 1404.00	
OnLine Giving	\$ 302.00	
Mail In	\$ 00.00	

November 16th is Bread Day. The order sheet is at the church entry. Mahalo for your continued support.

Have a Blessed Week!