Some researchers now doubt the validity of multi-tasking. Our grandmothers may have agreed with them, saying, “You can’t do two things at once.” I’m not so sure that holds true for musicians! How else do we survive this last season of Ordinary Time in the year of Matthew? As we prepare liturgies for the conclusion of this year’s liturgical calendar, most communities are scheduling parish calendars to begin a new season of liturgical, educational, catechetical, social, administrative, and ministerial organizing. For musicians, it’s also a time of R & R, i.e., Recruitment and Rehearsal. How do we do it? We just do! “Good job, all!”

Speaking of jobs, September 4th is Labor Day. What does our liturgy say to us about Labor Day? Gregory Norbet’s “Come to Me” and Bob Dufford’s “Like a Shepherd” bring forth verses from Matthew’s gospel, chapter 11.

May your labors this autumn be blessed indeed!

Suggested Use:
E = Entrance/Gathering
O = Offertory/Preparation
C = Communion
S = Dismissal/Sending Forth/Song of Praise

September 3 — 22nd Sunday - Ordinary

Labor Day: Labor Day isn’t a liturgical day and so there is no commemoration of it in the liturgy. However, it is perfectly appropriate to add an intercession to the universal prayer, for example, “That all in our nation’s workforce grow in the dignity of labor and be assured of job security and just compensation.”

The dignity of labor has been brought out more than once in Church teaching, even being afforded an encyclical on the subject (St. Pope John Paul II’s Laborem Exercens, On Human Work, issued September 14, 1981). Christian labor really embraces more than an honest day’s work and just compensation. Human labor parallels the work of God in creation and redemption, and so our own work is a participation in God’s self-giving for the good of others. Moreover, human labor is also more than making a living, as important as that is. Human labor also includes building up the Church and making present God’s kingdom in our world, even the “work” of liturgy (“liturgy” come from two Greek words meaning “the work of the people”) is something to be celebrated this day! – Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

As We Gather at Your Table
Canticle of the Sun
Christ Before Us
Christ in Me Arise
Chris Is Alive (O/S)
Estamos Reunimos
Glory in the Cross
Hoy Nos Reunimos (C)
Keep in Mind (O/C)
Lift High the Cross (S)
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (O/S)
Near the Cross (O/S)
Somo Una Iglesia
Take My Life (O/S)
Take Up Our Cross
Take Up Your Cross
Teach Me Your Way (O/S)
Venimos ante Ti (O/C)
What Wondrous Love (O/S)
When I Behold the Wondrous Cross (O/S)

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9 Jeremiah only reluctantly spoke God’s prophetic word. He tried to hold back, but the word burned like fire in his heart.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

2nd Reading: Romans 12:1-2 Paul urged the Romans to offer their bodies to God as a living sacrifice and not to conform to this age but to be transformed by God.
**Gospel Verse:** May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.

**Gospel:** Matthew 16:21-27 Jesus said, “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”

**Prep of Gifts:**
- Al Partir el Pan (C)
- All That Is Hidden
- Blest Are They (C)
- Come and Follow Me (C)
- Come to Me
- Come to the Water
- Crux Fidelis (C)
- Digo Sí, Señor (C)
- I Am the Way (C)
- Jesus, Lord
- Lord, I Come (C)
- Mi Alma Tiene Sed: Sal 63(62) (C)
- Pan de Vida (C)
- Renew Me, Lord
- Strength for the Journey (C)
- Tâm Tình Hi n Dâng/A Gift of Love
- The Eyes and Hands of Christ
- The Servant Song
- Tomado de la Mano
- We Have Been Told (C)

**Communion Processional:** How great is the goodness, Lord that you keep for those who fear you. OR Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

- Blest Are They
- Draw Near
- Loving and Forgiving
- My Soul Thirsts
- O How Blessed
- Psalm 63: My Soul Is Thirsting
- Seed, Scattered and Sown
- Unless a Grain of Wheat
- We Are Many Parts
- We Remember

**Song of Praise/Sending Forth:**
- Anthem
- Beatitudes
- Companions on the Journey
- Con la Cruz
- El Fuego Cae, Cae
- For the Fruits of This Creation
- I Send You Out
- In Christ Alone
- Lead Me, Lord
- Light of Christ
- Profetiza
- Tell the Good News

**OTHER:**
- As a Fire Is Meant for Burning
- Come to Us, Creative Spirit
- Now We Remain
- Only This I Want
- The Summons
- Transform Us
- Tree of Life
- Two Fishermen
- We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder

**Question of the Week:** Jesus bids me “deny myself” before “taking up the cross” and “following.” What radical shift of values, reordering of priorities, refocusing of vision must take place in my heart as discipleship’s non-negotiable Step Number 1?
Liturgical opportunities for reconciliation: Most Sundays when we gather for liturgy we begin with a penitential act during which we acknowledge our need for repentance, reconciliation, healing, forgiveness, and God’s mercy. Further, most parishes at least twice a year (during Advent and Lent) schedule a “common penance liturgy” (Rite for Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution). As the Introduction to the Rite of Penance states, this communal rite “shows more clearly the ecclesial nature of penance...[so we can] help each other through common prayer” (22). Also, most Catholics go to individual confession at least occasionally. It would seem that we have sufficient liturgical opportunities for confessing sinfulness and seeking reconciliation – all of which lead to conversion. Yet the gospel this Sunday is saying even more: beyond these official liturgical times for reconciliation, we also need to recognize the value of seeking reconciliation with each other directly to receive the strength which comes from restored relationships. The gospel also gives a process (beyond the steps of going individually, then with two or three witnesses, then with the whole community) for such reconciliation. First, the sin must be named and recognized by both the sinner and the one sinned against. Second, the context for this reconciliation is prayer (“gathered together in [Jesus’] name”). Third, once recognition of sin and reconciliation have taken place, the sin is “loosed in heaven,” that is, the sin no longer controls the relationship between the two parties, indicating that true conversion has happened. This allows the relationship to continue to grow, the real work of reconciliation. – Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

1st Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9 God called the prophet as a watchman for the house of Israel. Unless those called by God try to turn the wicked away from evil they will not be saved. When holy people speak up in God’s behalf, they are saved.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

2nd Reading: Romans 13:8-10 All commandments are summed up in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.”

Gospel Verse: God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20 Jesus said, “If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

Prep of Gifts:

A New Commandment (C)
Al Partir el Pan (C)
All Is Well with My Soul
Amémonos de Corazón (C)
As the Deer Longs
Create in Me
Digo Sí, Señor (C)
Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive
I, the Lord
Love One Another (C)
Pastures of the Lord
Prayer of Saint Francis (S)
Psalm 42: As the Deer Longs
Set Your Heart on the Higher Gifts (C)
There Is a Balm in Gilead
Un Mandamiento Nuevo (C)
Whatever You Do (S)
Where Charity Is True (C)

Communion Processional: Like a deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God. OR
I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Christ, Be Our Light
Come to Me and Drink
Estamos Reunidos
Eye Has Not Seen
Like a Deer
Litany of Peace
One Love Released
Only in God
Psalm 42/43: Like a Deer That Longs
When We Eat This Bread
Song of Praise/Sending Forth:

Con la Cruz
Eternal Father, Strong to Save
For the Healing of the Nations
Healing River of the Spirit
I Am the Light of the World
I Will Not Die
In the Day of the Lord
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Los Caminos
People of Peace
Stand by Me

OTHER:

All Are Welcome
As We Gather at Your Table
Draw Us in the Spirit
Gather in Your Name
God Is Here!
God, Whose Purpose Is to Kindle
Help Us Help Each Other
Let Justice Roll like a River
O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God
The Master Came to Bring Good News
We Are Called
Where True Love/ubi Caritas

Question of the Week: Who in my life do I need to “win over” for the Lord?

