

Parish Meeting Prayers

For use in November, 2020

Introduction

Leader Gifts from God are diverse: personal talents, generous income, good health, loving families and many others. God asks us to be prepared to share these gifts for the sake of others.

Opening Prayer

All Generous God, your gifts to us are never ending. Help us to recognize, develop and share these gifts in ways that show our gratitude. May we not take your gifts for granted but return them multiplied and available for service to your people. We pray through Jesus who has taught us the Way. Amen.

Word of God Matthew 25:19-30

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Matthew *(The reading is on the reverse side.)*
Pause for silent reflection after the reading.)

Optional Discuss these questions in two's or three's.

- Jesus tells us how serious it is not to use wisely the gifts God has given us. What does that mean for your life?
- List the categories of gifts from God in your life. How full and wisely are you using these gifts?

Response (Taken from Matthew 25:19-30)

Side one "Well done, my good and faithful servant, since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities."

Side 2 When God gives us gifts, he expects us to use them well.

Side 1 "Come share your master's joy."

Side 2 How we long to hear Jesus' words.

Side 1 "For everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich."

Side 2 Since money is not the message here, it is gifts of goodness which will enrich us and others.

Petitions Individuals add intentions to remember here.

Closing Prayer

All Gracious God, your gifts generously given are meant to enrich our lives and the lives of others. May we recognize, give thanks and use our gifts faithfully. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew

The master of his servants settled accounts with them.
The one who had received five talents came forward
bringing the additional five.
He said, "Master, you gave me five talents.
See, I have made five more."
His master said to him, "Well done, my good and faithful servant.
Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come, share your master's joy."

Then the one who had received two talents also came forward
and said,
"Master, you gave me two talents.
See, I have made two more."
His master said to him, "Well done, my good and faithful servant.
Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come, share your master's joy."

Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said,
"Master, I knew you were a demanding person,
harvesting where you did not plant
and gathering where you did not scatter;
so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground.
Here it is back."
His master said to him in reply, "you wicked, lazy servant!
So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant
and gather where I did not scatter?
Should you not then have put my money in the bank
so that I could have got it back with interest on my return?
Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one
with ten."

For to everyone who has,
more will be given and he will grow rich;
from the one who has not,
even what he has will be taken away.
And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside,
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth."