



[Jesus said,] "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury."

MARK 12:43

Ouch!

That's the sound of someone giving until it hurts. Most of us probably will never be in such a situation. It's not that we don't give, but that we are seldom asked to give until it really hurts.

The women in today's readings were in desperate straits. They hurt even before they opened their hands to give. Both belonged to one of the groups of vulnerable people often identified in the Bible—namely, the resident alien, the orphan, and the widow. Since the social structure of a patriarchal society is usually built on male kinship, those with no male patron were extraordinarily vulnerable. Consequently, Jewish law made special provision for them (see Deuteronomy 24:17, 19–21; 26:12–13; 27:19). The women in these stories were disadvantaged because they were women, they were widows, and they were

poor. How these deprivations interacted with each other isn't specifically mentioned.

It's not their state of deprivation that makes them models for us to emulate. It's their generosity *despite* their deprivation. The widows featured in today's readings gave from their hearts, not from their abundance. They recognized need in another and did what they could to address that need. That is the virtue set before us today. It is, indeed, heroic!

Do we do what we can to help others in need—as little as that might be? Or do we cling to what we have, to what we say we have a right to have because we worked for it? Are we that uncaring? Ouch! That hurts!

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ✧ How open are you to the needs of others?
- ✧ How generous does this make you?

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

St. Joseph, Cyclone & Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak

Pastor: Rev. RanJan Cletus

Mailing address: 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519.....**Phone** 254-985-2280

Email: cyclone.marak@gmail.com **Website:** marakchurch.org

Masses: Cyclone: Sat. 5:30PM & Sun. 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tue, Thurs & Friday: 7AM

Marak: Sundays: 10:15AM and Wednesday 5:30PM(unless otherwise stated)

The Sacraments:

Baptism: On Sundays after Mass. Please contact the pastor to schedule a meeting with him; a preparation program may be needed. Parents must be registered parishioners of St. Joseph, Cyclone or Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

Confessions: Before Mass on the weekend and anytime by appointment.

Marriage: Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before you set the date of the wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

NOVEMBER 7, 2021 — THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

We must live by the obedience of faith, a faith that shows itself in works of charity and self-giving (see Galatians 5:6). That's the lesson of the two widows in today's liturgy. The widow in the First Reading isn't even a Jew, yet she trusts in the word of Elijah and the promise of his Lord. Facing sure starvation, she gives all that she has, her last bit of food—feeding the man of God before herself and her family. The widow in the Gospel also gives all that she has, offering her last bit of money to support the work of God's priests in the Temple.

In their self-sacrifice, these widows embody the love that Jesus last week revealed as the heart of the Law and the Gospel. They mirror the Father's love in giving His only Son, and Christ's love in sacrificing Himself on the Cross. Again in today's Epistle, we hear Christ described as a new high priest and the suffering servant foretold by Isaiah. On the Cross, He made sacrifice once and for all to take away our sin and bring us to salvation (see Isaiah 53:12).

And again we are called to imitate His sacrifice of love in our own lives. We will be judged, not by how much we give—for the scribes and the wealthy contribute far more than the widow. Rather, we will be judged by whether our gifts reflect our livelihood, our whole beings, all our heart and soul, mind and strength. Are we giving all that we can to the Lord—not out of a sense of forced duty, but in a spirit of generosity and love (see 2 Corinthians 9:6-7)?

Do not be afraid, the man of God tells us today. As we sing in today's Psalm, the Lord will provide for us, as He sustains the widow.

Today, let us follow the widows' example, doing what God asks, confident that our jars of flour will not grow empty, nor our jugs of oil run dry.



10/31: Stewardship: Sunday Offering: \$1,836.00

10/31: World Mission: \$5.00

10/31: Building Fund: \$10.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Bulletin Information: MARAK: Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - Email—pagaines2002@yahoo.com

CYCLONE: Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

Bulletin deadline: Please call or e-mail info for the bulletin by Wednesday before the weekend!

Ministries for November 14, 2021

Rosary: Raymond Tomek

Offertory: REP

Ushers: REP

Eucharistic Minister: Jill Stermer

Lector: REP

Altar Servers: Lily, Adison, Ian



Sanctuary Light: November 8th-14th: Albyn Simecek by Gary & Carolyn Talafuse

Prayer Chain... Please remember in your daily prayers the faithfully departed, those souls in purgatory, those of our community that are in special need of prayer, those who are homebound or in nursing homes, all those in the military and to all those who have been affected by the Covid-19 Virus and also that the vaccine for the corona virus will help to stop this pandemic & for the following: Anton Vrazel, David Minatra, Reenie Hubnik, Kathy Hubnik, Baby Townes Bush, Carolyn Klecka, Edward Brenek, Jr., Marilyn June Gonzalez, and Doris Matocha. Prayers are powerful!