September 17 24th Sunday - Ordinary

Postures during liturgy: There are a number of times during Mass when our posture indicates that we hold another in high honor. With respect to God, for example, we genuflect to the Blessed Sacrament or bow to the altar or Book of Gospels; we bow at the words during the Creed, “and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, / and became man”; we might bow our heads when we pronounce Jesus’ name; we bow in reverence and respect before we receive Holy Communion. With respect to each other, the deacon or altar minister might bow to us before incensing us; we offer each other a sign of peace. In themselves these gestures are worthy of God, the saints, and those of us who are members of the Body of Christ for they give evidence to the dignity we have and offer another, and our mutual respect for the relationships within community that make us one in the Body of Christ.

There is always a tendency during liturgy to do these gestures (as well as postures, responses, etc.) out of routine. The meaning behind them suggests that we gently call ourselves to think about what we are doing. They are ways that we express honor and respect, and because we do them together we announce that we all share in God’s divine Life. In that is the source of our dignity, of our desire for reconciliation, of our unity in the Body of Christ. – Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: Give peace, Lord, o those who wait for you and your prophets will proclaim you as you deserve. Hear the prayers of your servant and of your people Israel.

Amar Es Entregarse (O/S)
As We Gather at Your Table
Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145(144) (C/S)
Bring Peace to Earth Again (O/S)
Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive (O/S)
God Is Love
I Come with Joy (O/S)
Laudate, Laudate Dominum
Lift Up Your Hearts
Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace (O/S)
Lover of Us All
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (O/S)
Praise to the Lord (O)
Rejoice, the Lord Is King (O/S)
Somos Una Iglesia (O/C/S)
There’s a Wideness: Be Merciful (O/S)
There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy (O/S)
Vamos a la Casa del Señor (S)
Ven al Banquete/Come to the Feast
When We Are Living/Pues Si Vivimos (O/S)
Where Charity and Love Prevail (O)

1st Reading: Sirach 27:30 – 28:7 Forgive the injustice of your neighbor, for then your own sins will be pardoned. Remember death, stop sinning, recall the commandments, love your neighbor, think of God’s covenant, and overlook the faults of others.
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

The Lord is kind and merciful,
slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9 We are not our own masters, but we are responsible to the Lord as servants. In life and in death we belong to the Lord. Christ died and rose to life in order to become “Lord of both the dead and the living.”

Gospel Verse: I give you a new commandment, says the Lord; love one another as I have loved you.

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 In a parable on forgiveness, Jesus compared the reign of God to a king settling accounts with his officials: Moved by compassion, the king forgave some or all of each debt. An official then extorted the full amount he was owed, and the king punished him.

Prep of Gifts:

Amémonos de Corazón (C)
As We Forgive (C)
Be God’s (S)
Christians, Let Us Love One Another
El Señor Es Compasivo: Sal 103(102) (C)
Entre Tus Manos
God Be in My Head
Love Goes On
Open My Eyes
Seek Ye First
Shelter Me, O God
To Praise You
Un Mandamiento Nuevo (C)
Vine and Branches
What I Have Done for You (C)
Whatever You Do (S)

Communion Processional: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings. OR The chalice of blessing that we bless is a communion in the Blood of Christ; and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.

Al Partir el Pan
Christ, Be Our Light
Gusten y Vean: Sal 34(33)
Many and One
Mercy
Remember Your Love
There Is a Longing
This Bread That We Share
Ubi Caritas
We Have Been Told
With the Lord
With the Lord There Is Mercy

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:

Blest Be the Lord
Canticle of the Sun
Go in Peace
God Has Chosen Me
Halleluya! We Sing Your Praises
I Sing the Mighty Power of God

OTHER:

Abundant Life
Faithful Family
God of Day and God of Darkness
God, Whose Purpose Is to Kindle
Help Us Help Each Other
Let Justice Roll like a River
Lord of All Nations
Make Me a Channel
Now We Remain
Pues Si Vivimos/If We Are Living
The Master Came to Bring Good News

Question of the Week: Who needs my forgiveness? How might I start a “ripple of forgiveness” that could expand to a global tidal wave of unending forgiveness?
September 24 — 25th Sunday - Ordinary

Liturgical ministries as responding to God’s call for laborers:

Many of us take for granted those who minister at Mass each Sunday — assembly, presider, deacon, hospitality ministers (or greeters or ushers), altar ministers, music ministers, lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Sometimes, too, because we minister when our name appears on the schedule, we might fall into the trap of thinking we are just getting necessary jobs accomplished. GIRM 91 speaks of the eucharistic celebration as an action of the whole church in which different orders and offices unfold and the ordained ministers and lay Christian faithful fulfill “their function or their duty” according to what “pertains to them.” Whatever ministries are exercised by different persons during liturgy, they are always undertaken after careful discernment of one’s abilities, prayer to do God’s will (hear God’s call to minister), and appropriate preparation for the ministry itself. In addition to fulfilling ministries at Mass, then, liturgical ministers also witness to God’s persistent call to followers of Jesus to be laborers in the divine vineyard who make present the kingdom and continue Jesus’ work here on earth. — Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

All the Earth
All the Ends of the Earth
Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145(144) (O/C)
Come, Now Is the Time to Worship
For the Fruits of This Creation (O/S)
Gather Us In
Glory and Praise to Our God (O/C)
Holy, Holy, Holy
Hoy Nos Reunimos
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (O/S)
Keep in Mind (O/C)
Lord of All Hopefulness (O/S)
O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God
Open My Eyes (O)
Open the Eyes of My Heart (O/S)
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (O/S)
Return to the Lord, Your God
Seek Ye First (O/C/S)
Sing of the Lord’s Goodness
The Kingdom of God (O/S)
There’s a Wideness: Be Merciful (O/S)
There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy (O/S)
Vamos a la Casa del Señor (S)
Venimos ante Ti (O/C)
With All the Saints

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9 Isaiah prophesied, “Seek the LORD while he may be found; call him while he is near…My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.”

Respontorial Psalm: Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a Paul wrote, “Life is Christ, and death is gain…I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit. Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.”

