

Cycle C – Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Nov. 16, 2025

“Not a hair of your head will perish ...”

OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 98)

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**All: With trumpets and the sound of the horn.
make a joyful noise before the king, the Lord.**

Leader: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

**All: Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the Lord.
AMEN**



First Reading – Malachi 4:1-2

As we move towards the end of the Church year, the readings carry an edge to them. In this account from Malachi, the last of the prophetic writings in the Old Testament, we hear about two kinds of judgment. Every visitation from God to the beloved and chosen people – in this case the people of Israel – is a day of judgment and salvation, sifting the “arrogant and evildoers” from those “who revere my name.”

1. How does the prophet remind us that this life is short and to achieve salvation takes much faith and good works?
2. Do you see God’s righteousness and presence in our world today? Where and how?

Second Reading – 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

St. Paul, in his words to the Thessalonians, shows his displeasure with those who take a passive and almost fatalist approach to faith, as if that excused them from daily responsibilities of work and care. Whether rich or poor, every follower of Jesus is simply called to faithful living and working in joy and love, even when the “Day of the Lord” has come.

1. Have you been in a situation which led you to stop planning for the future?
2. How are we best to prepare for the day of the Lord’s coming?
3. How do you react to people who attempt to predict the exact timing of Christ’s coming?

Gospel Reading – Luke 21:5-19

Luke's Gospel began in the Temple with Zechariah's vision; the infant Jesus was presented in the Temple; the 12-year old Jesus was "lost" and found in the Temple; and now we find Jesus back in the Temple giving the disciples and the crowds his final teachings. Jesus' words have an edge, creating healthy unease. During these last days of the Church year, as the dark of winter increases, Jesus' words hold deep reminders of how to remain faithful until the end of time.

1. Who are the false teachers in our own day? How do you tell falseness from truth?
2. In light of the world's calamities, how do you refrain from being overwhelmed with fear?
3. As a parish community, how can we best prepare for "the last day"?

LIVING THE WORD

What action can I undertake this week to respond to God's Word?

PRAYING THE WORD

Intercession: We pray for the gifts of patient endurance in times of suffering, of humility and obedience in times of upheaval, and of peace in times of fear.
We pray to the Lord.

(Invite others to voice prayers, then end with "Our Father...")

Concluding Prayer

Leader: Lord God, Creator of life,
Master of the beginning and the end,
the Alpha and the Omega.

**All: Awaiting the Lord's coming,
we put aside pride and evildoing.**

Leader: We long for healing which comes
from the sun of righteousness.

**All: Awaiting the Lord's coming,
we put aside fear for trust,
casting off apathy for vigilance,
and singing joyfully to the Lord of Life.
AMEN**

Let us offer each other a sign of peace – the peace of Jesus Christ, that the world cannot give.