To be added to the prayer chain:

Please contact: **Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—Slavik@farm-market.net**

MARAK MASSES —November 7-14, 2021

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today—11/7	10:15am	+ Albina Vrazel by Mike & Janice Marek + Anna Mae Hubnik by Zarosky Family + Martha Tomek by Bill & Georgia Kincer + Valeria Kostihra by Johnny & Donna Dohnalik
11/10 — Wednesday	5:30pm	+ Eugene Vaculin by Robert & Vicki Plachy + Dorothy Mueck by Leroy & Kathy Vansa + Joe Vansa by Terry & Barbara McNeill + Anna Mae Hubnik by Zarosky Family
11/14— Sunday	10:15am	+ Jamie Cecile Newberry by Robin Hubnik Hickerson + John & Gertrude Michna by Tom & Julie Motyka + Albert Michalka by +Gene & Judy Vaculin + Martha Tomek by Marguerite Michalka

UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **THANK YOU:** A very special thank you to Alfred Vrazel, Mike & Janice Marek and James Marek for performing for the Polka Mass. It is truly a blessing to support our Czech Heritage. Also a big thanks to St. Anne's KJZT Society #21 for sponsoring the Czech Heritage Sunday with refreshments.
- **NOVEMBER 6TH-21ST:** KJZT Jrs. will be sponsoring a food drive again this year. Please bring non-perishable items between Nov. 6th—21st. There will be baskets in the church entry. This will be donated to the Cameron Area Thrift Shop. Thank you for your generous giving.
- **TODAY:** Election Ballots for Parish Council will be provided and the return deadline is on November 21st.
- **NOVEMBER 17TH:** Altar Society Deanery meeting at the Marak Parish Hall starting at 8:30am with refreshments and lunch. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Dear Padre,

My mother divorced, then remarried a non-Catholic. Her first marriage was never annulled. She says if she can't take Communion, there's no difference between watching Mass on TV and attending Mass in a church. I think there's a difference, and she should go to Mass in a church with other Catholics. Your thoughts?

It's a good sign that your mother is watching Mass on television instead of skipping Mass altogether, but you're right.

Television Masses are a viable option for Catholics who are physically unable to attend Mass, but if your mother is physically able, it's a different matter. When it comes to worship, there's nothing like being there, and by attending the liturgy with other Catholics every week and on holy days, she'll fulfill her obligation by virtue of baptism in "fully conscious and active participation" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [*Sacrosanctum Concilium*], 14).

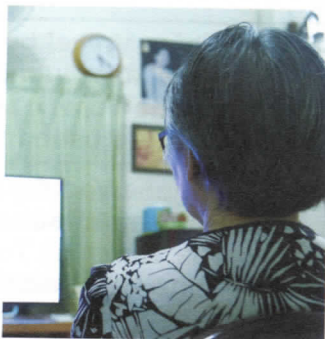
Keep encouraging your mom to attend weekly Mass in person and encourage her to contact her priest about starting annulment proceedings. If the annulment is granted and her current marriage is convalidated, she'll be able to receive the Eucharist.

Receiving Communion may be the privileged encounter with God, but Mass is primarily for worshiping and giving thanks to God. By returning to Mass with other Catholics now and eventually taking Communion, your mom's faith life clearly will be enriched.

Fr. Bob Lindsey, CSsR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.



JOEAREAD/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Familiarity with the Lord, of Christians, is always in community. Yes, it is intimate, it is personal, but within the community. A familiarity without community, a familiarity without bread, a familiarity without the Church, without the people, without the sacraments, is dangerous.

HOMILY, APRIL 17, 2020

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Calendar

Monday

NOVEMBER 8

Weekday

Wis 1:1-7

Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday

NOVEMBER 9

Dedication of the
Lateran Basilica

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12

1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17

Jn 2:13-22

Wednesday

NOVEMBER 10

St. Leo the Great, Pope
and Doctor of the
Church

Wis 6:1-11

Lk 17:11-19

Thursday

NOVEMBER 11

St. Martin of Tours,
Bishop

Wis 7:22b-8:1

Lk 17:20-25

Friday

NOVEMBER 12

St. Josaphat,
Bishop and Martyr

Wis 13:1-9

Lk 17:26-37

Saturday

NOVEMBER 13

St. Frances Xavier
Cabrini, Virgin

Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9

Lk 18:1-8

Sunday

NOVEMBER 14

Thirty-third Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Dn 12:1-3

Heb 10:11-14, 18

Mk 13:24-32

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