Gospel Verse: Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a Jesus told the parable about the vineyard owner who hired workers at different times of the day and paid them all the same amount at the end of the day. The owner concluded, “Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?” Jesus added, “The last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Prep of Gifts:

Al Partir el Pan (C)
Because the Lord Is My Shepherd
Bendigamos al Señor
Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine (S)
Come, Follow Me
Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
El Señor Es Compasivo: Sal 103(102) (C)
Gusten y Vean: Sal 34(33) (C)
I Will Choose Christ
I Will Praise Your Name (S)
Pan de Vida (C)
Por Tu Misericordia (S)
Quiero Servirte, Mi Señor (C)
Seek First the Kingdom of God (S)
Seek the Lord
The Summons
We Will Rise Again
Without You
Your Words Are Spirit and Life

Communion Processional: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept: may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes. OR I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Eat This Bread
Estamos Reunidos
Gift of Finest Wheat
I Will Praise Your Name
Shepherd Me, O God
Take and Eat
The Cry of the Poor
Yo Soy el Pan de Vida (S)

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:

Companions on the Journey
How Can I Keep from Singing
I Send You Out
Now Thank We All Our God
O Bless the Lord
Psalm 23 – Conry
Sent Forth by God’s Blessing
Thanks Be to God
We Are Called
We Belong to You
October 1 26th Sunday - Ordinary

Ordinary Time and second reading. Whenever the second reading during Ordinary Time helps us interpret the gospel, by all means we would want to plumb its riches during Mass, for example, at the homily or drawing on its imagery for the intentions during the universal prayer. This Sunday’s selection from the Letter to the Philippians gives us clear direction for what hearing God’s will for us and changing our lives might look like: have the mind/attitude of Christ and practice self-emptying so that our focus can be on others rather than ourselves. Further, this reading reminds us that our growth in Christian living isn’t dependent only upon ourselves — we hear God’s message in community and live it out in community. Our relationship to Jesus helps us hear, but so does our relationship to others. Ultimately this reading is an encouragement that the difficult challenges of faithful discipleship aren’t something we undertake by ourselves but with the support of the whole Christian community. — Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgment, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

   Alaben Todos: Sal 148 (C)
   All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name
   Alleluia! Give the Glory
   Alleluia! Love Is Alive
   At the Name of Jesus (O/C)
   Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145(144) (O/C)
   Canción del Cuerpo de Cristo (C)
   Come, Now Is the Time to Worship
   Hoy Nos Reunimos
   Lift Up Your Hearts
   Lord, Whose Love in Humbler Service (O/S)
   Make Us One (O/C)
   O Bless the Lord (S)
   O God, beyond All Praising (O/S)
   O God of Love (O/C)
   O Love of God/Amor de Dios
   Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens
   Seek Ye First (O/C/S)
   Somos Una Iglesia
   There’s a Wideness: Be Merciful (O/S)
   There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy (O/S)
   Where Charity and Love Prevail (O)

1st Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28 The Lord spoke through Ezekiel: "Hear now, house of Israel: ...If he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9
   Remember your mercies, O Lord.
2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-11 OR 2:1-5 Paul quoted an ancient hymn: “Though Christ was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave and obediently accepted death on a cross. So God exalted him and gave him a name above every other name.”

Gospel Verse: My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32 Jesus said that outcasts enter God’s reign because of faith but not the righteous who lack repentance: “Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of God before you.”

Prep of Gifts:
- Alleluia No. 1
- Christians, Let Us Love One Another
- Digo Sí, Señor (C)
- God So Loved the World (C)
- Gusten y Vean: Sal 34(33) (C)
- Here I Am, Lord (C)
- Here I Am, O God (C)
- Holy, Holy (C)
- In Your Love, Remember Me
- Jesus Christ Is Lord
- Love One Another
- Many and One
- No Endurezcan el Corazón: Sal 95(94) (C/S)
- Pescador de Hombres (C)
- Seek First the Kingdom of God (C)
- Vaso Nuevo
- We Are Many Parts
- What Wondrous Love

Communion Processional: Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low. OR By this we came to know the love of God: that Christ laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

- Amén. El Cuerpo de Cristo
- Bread of Life
- I Lift Up My Soul
- Jesus, the Lord
- Keep in Mind
- The Cry of the Poor
- To You, O Lord
- We Have Been Told

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:
- City of God
- Con la Cruz
- Faithful Family
- Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
- Tell the Good News
- The Name of Jesus
- They’ll Know We Are Christians
- To You, O God, I Lift Up My Soul
- Una Mirada de Fe
- Vine Para Que Tengan
- We Are Called

OTHER:
- For the Life of the World
- God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending
- God, Whose Purpose Is to Kindle
- Let Justice Roll like a River
- My Elder Son, Go Work Today
- No Greater Love
- Our Father, We Have Wandered
- Send Down the Fire
- The Kingdom of God
- The Love of the Lord
- Those Who Love and Those Who Labor
- Unless a Grain of Wheat
- What Does the Lord Require

Question of the Week: If at times I’ve been the one who said no, what would my saying yes to God look like in my life this week?
October 8 27th Sunday - Ordinary

Fruit of the vine: The image of the vineyard and tenants and fruit might lead us to think that the fruit we are to produce as faithful disciples is something that only occurs in the future. In fact, God has already given us the fruit of the vine and with this the strength we need to produce even more abundant fruit. This image of “fruit of the vine” can have many meanings, one of them being the good works we perform for others in our daily living. More specifically with respect to Mass, we are offered the “fruit of the vine” as Jesus’ Precious Blood at Holy Communion.

GIRM 281 states that Communion under both kinds “has a fuller form as a sign” (see also the June 2001 US bishops’ Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion under Both Kinds in the Diocese of the United States of America 16). It further states that the reason for this is that the new covenant was ratified in Jesus’ Blood and in this the relationship between our eucharistic banquet and the messianic banquet can more clearly be seen. Everyone should be encouraged to partake in this fuller sign of God’s love for us. – Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is no one that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heavens and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Acudamos Jubilosos (C)
All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name (O/S)
Blest Be the Lord
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (O)
Den Gracias AL Señor: Sal 118(117) (O/C)
Down to the River to Pray
Fieles Te Alabamos
For the Beauty of the Earth
God of Wonders (O)
How Firm a Foundation
Hoy Nos Reunimos
I Am the Vine (O/C/S)
I Sing the Mighty Power of God
Lord of All Hopefulness (O/S)
Make Your Home in Me (O)
Our God Is Here
Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens
Sing, O Sing
Stewards of Earth (O/S)
The Church’s One Foundation (O/S)
The Kingdom of God (O/S)
This Day God Gives Me
Vamos a la Casa del Señor
We Gather as the Body of Christ (O/C)
You Have Built Your House (O/C)

1st Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7 Isaiah sang of his friend, “My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.” The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are God’s cherished plant.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20
The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:6-9 Paul wrote, “Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition...the God of peace will be with you.” With thanksgiving, make your request known to God.

Gospel Verse: I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will remain.

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-44 Jesus told the parable of the vineyard owner who sent out slaves and finally his son to the rebellious tenants who killed them. “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes.”

