

November 15, 2026

Written by
THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | 1 Thes 5:1-6 | Mt 25:14-30

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In biblical times, a talent was a large unit of currency, equating to over a decade's worth of work. A single talent would be a huge treasure for a master to leave in a servant's care, let alone two or five! As we read this, we marvel at the trust the master places in his servants. Yet we know that God has also entrusted us with much. In marriage, spouses are entrusted with the hearts of one another, as proclaimed in the passage from Proverbs. We know that priests are entrusted with shepherding those in their parishes and communities. Our loving Father places others in roles to care for family members, students, those who are ill. In the work of building his kingdom here on earth, God entrusts us with his greatest treasures – one another.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The talents in the Gospel are coins, but we know that God gives us many good gifts, both physical and spiritual. God expects us to use these gifts, and if we use them in the way he intends, he will surely multiply them. When we live as the people whom God created us to be, we share our gifts and also recognize the gifts of others, thereby returning our gifts to the Lord and building up the Body of Christ. When our interactions with others reveal God's love and encourage them to love others better in return, the love of God multiplies. God's love fills us, flows from us, and ripples out into the world through others. In doing so, we reveal ourselves to be "children of the light" and have hope that we will be welcomed into the eternal joy of heaven.

REFLECT

In order to multiply the love we have been given from our heavenly Father, we must first be mindful of the many treasures with which we have been blessed. What blessings has God entrusted to you? How are you being called to love and care for those closest to you? Spend some time this week reflecting on ways that you are called to steward these treasured relationships and multiply God's love.

Transmission of Faith *- Part II*

The Church's recent document "**Venite ad me**" on the transmission of faith is not a doctrinal text. It is presented as "considerations," drawing on the input from several national bishops' conferences.

The document says that today, difficulties to sharing the faith abound, including the spread of secularization, individualism, and distractions.

The text says that "the heart of the Christian experience" is "an encounter with the Lord Jesus that brings us into contact with the true light of divine love, keeps us from losing our way in darkness, and leads us to life. It is precisely in this sense that we can speak of the 'light of faith.'"

"The transmission of the faith," the document says, "has its ultimate foundation in God's initiative, who, in Christ, revealed his face and entrusted the Apostles the task of proclaiming the Gospel to all nations."

The document also recalls the words of Pope Benedict XVI in a 2007 homily: "the most authentic force of the evangelizing mission of the community of the Lord's disciples remains the power of attraction."



Learn from St. Francis

Our next *Faith Forward* Gathering
Dec. 6, Sunday, from 12:05pm
EMBRACING HUMILITY & POVERTY

Register at the **table** near our church's main entrance OR scan the **QR code >**
On Nov. 8, we had 90+ participants! Many thanks to our volunteers!

Campaign for Human Development

Nov. 22

This special collection supports programs that help break the cycle of poverty by funding local community-based projects that create jobs, improve education, and strengthen neighborhoods.

WEEKLY OFFERING *Nov 8*

-Total: $**6,081** ($3,874 + online: $2,207)
-YTD Sunday: $109,298. Budget: $133,000.
-Parish Building Fund: $**1,453.**
-All Souls Day: $**356.**
-General fund: $**200.**
Thank you for your generosity.
"God loves a cheerful giver" (2Cor 9:7)

MASS INTENTIONS

Nov 14	Sat	05pm	Luis Rodriguez (L)
Nov 15	Sun	07am	Gary S. H. Chang +
		09am	M. Eldin Vaiz +
		11am	Chuck & Peggy Schoppe (L)
		05pm	Anne Menezes +
Nov 16	Mon	08am	Madeleine Welch Griffin +
Nov 17	Tue	08am	Kam Fong Wong (L)
Nov 13	Fri	08am	Mark Anthony Baylon +
Nov 14	Sat	09am	Z. Ravindran Fernando +

Thanksgiving Week Schedule

MASS AT ASCENSION
-Nov. 26 (Thursday): 9:00am.
-Nov. 27 (Friday): 8:00am.

INTERFAITH SERVICE
-Nov 26 (10:00am) at Sacred Heart, Saratoga.

PARISH OFFICE
Our office will be closed on Nov. 26 & 27.
Happy Thanksgiving!

St Peter's Basilica: 400 Years



Nov. 18 this year marks the 400th anniversary of the consecration of St. Peter's Basilica.

St. Peter's welcomes about 10 million to 12 million visitors each year. Daily average: Around 30,000 to 40,000 visitors. The basilica has room for 60,000 standing people or 20,000 seated.

As Bishop of Rome, the Holy Father's cathedral is the Lateran Basilica, the head and mother of all churches in the world - not St. Peter's Basilica.

2025-26 Finance Report

- **Total Revenue** was $38,810 over budget. Sunday offerings were 0.084% less than projected but 5.4% ahead of the previous year. The surplus was from increased Holy Day Offerings, Earnings on Deposits & Facilities, and Special Gifts.
- **Operating Expenses** were $28,469 under budget, primarily due to lower Physical Plant offset by higher Payroll.

As a result, the last fiscal year ended with a Net Loss $67,280 under budget.

Sunday offertory is the largest source of revenue for most parishes, especially Church of Ascension (**57% of parish FY 25-26 budgeted income)**. Your generous support is greatly appreciated. This revenue has been on a upward trend in recent years and is approaching Pre-Pandemic levels. Today we ask you to consider increasing your donations because of the rising operating costs and the shortfall in collections in the current fiscal year (to date).

YOU CAN FIND MORE DETAILS IN A REPORT SEPARATE FROM THE BULLETIN**.**

Stay with Us, Lord

Mini Retreat for Young Adults, organized by the Vocations Office, on Nov. 21 from 3pm - 9pm, at St Lawrence, Santa Clara. The retreat is free. Sign up using the QR code.

Altar Servers Needed!

At least 8 years old, in the 3rd or 4th grade, and have received Communion.
Contact Fr. Hao at 408-725-3939.