This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We live a life of unwavering faith when we acknowledge our nothingness before God.

PROMISE:

...the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Lk 18:14b)

WORD:

Sir 35:15-17, 20-22/ Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23/ 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18/ Lk 18:9-14

ORDER:

• Humble yourself. (Lk 18:14b)

DIRECTIONS:

- Know God through the Holy Scriptures.
- Foster your relationship with God through prayers.
- Be accepting and look at everyone as vour brothers and sisters in Christ.

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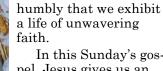
Don't Be A Pharisee

REFLECTION:

The message of the parable brings to mind a core spiritual understanding in the life and teachings of Jesus. Before God, there is no room for pride or arrogance. No one has reason for selfglorification. We are all unprofitable servants. The parable is addressed by Jesus to

people who consider themselves virtuous, or righteous. Rather than trusting in God, and establishing a right relationship with Him, they trust in themselves, leading to self-righteousness instead of righteousness. The result is a misguided focus on the ego and disrespect for others.

Self-righteousness often leads to arrogance and self-importance. God sees the disposition of our hearts and judges us accordingly. Walking humbly is what the Lord requires of us, and it is what brings His blessings upon us. It is in walking



In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus gives us an object lesson in humility and prayer through two men, one, a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. They had gone to the temple to pray, but the Pharisee stood praising himself, while the tax collector stood at a dis-

tance, not even daring to look up and, beating his breast, acknowledged his sinfulness before God. Of the two Jesus says: "I tell you that this man (the tax collector), rather than the other (the Pharisee) went home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." (Luke 18:14).

The parable teaches us that when we pray, we should humble ourselves before God, acknowledging our helplessness and total dependence upon Him for whatever

Pharisee - See Page 2

Proclaim Fully The Gospel

Dear friends, in today's Liturgy we read the testimony of

Flock St. Paul concerning the final reward that the Lord will grant "to all who have loved his appearing" (2 Tim 4:8). This testimony does not mean an idle or solitary waiting. Quite the contrary! The Apostle lived in communion with the Risen Christ to "proclaim the Word [Gospel] fully" so that "all the Gentiles might hear it" (2 Tim 4:17). The missionary task is not to revolutionize the world, rather to transfigure it, drawing upon the strength of Jesus Christ who "summons us to the banquet of his word and of the Eucharist, to taste the gift of his presence, to be formed at his school and to live ever more closely united to him, our teacher and Lord" (Message for the 84th World Mission Sunday). Also, Christians of today - as it is written in the Epistle to Diognetus – "show how marvellous and... extraordinary their associated life is. They spend their life on earth, but they are citizens of heaven. They obey the established laws, but in their way of living go beyond these laws... They are condemned to death, from which they draw life. While doing good, they are... persecuted and they grow in number every day" (v, 4.9.12.16; vi 9, n. 33, Paris 1951, 62-66).

> ~ Pope Benedict XVI Angelus Message, October 24, 2010



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The Lord's Provision

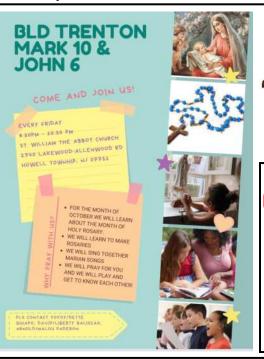
October 14, 2022

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Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Mama Mary's visit - Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407 For Prayer Service - Bert & Cora Velez 732-688-1541





Gød's Bl∉ssings

Birthday

| Ruby Woodard | 10/21 | Vange Hermsen | 10/23 |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Daniel Catarata | 10/21 | Kate Ilagan | 10/23 |
| Maz Gennity | 10/21 | Mike Chua | 10/24 |
| Angelique Gumabon | 10/22 | Raffy Perez | 10/24 |
| Sonny Adame | 10/23 | Romy Durante | 10/26 |
| Mae Alberto | 10/23 | Jedy Bustamante | 10/27 |

Anniversary

| Morris & Emma Teves | 10/23 |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Paul & Vange Hermsen | 10/24 |
| Janis & Arlene Carvajal | 10/25 |
| Bobby & Kate Ilagan | 10/26 |
| Robert & Agnes Raymundo | 10/26 |
| Raffy & Jo Perez | 10/27 |

Hear my cry, O Lord, and rescue me from all my distress, Confront the evildoers to destroy their remembrance from the earth.

Hello, Friend

I knew an old religious brother who was the doorman of a boarding school, and every time he could he would approach the chapel, look at the altar, and say, "Hello," because he was close to Jesus... This is the relationship we must have in prayer: closeness, affective closeness, as brothers and sisters, closeness with Jesus. A smile, a simple gesture, and not reciting words that do not reach the heart... It is a grace we must ask for one another: to see Jesus as our friend, as our greatest friend, our faithful friend, who does not blackmail, above all who never abandons us, even when we turn away from Him.

~ Pope Francis

Pharisee - Cont'd from Page 1

good we may accomplish. We place ourselves completely at His mercy, confessing our sinfulness and that we are truly nothing without Him. Let us pray in a spirit of repentance, and in all humility. When we come into the realization of who we truly are, God can be for us what He truly is.

We are all sinners, unworthy to approach God. But we come to Him through our Savior, Jesus Christ. How? There are numerous ways, of course, but one of the most effective is simply through the process of transforming our minds and living out our unwavering faith as followers of Christ.

In many ways we are like the Pharisee; we look down on others. When we do good works, we expect to be credited for it. Sometimes in an outburst of holiness, we pray for the "conversion of sinners," imagining ourselves to be better than those for whom we pray, put-

ting them down in the process. The only way to avoid being a Pharisee is to follow Paul's advice to the Philippians, "In humility, regard others as better than yourselves," (Phil 2:3).

With genuine righteousness we should pray as the tax collector did, "Oh God, be merciful to me, a sinner," (Lk 8:13), as we give thanks to God for promise of this week – "The one who humbles himself will be exalted," (Lk 18:14b).

Prayer:

God of our salvation, continue to guide us, especially when we stray into paths of self-righteousness. Keep us from comparing ourselves to others, especially those whom we consider to be less worthy than ourselves. Rescue us from the evil of pride that keeps us apart from you and from others. We humble ourselves before you and our fellowmen, all for your name sake. *Amen*.

Adapted from <u>www.bldworld.org</u>

Prayer of St. Gertrude

Eternal Father, I offer Thee
the Most Precious Blood
of Thy Divine Son, Jesus,
in union with the masses said
throughout the world today,
for all the holy souls
in purgatory, for sinners
everywhere, for sinners in the
universal church, those in my own
home and within my family.

Amen.



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