Prep of Gifts:

Al Partir el Pan (C)
All Good Gifts
Bread That Was Sown
Busca Primero
How Great Thou Art
In Perfect Charity
Live in Me (C)
Now We Remain (C)
O Beauty, Ever Ancient
Ofertorio Nicaragüense (C)
Prayer of Saint Francis (S)
Save Us, O Lord
’Tis the Gift to Be Simple
We Have Been Told (C)

Communion Processional: The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him. OR
Though many, we are one bread, one body, for we all partake of the one Bread and one Chalice.

Bread of the World
Estamos Reunidos
Eye Has Not Seen
Gift of Finest Wheat
One Bread, One Body
Pan de Vida
Seed, Scattered and Sown
The Vineyard of the Lord
We Praise You
We, the Body of Christ

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:

Canticle of the Sun
Find Us Ready
For the Healing
Go in Peace
God of Our Fathers
Halleluya! We Sing Your Praises
Id y Enseñad
Los Caminos
Rejoice, the Lord Is King
Sent Forth by God’s Blessing
Siempre Unidos
This Is the Day
October 15 28th Sunday - Ordinary

Controversy in Matthew’s gospel: In Matthew’s gospel Jesus tells many parables about the kingdom after he arrives in Jerusalem (for the past four Sundays we’ve listened to some of these kingdom parables). The controversy between Jesus and some of the Jewish leaders is sharpening. Some of the parables even include the killing of someone; last week, for example, the wretched vineyard tenants kill the landowner’s son and this week in the parable about the king who invites guests to his son’s wedding feast the king’s servant-messengers are killed. This imagery has layers of meaning. God’s own Son will likewise be killed. Those expected to have eternal reward – to sit at the messianic banquet – lose out because of their bad behavior and those least expected share in God’s graciousness. Matthew seems intent on not letting his readers miss his point about inclusivity and so has Jesus tell story after story demonstrating this theme.

Over and over in these parables about the kingdom Jesus confronts us with the message that those who are expecting to enter the kingdom will not, and those thought to be kept out of the kingdom will be ushered in. The thorny issue of the historical context of Matthew’s gospel is that some of the Jewish leaders (chief priests, elders, scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees) presume that they will inherit the blessing of God’s promises because they meticulously keep the law. Sinners (prostitutes, tax collectors) cannot possibly be favored by God. Israel as God’s chosen people will inherit; the Gentiles will not. Jesus’ message of salvation for all is confronting, challenging, and intolerable for those who presume to know whom God favors and whom God does not.

Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

A los Hombres Amó Dios (Es Mi Cuerpo) (O/C/S)
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
As We Celebrate
As We Gather at Your Table
Baptized in Living Waters (O/S)
Gather the People
Gathered as One
God’s Holy Mountain We Ascend
Here at This Table
Hoy Nos Reunimos
I Call You to My Father’s House (O)
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (O)
In This Place
Jerusalem, My Happy Home (O/S)
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (O)
O Lord, You Are My Shepherd (O)
On That Holy Mountain (O/C/S)
Praise to the Lord (O)
Shepherd of Souls, in Love, Come, Feed Us (O)
Table of Plenty
Ven al Banquete/Come to the Feast
Venimos ante Ti
We Gather Together
1st Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10a Isaiah prophesied, “On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide...a feast of rich food and choice wines...The LORD GOD will wipe away the tears from every face...The hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.”

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 Paul wrote, “I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry.” When people share each other’s hardships, God supplies their needs fully in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Verse: May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14 OR 22:1-10 Jesus likened God’s reign to a great wedding banquet that a king gave for his son. Many were invited; some ignored the invitation. One guest was thrown out for disrespectful dree. In God’s reign “many are invited, but few are chosen.”

Prep of Gifts:

All That Is Hidden
At the Table of the World (C)
Because the Lord Is My Shepherd
El Señor Es Mi Pastor: Sal 23(22) (C)
Gusten y Vean: Sal 34(33) (C)
In the Arms of the Shepherd (C)
Let the Hungry Come to Me (C)
Make Us Your Own (C)
The Eyes and Hands of Christ
Un Mandamiento Nuevo (C)
You Alone
You Gather In the Outcast
You Have Called Us
You Have Put on Christ

Communion Processional: The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing. OR When the Lord appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Come, All You Blessed Ones
Estamos Reunidos
My Shepherd Is the Lord
Pan del Cielo
Señor, Tú Eres el Pan
Shepherd Me, O God
Taste and See
The Cry of the Poor
With the Lord
With the Lord There Is Mercy
Your Words Are Spirit and Life

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:

Companions on the Journey
Grateful
Laudate, Laudate Dominum
Let All Things Now Living
Now Thank We All Our God
Siempre Unidos

OTHER:

All Are Welcome
All Who Hunger
City of God, Jerusalem
Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
Come to the Feast
Day of Delight
Gather Us In
In Christ There Is No East or West
May We Be One
Praise the Lord, My Soul
The Kingdom of God
To the Wedding Feast
We Come to Your Feast

Question of the Week: What specific threads of “charity in action” are woven together to fashion the “wedding garment” needed for my presence at Jesus’ feast? Is it time I got back to work at the proverbial loom?
God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of my eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

Gathering Song: To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

A Rightful Place
Alaben Todos: Sal 148 (C)
Aleluyá, Cantemos al Señor (S)
All the Earth
All the Ends of the Earth
All People That on Earth Do Dwell
Alleluia No. 1 (O/C/S)
Alleluia! Give the Glory
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145 (144) (O/C)
Gather Us In
God Is Here! As We His People
Hail Redeemer, King Divine (O/S)
Hoy Nos Reunimos
Jesus Shall Reign (O/S)
Our God Reigns (O/C/S)
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
Priestly People (O/C)
Rejoice, the Lord Is King (O/S)
Seek Ye First (O/C/S)
Sing a New Song (revised text)
Sing Praise to God (O/S)
To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King (O/S)
Venimos ante Ti (O/C)
Wonderful and Great (O/C/S)

1st Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 The Lord anointed Cyrus of Persia to subdue the nations and free Israel. God made Persia great so that everyone might know that there is no god besides the Lord God of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10 Give the Lord glory and honor.

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b The Thessalonians believed in the gospel, lived in the Holy Spirit, and labored in love with full conviction. Paul thanked God for the faith of the Thessalonians and remembered them in prayer.

Gospel Verse: Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life.

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21 When some Pharisees tried to trap Jesus into saying something negative about the emperor, Jesus used a Roman coin to teach them, “Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.”

Prep of Gifts:
Al Partir el Pan
Cantemos al Amor de los Amores
Christ, Be Our Light
Do Not Fear to Hope
Father, We Thank Thee Who Hast Planted (S)
Give Me Jesus (C)
God, Beyond All Names
Open My Eyes
Seek First the Kingdom of God (C)
Shelter Me, O God
Speak, Lord
Te Alabamos, Señor
To Praise You
Tomado de la Mano
Treasures Out of Darkness/Tesoros Ocultos (C)

Communion Processional: Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. OR The Son of Man has come to give his life as a ransom for many.

As We Remember
Blessed the People
Eat This Bread
I Am Yours – Consume Me Completely
Lord, Let Your Mercy
Lord, You Have the Words
Many and Great
Miracle of Grace
The Jesus Song
The Lord Fills the Earth with His Love

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:
10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)
Act Justly
All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name
Con la Cruz
For You Are My God
Go Ye Out
He Is the Lord
Id y Enseñad
Los Caminos
O Bless the Lord
Siempre Unidos
Sing a New Song – Brown
October 29 30th Sunday - Ordinary

**Parish bulletins and showing love for one another:** Almost all parishes distribute a bulletin each Sunday which usually includes information necessary for the good order of the parish: Mass intentions, liturgical ministers schedule, parish meeting schedule, other announcements. While all this is necessary, the weekly parish bulletin can also be broadened to include catechesis on various topics. Sometimes this can be in the form of inserts that afford a topic greater development (bulletin inserts for Advent and Lent are available from Liturgical Press based on Living Liturgy™) and at other times catechesis might be just a couple of sentences placed in a box (perhaps with a graphic) to draw attention to it. Following up on this week’s gospel from now until the end of the liturgical year (that is, for about the next month), a parish might include notices of the good things neighbors have done for one another (it may be best to omit names). In this way, the parish staff would be affirming these good works, but reporting them can also be a form of catechesis – giving parishioners some ideas about how practically they might do good for one another (love one another) and how easy this really is to fit into one’s daily schedule. While loving one’s neighbor seems such a simple thing and we hear about it all the time, in fact it’s something we need to be reminded about often. – Living Liturgy

**Gathering Song:** Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

A Mighty Fortress
All Are Welcome
Amar Es Entregarse (O/S)
Christians, Let Us Love One Another
El Señor Es Mi Luz: Sal 27(26) (C)
Faithful Family
God Is Love
Holy, Holy, Holy Cry
Hoy Nos Reunimos
In Christ There Is No East or West
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (You) (S)
Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace (O/S)
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (O/S)
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Make Us True Servants (O/S)
O Bless the Lord, My Soul
Rise Up, O Saints of God (O/S)
Vamos a la Casa del Señor (S)
Venimos ante Ti (O/C)
Where Charity and Love Prevail (O)
Where Charity Is True (O)

**1st Reading:** Exodus 22:20-26 The faithful and gracious Lord said, “You shall not wrong any widow or orphan... If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate.”

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51
I love you, Lord, my strength.
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10 Paul commended the Christians of Thessalonica: “You became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with the joy from the Holy Spirit. So that you became a model for all believers...the word of the Lord has sounded forth.”

Gospel Verse: Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40 In response to a question from some Pharisees who wanted to trip him up, Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart...soul...and mind. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” These are the two great commandments.

Prep of Gifts:

All I Ask of You
Amémonos de Corazón (C)
At the Table of the World (C)
Before the Sun Burned Bright
Bendigamos al Señor
El Señor Es Compasivo: Sal 103(102) (C)
Endless Is Your Love
Faith, Hope and Love
Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love
Litany of Peace
Love Goes On
Love Is His Word (C)
Love One Another (C)
The Greatest Gift (C)
These Alone Are Enough
Un Mandamiento Nuevo (C)
Where Love Is Found
You Are My Rock (C)

Communion Processional: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God. OR Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, as a fragrant offering to God.

Eat This Bread
Estamos Reunidos
Glory and Praise for Ever
I Am Yours – Consume Me Completely
I Have Loved You
I Love You, Lord, My Strength
Pan de Vida
Ubi Caritas
Whatsoever You Do
Without You

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:

Beautiful Savior
Christ in Me Arise
Companions on the Journey
For the Fruits of This Creation
For the Healing
How Can I Keep from Singing
I Send You Out
Los Caminos
O God, Beyond All Praising
There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy
We Will Serve the Lord

OTHER:

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning
God of Day and God of Darkness
Healer of Our Every Ill
Lord of All Nations
Love Is the Law
Make Me a Channel
The Call Is Clear and Simple
The Cry of the Poor
The Harvest of Justice
They’ll Know We Are Christians

Question of the Week: Because we only love God as much as the neighbor we love the least, whom do I need to look at differently this week if I hope to look more like God?
November 1

All Saints

Being holy and living the Gospel doesn’t mean that difficulties will never come our way, nor does it mean that we will always respond well to these difficulties, nor does it mean that overcoming difficulties will be easy. Neither does being holy and living the Gospel mean that we need to go our looking for way to die to self so that we can be holy. In themselves difficulties are not necessarily signs of holiness. Blessedness is best measured and achieved in the ordinary experiences of life by our way of responding to them. This means first and foremost that we act as people who belong to God, those who have been washed clean and reborn “in the blood of the Lamb” and so are God’s beloved children.

The saints in heaven give us courage that it is possible to spend our lives being faithful to God and charitable toward each other. They model for us Gospel living – dying to self so that one day we share in God’s everlasting glory. This solemnity, then, has many facets but all point to God’s self-giving of divine Life to us. This self-giving is the blessedness of God’s kingdom which is being realized in our very own lives. There is a challenge to this solemnity as well as great joy and rejoicing: to believe and live as though blessedness is already ours and holiness is not beyond our grasp. The blessedness God offers is an unshakeable peace that comes from resting in God’s abiding divine Presence. For this we are to “rejoice and be glad.” – Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honor of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6

Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:1-3 John exhorted his brothers and sisters, God’s children in the faith, to place their hope in the light of the world and in that way to keep themselves pure.

Gospel Verse: Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a Jesus offered the beatitudes as the charter of the heavenly reign. The poor in spirit, the sorrowing, the lowly, the peacemakers – all these receive God’s love.

Prep of Gifts:

Be Not Afraid
Blest Are They (C)
Cantemos al Amor de los Amores
Eye Has Not Seen (C)
Give Me Jesus
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
In God Alone
Pueblo de Reyes (S)
Qué Grande Es Mi Dios
The Beatitudes (C)
We Are the Light of the World
We Walk by Faith
Where My Father Lives
With All the Saints
Worthy Is the Lamb

Communion Processional: Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Be Not Afraid
Blest Are They
Here at This Table
I Am the Bread of Life
Keep in Mind
Litany of the Saints
O How Blessed
Pastures of the Lord

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:

A Rightful Place
All Around
Alleluia! Raise the Gospel
Beatitudes
Blessed Feasts of Blessed Martyrs
In Christ Alone
Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
Somos El Cuerpo de Cristo/We Are the Body of Christ

OTHER:

For the Faithful Who Answered
Give Thanks to God on High
How Firm a Foundation
Lord of All Hopefulness
Now We Remain
O Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit
Take Me Home
The Hand of God Shall Hold You
We Shall Rise Again
**Question of the Day:** Who are the unofficial saints whose names I should lovingly speak aloud in my personal litany for today’s feast? How can I imitate their holiness in my own life?

**November 2  Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed**

“[W]e have grown into union with” Christ by entering into “a death like his.” This is a beautiful image – our choice to die to self for the good of others is how we grow into deeper union with Christ! Our very choice to die to self is already an expression of our hope in the promise of eternal Life that Jesus offers us. We couldn’t be any more sure of how to achieve eternal Life than to die to ourselves as Jesus died to himself for us. We “grow into” resurrection and eternal Life by dying to ourselves. In a sense, then, this festival is not only one of hope, but also one of the faith and love we express the present. Our yes to God and our love for one another are concrete expressions of our hope that one day we will enjoy everlasting Life. Yes, this is a festival of hope! – Living Liturgy

**Music choices may be made from “November 1st” or “Funeral”**

**Question of the Day:** Besides those I lovingly miss, for whom do I need to pray today precisely because they were difficult to love in life? Or because, at their death, conflict or unresolved issues remained?

**November 5  31st Sunday - Ordinary**

**Second reading and Second Coming:** In Year A for the five Sundays preceding the solemnity of Christ the King, the second reading is taken from St. Paul’s First Letter to the Thessalonians. This is most likely the earliest of our New Testament writings and as such it reflects the expectation of the early Christian community that Christ would return soon to gather all things back to God. No doubt this looking forward to Christ’s imminent return colored all of their behaviors, expectations, and beliefs. So many centuries beyond this early Christian community, we today do not have the same sense of urgency about Christ’s return. Probably for almost all of us it does not immediately affect our behaviors and decisions about how to live. At the same time, Christ’s return at the end of time is a promise he made before his ascension into heaven. He will return to gather all back to his Father. No, we do not know the hour. But at least during this time of year when the liturgical readings draw our attention to this tenet of our faith, we ought to ask ourselves how well our choices in life direct us toward the Christ who will come in final glory. This Second Coming of Christ (accompanied by the end of the world as we know it, final judgment, general resurrection, and eschatological fulfillment) is a predominant motif as we conclude one liturgical year and begin another. It is fitting, therefore, that we pay attention to these second readings which help us also to interpret the gospel and first reading. – Living Liturgy

**Gathering Song:** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God: be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

- Alabemos a Dios
- Alaben Todos: Sal 148 (C)
- Alzad la Cruz (S)
- Alleluia! Raise the Gospel
- Anthem
- At the Name of Jesus (O/S)
- Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145(144) (O/C)
- Christ, Be Near at Either Hand (O/S)
- Come, Christians, Join to Sing
- Come, Worship the Lord
- For the Healing of the Nations (O/S)
- For You Are My God
- Hoy Nos Reunimos
- In Every Age
- Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace (O/S)
- Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (O/S)
- O God, Our Help in Ages Past
- The Church of Christ in Every Age (O/S)
- The Sacrament of Service (O/S)
- Un Solo Señor
- Vamos a la Casa del Señor (S)
- We Are Called (O/S)
- We Gather Together

**1st Reading:** Malachi 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10 In the name of the Lord of hosts the prophet asked, “Have we not all the one father? Has not the one God created us? Why then do we break faith with one another, violating the covenant of our fathers?”

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 131:1, 2, 3

In you, Lord, I have found my peace.
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9, 13 Paul gave thanks to God and praised the Thessalonians for receiving the gospel as God’s word at work in all who believe. He said, “We were gentle among you, as a nursing mother cares for her children.”

Gospel Verse: You have but one Father in heaven and one master, the Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12 Jesus warned the crowds and disciples not to show off but to practice the faith humbly before God: “The greatest among you must be your servant.”

Prep of Gifts:
- El Señor Es Compasivo: Sal 103(102) (C)
- Grant to Us, O Lord (C)
- Humbly, Lord, We Worship You
- In God Alone
- Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (C)
- Lay Your Hands
- My Soul Is Longing (C)
- O Beauty, Ever Ancient
- Pan de Vida (C)
- Señor, Tu Paz
- Servant Song – McGargill
- The Servant Song (S)
- These Alone Are Enough
- ‘Tis the Gift to Be Simple (S)
- To Serve Is to Reign

Communion Processional: You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord. OR
Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me shall have life because of me, says the Lord.

- Ang Katawan ni Kristo/Behold, the Body of Christ
- Center of My Life
- El Pan de la Vida
- Gusten y Vean: Sal 34(33)
- In You, O Lord
- Like a Child Rests
- One Bread, One Body
- Path of Life/Keep Me Safe
- Shelter Me, O God
- Spirit and Grace
- The Path of Life
- The Supper of the Lord
- Turn Our Hearts Around
- You Are My Inheritance

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:
- Beautiful Savior
- City of God
- Con la Cruz
- Go, Be Justice
- God Has Chosen Me
- God of the Hungry
- In Christ Alone
- Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
- The Spirit Sends Us Forth
- We Are the Light of the World
- You Have Anointed Me

OTHER:
- As a Fire Is Meant for Burning
- As We Gather at Your Table
- Change Our Hearts
- Deliver Us, O Lord of Truth
- God of Day and God of Darkness
- God, Whose Purpose Is to Kindle
- One Lord
- Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior
- The Cry of the Poor
- The Virtue of Humility
- What Does the Lord Require
- When Jesus Came Preaching

Question of the Week: When I think about the ministry I undertake in my community of faith, how can I ensure that it always reflects the word of God and not my own agenda?
Ministry of liturgy coordinator: One liturgical ministry that is rarely addressed is that of liturgy coordinator. Sometimes this role is fulfilled by a sacristan, sometimes by the director of music, sometimes by the director of liturgy. If liturgy is to unfold in a smooth manner, someone needs to make sure that everyone and everything are present and ready—that everything is properly prepared. This means that the usual things for Sunday Mass—bread and wine, Lectionary, The Roman Missal, candles, etc.—are attended to in the proper way; for example, the liturgical books already ought to have the ribbons marking the proper pages with those who will use those books knowing which color ribbon to use when. If something “extra” is taking place (e.g., a baptism) then there are other things that must be prepared: the proper ritual books readied; the baptismal water checked for cleanliness and amount and a pitcher (or shell) nearby; oils, candle, and white garment in place; soap, water, and towel for the presider to cleanse his hands. Too often these little things can be forgotten and then there is a disruption in the service. One way to handle this is to have a “checklist” for each type of liturgy that a parish may celebrate. Then whoever might be appointed the liturgy coordinator (or whoever else assumes this role) can make sure that he or she hasn’t forgotten anything. It’s not a disaster to return to the sacristy for a forgotten item; but it does disrupt the natural flow of a liturgy. Even more disastrous is a presider or lector who is flipping through pages of a liturgical book to find the right text! Preparedness may seem like a little thing, but it is always wise to be ready! Preparing and being ready now assures that the feast unfolds with dignity and grace, reverence and smooth flow.

Gathering Song: Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death (O/S)
Awake to the Day (O/S)
Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145(144) (O/C)
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
Find Us Ready
Gather Us In
Hoy Nos Reunimos
Lift Up Your Hearts
Lord of All Hopefulness
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (O/S)
Rain Down
Sing a New Song *revised (O/S)
Sing Alleluia, Sing
Sing with All the Saints in Glory (O/S)
Soon and Very Soon (O/S)
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Vamos a la Caso del Señor (S)
Wake, O Wake, and Sleep No Longer
Wake the Song of Jubilee (O/S)
Wisdom, My Road (O/S)

1st Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16 Wisdom is there for those who love and seek her: resplendent, unfading, responsive, eager, patient, perfect, gracious, and caring.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 OR 4:13-14 Those who have died in Christ will rise first. Believers will be with Christ forever. Christians can comfort one another with this knowledge.

Gospel Verse: Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 Jesus told the disciples the parable of the bridesmaids, emphasizing the urgency of keeping alert to the coming of God’s reign: “Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Prep of Gifts:

Al Partir el Pan
All Good Gifts
Busca Primero
Come to Me (C)
Entre Tus Manos
I, the Lord
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
In God Alone
Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring
Jesus, Hope of the World (C)
Mi Alma Tiene Sed: Sal 63(62) (C)
My Soul Is Thirsting (C)
Oyesos, Señor (C)
Parable
Psalmody: As Morning Breaks
Que Mi Oración: Sal 141(140) (C)
Where There Is Love

Communion Processional: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me. OR The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.

Christ, Be Our Light
Come, All You Blessed Ones
Give Me Jesus
How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place
In the Arms of the Shepherd
In the Breaking of the Bread
In the Land There Is a Hunger
Jesus, Come to Us
Jesus Died upon the Cross
Keep in Mind
Pastures of the Lord
The Lord Is My Light
Wisdom’s Feast

Communion Processional: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me. OR The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.
Song of Praise/Sending Forth:
- Do Not Fear to Hope
- Go in Peace
- God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven
- In the Day of the Lord
- Let All Things Now Living
- Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory
- On the Wings of Change
- Psalm 23 – Conry
- Psalm 63: My Soul Is Thirsting/As Morning Breaks
- Shall We Gather at the River
- Stay Awake
- Vamos Cantando al Señor

OTHER:
- Awaken, Sleepers
- Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
- Eye Has Not Seen
- God Is Working His Purpose Out
- Sing a New Song to the Lord
- Sleepers, Wake!
- The King Shall Come
- Thy Kingdom Come
- Wait for the Lord
- We Shall Rise Again
- When the Lord of Glory Comes
- Who Can Measure Heaven and Earth
- Wisdom, My Road

Question of the Week: What can I do this week to make myself a little more ready for the coming of the Lord?

November 19 33rd Sunday - Ordinary

Liturgical ministries and increase of "talents": The average parish has a great many people involved actively in the various “visible” liturgical ministries: hospitality ministers, music ministers, altar ministers, lectors, extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, and others. In all case these ministries require some “talent” in order to fulfill them properly. In addition to learning the “job” what is also required is growth in a spirituality of the ministry that moves the “doing” toward real service to the community – herein lies the real demand for “talent.”

No doubt some ministers groan sometimes when they see their name on the schedule for a particular Sunday. Perhaps they are not in good space in their life and preparing well for a ministry brings an added burden. However, realizing liturgical ministry is a commitment they have made, they choose to be faithful, do the preparation, and come with a ready attitude to serve. Often this is a time when the “increase of talents” the gospel speaks about becomes so evident – perhaps a special grace is given during Mass in terms of a particularly poignant Presence of Christ to the minister or a real sense of joy in the celebration because they have more fully participated and allowed God to work in and through them. Continued reflection helps all of us see how Christ is increasing our own “talents” when we remain faithful disciples. Most importantly, this is how we cooperate with Christ in continuing his saving missions. He uses our ‘talents’ to further God’s reign. – Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

- Awake to the Day (O/S)
- Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145(144) (O/C)
- Christ, Be Our Light (O/C/S)
- Christ before Us
- City of God (O/S)
- Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
- For the Beauty of the Earth
- For the Fruits of This (All) Creation (O/S)
- God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (O/S)
- Hoy Nos Reunimos
- I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (O/S)
- In Christ Alone
- In the Day of the Lord
- Lift Up Your Heads (O/S)
- Lord of All Hopefulness (O/S)
- Now Is the Time
- Shall We Gather at the River
- The King Shall Come when Morning Dawns
- The Works of the Lord Are Created (O/S)
- Vamos a la Casa del Señor
- When We Are Living/Pues Si Vivimos (O/S)

1st Reading: Proverbs 31:1-13, 19-20, 30-31 A worthy wife has value far beyond pearls. She deserves payment for her labor and praise for her work: Let her works praise her at the city gates.”

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

Blessed are those who fear the Lord.
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 According to Paul, Christians are children of light. They belong not to dark nor to night but, rather, to day and light. They should be awake, sober, and alert.

Gospel Verse: Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me bears much fruit.

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30 OR 25:14-15, 19-21 Jesus told the parable about a man who went on a journey and gave his servants money. One his return he said to the one who made the greatest profit, “Well done...I will give you great responsibilities.”

Prep of Gifts:
- Al Partir el Pan
- Be God’s (S)
- Be Not Afraid (C)
- Busca Primero
- Christ Has No Body Now But Yours (S)
- Dichosos Los Que Temen: Sal 128(127) (C)
- Entre Tus Manos
- For the Sake of Christ
- Jesus, Hope of the World (C)
- O Beauty, Ever Ancient
- One Love Released
- Parable
- Pastures of the Lord
- Restless Is the Heart
- Song of Farewell
- This Little Light of Mine (S)
- Un Mandamiento Nuevo (C)

Communion Processional: To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord. OR Amen, I say to you”: Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.

- All Good Gifts
- As Grains of Wheat
- Eye Has Not Seen
- Gift of Finest Wheat
- I Am Yours-Consume Me Completely
- O Blessed Are Those
- Pan del Cielo
- Taste and See
- The Lord Is My Light
- We Have Been Told
- Where Love Is Found

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:
- Alleluia! Raise the Gospel
- Con la Cruz
- For the Fruits of This Creation
- Give Me Jesus
- I Will Not Die
- Lord of the Dance
- Now Let Us from This Table Rise
- On the Wings of Change
- Soon and Very Soon
- Stay Awake, Be Ready
- Te Den Gracias
- Un Pueblo Que Camina
- We Are the Light of the World
- Your Grace Is Enough

OTHER:
- Abundant Life
- Find Us Ready
- For the Healing of the Nations
- God Has Chosen Me
- God of Day and God of Darkness
- Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
- O the Beautiful Treasures
- Sign Me Up
- The Harvest of Justice
- Wait for the Lord
- Walk in the Reign
- What Does the Lord Require
- When the Lord in Glory Comes
- With Gifts That Differ

Question of the Week: How am I investing those talents entrusted to me by the Master?
November 23  Thanksgiving Day

Grateful people are those who are open to the simple realization that everything we have and are is pure gift. The more we give thanks — not only to God, but also to each other — the more we are able to recognize that everything about us is gift. Armed with this realization, we are much more open to the beauty of creation, and do everything we can to conserve the resources given us. We use what we need well, and are conscious not to waste what we don’t need or what is more than our due.

Most of us have been formed from the time we’ve been wee little ones to say thanks when we get a birthday or Christmas gift. Now perhaps the challenge is to form ourselves to say thanks for the many little, everyday ways people are good toward us so that our thanks becomes a recognition of that goodness and habit of self-giving communion. Saying thanks for a good meal; saying thanks for a sunny, warm day; saying thanks for small acts of kindness are all ways we open ourselves to deeper encounters with others. Saying thanks is such a simple but profound human activity! Cultivating the habit of gratitude bears the fruit of an ever-growing and deeper encounter with God and each other. — Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: Sing and make music to the Lord in your hearts, always thanking God the Father for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alabemos a Dios
Alabemos a Dios: Sal 148 (C)
All Are Welcome
All Beautiful the March of Days (O/S)
All Things Bright and Beautiful (O/S)
At the Table of the World (O/C)
Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145(144) (O/C)
Canten a Dios con Alegría (S)
Canto de María (O/S)
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
Here at This Table
Father, We Thank Thee Who Hast Planted (O/S)
For the Beauty of the Earth (O/S)
For the Fruits of This (All) Creation (O/S)
Give Thanks for Life (O/S)
Hoy Nos Reunimos
Let All Things Now Living (O/S)
Sing of the Lord’s Goodness
Sing to the Lord of Harvest
Stewards of Earth (O/S)
Thanks Be to God
Ven al Banquete/Come to the Feast
We Gather Together

1st Reading: Sirach 50:22-24 Give God thanks, blessing, and praise for doing wondrous things on earth. The Lord God grants joy of heart and peace among all people.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever. OR Alleluia!

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Paul gave thanks to God for the saints of the church at Corinth because Christ endowed them richly with gifts of speech and knowledge. Paul called them to fellowship with the Lord.

Gospel Verse: In all circumstances, give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19 Jesus cured ten people, and only one, a Samaritan, came back to give thanks and praise to God in a loud voice. Jesus told him, “Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.”

Prep of Gifts:
All Good Gifts
Amazing Grace
Demos Gracias al Señor
For the Healing
Gracias
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Prayer of St. Francis
’Tis the Gift to Be Simple

Communion Processional: I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, for you have heard the words of my mouth. OR How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me? The chalice of salvation I will raise, and I will call on the name of the Lord.

Gift of Finest Wheat
Give Thanks to the Lord/This Is the Day
In the Presence of God
Jesus Christ, Bread of Life
On the Day I Called
Our Blessing Cup
Pan de Vida
Pan del Cielo
Remember Me
Seed, Scattered and Sown
Spirit and Grace
This Body of Christ

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:
Give Thanks to the Lord – Schutte
God of Our Fathers
Grateful
Now Thank We All Our God
O God of Love
Por Tu Misericordia
Sacred Creation
Sent Forth by God’s Blessing
Te Den Gracias
This Is My Song

OTHER Choices for Scripture Readings may be found in the Lectionary for Mass, vol. IV, “In Thanksgiving to God,” nos.943-947.

OTHER Choices for Music may be found in the indices of hymnals under “Gratitude,” “Thanksgiving,” or other appropriate themes.

Question of the Day: How will I make the transforming work of God, of which Mary sings in her canticle, come true?
November 26  Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Ongoing catechesis: Now that we have completed another liturgical year, there is perhaps some tendency to think in terms of other things we have completed: “That’s finished and over with; now I can get on with the next thing.” But the marvelous rhythm of the liturgical year is that we immediately begin another year and are given yet another opportunity to grow in our understanding and living of the paschal mystery, an opportunity to come ever closer to the Christ whose disciples we are.

Our catechesis about liturgy can never end, either. Liturgy, as mystery, is inexhaustible; this means that we can never get to the point where we know enough about liturgy. We can always learn more, and the more we learn the deeper into liturgy we are taken and, consequently, the deeper into Christ’s mystery. It might be a good exercise at the end of this liturgical year to think back over the past year (perhaps review some of the catechesis within these prep pages) and consider what we have learned about liturgy. Then, ask the important questions, “Has this helped me celebrate better? Live better?” After all, this is the real goal of liturgy: to be transformed continually so that we are ever more perfect members of the Body of Christ, living as he did, loving as he did, continuing his saving mission. – Living Liturgy

Gathering Song: How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honor. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

Aleluya, Cantemos al Señor (O)
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
At the Lamb’s High Feast
At the Name of Jesus (O/C)
Bendeciremos por Siempre: Sal 145(144) (O/C)
Canten a Dios con Alegría (S)
Crown Him with Many Crowns (O/S)
Festival Canticle (O/S)
Hail, Redeemer, King Divine (O/S)
Holy, Holy, Holy Cry
Hoy Nos Reunimos
Jesus Shall Reign (O/S)
Rejoice, the Lord Is King (O/S)
Shall We Gather at the River
Shout to the Lord (O/C)
The Church of Christ in Every Age (O/S)
The King of Kings, Christ Jesus Reigns
The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Three Days
To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King (O/S)
Venga Tu Reino (S)
Wake the Song of Jubilee (O/S)
We Are Called (O/S)

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 Paul wrote to the Corinthians, “Just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life.” Christ must reign until the last enemy, death, is destroyed, “so that God may be all in all.”

Gospel Verse: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46 As a shepherd separates sheep from goats, so will the Son of Man come in glory to separate those who fed the hungry from those who did not: “Whatever you did for one of the least...you did for me.”

Prep of Gifts:
Above All (C)
Al Partir el Pan (C)
All That Is Hidden
At the Table of the World (C)
Gloria, Honor a Ti (C)
He Is Exalted (S)
I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring
Jesus Reigns (S)
O How Blessed
Revelation
The King of Love
Where My Father Lives
Worthy Is the Lamb
You Gather In the Outcast

Communion Processional: The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Altísimo Señor
Bendito Seas Tú, Señor
I Am the Bread of Life
Keep in Mind
Love Has Come
Make Your Home in Me
My Shepherd Is the Lord
Shepherd Me, O God
Unless a Grain of Wheat
We Remember
Whatsoever You Do
Yo Soy el Pan de Vida (S)

Song of Praise/Sending Forth:
All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name
Alleluia! Raise the Gospel
At the Name of Jesus
¡Cristo Vence!
Crown Him with Many Crowns
Él Vive, Él Reina
Give Glory
In Christ Alone
Laudate, Laudate Dominum
Lord of the Dance
Soon and Very Soon
Thy Kingdom Come
¡Tú Reinarás!

Respnsorial Psalm: Psalm 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
OTHER:

All the Ends of the Earth
Amen to the Body of Christ/Amén, Recibimos el
  Cuerpo del Señor
Here Am I
Like a Shepherd
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
Sing a New Song to the Lord
Sing with All the Saints in Glory
The Harvest of Justice
To Be Your Presence
With a Shepherd’s Care

Question of the Week: Having myself been found by divine mercy, what will I do during Advent to seek those in need? Are they already right here in front of me?