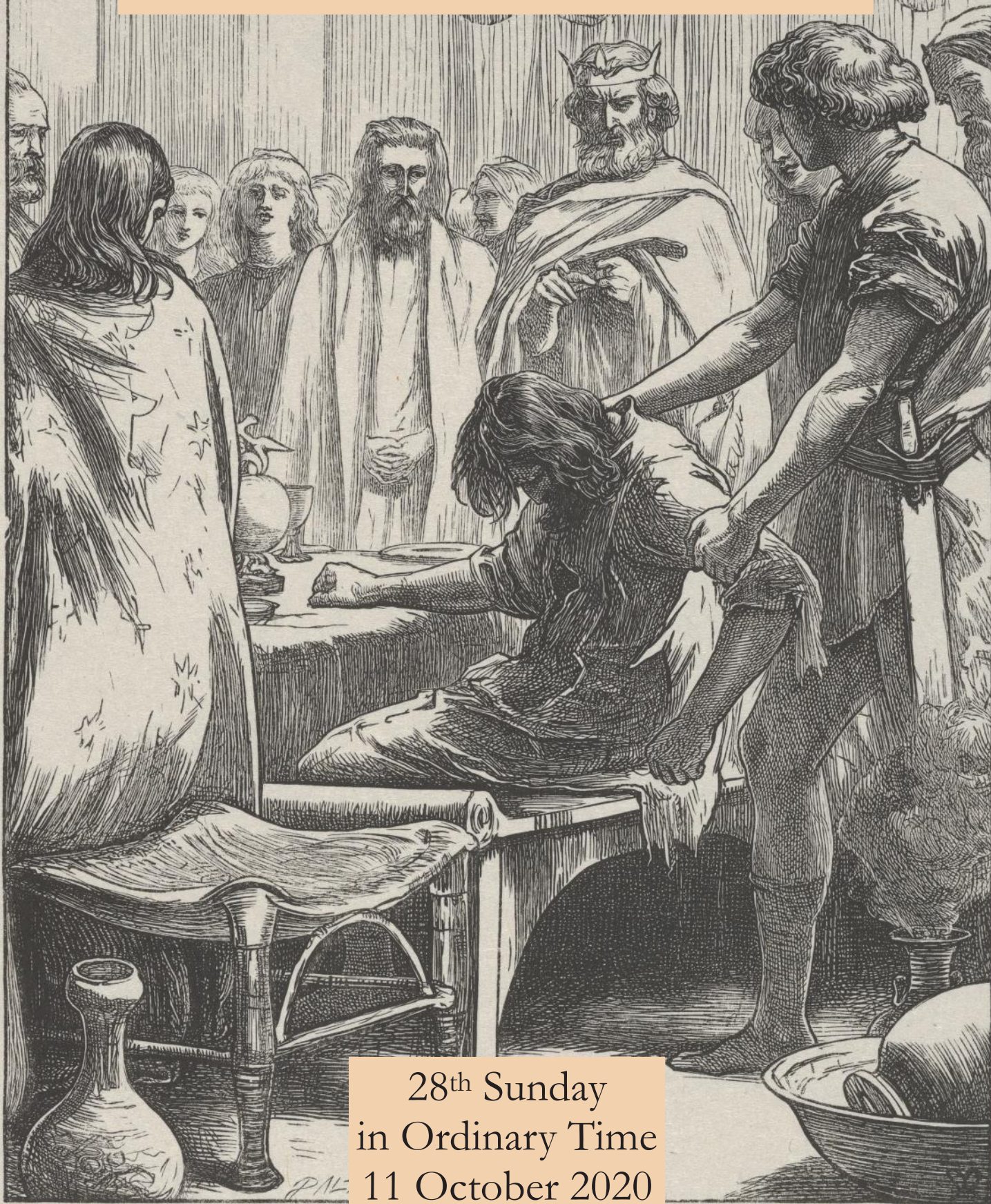


ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



28th Sunday
in Ordinary Time
11 October 2020

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(October 10th - October 18th)

Sat.	Oct 10	28th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)
	4:00 pm	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Sun.	Oct 11	28th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)
	7:00am	Intentions of the Hammarquist Family
	9:00am	Couet Family
	11:00am	<i>Month's Mind</i>
Mon.	Oct 12	Feria (Gr)
	9:00am	Fernandina Pavaõ
Tues.	Oct 13	Feria (Gr)
	9:00am	Mr. & Mrs. Joaõ Lorenzo & Family
Wed.	Oct 14	St. Callistus I; Pope & Martyr (Rd)
	9:00am	Roger Allain
Thurs.	Oct 15	St. Teresa of Jesus; Virgin (Wh)
	9:00am	Helen, Jean & Donny Guenette
Fri.	Oct 16	St. Hedwig; Religious (Wh)
	9:00am	James & Luisa Moniz
Sat.	Oct 17	St. Ignatius of Antioch (Rd)
	9:00am	Ernesto & Esaura Frias
Sat.	Oct 17	29th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)
	4:00 pm	Mesquita Family
Sun.	Oct 18	29th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)
	7:00am	Paul & Adrienne Boucher
	9:00am	
	11:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>

Financial Report

Income:

27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	\$3,067.70
Parish Building Fund	\$3,132.00

Prayers Please

... for all the sick of our parish: those homebound, in the hospital, and nursing facilities; and for all the souls in purgatory.

Sanctuary Lamp

During this time of our absence away from Eucharistic Adoration please pray at home for the following person/s for whose intention the Sanctuary Candle at the main altar still burns this week: Mr. & Mrs. Joao Lorenzo & Family

CONFESSION

Monday: 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Saturday: 9:30 to 10:00am
Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45pm

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

OUR FALL SCRIPTURE STUDY

Two weeks ago Pope Francis released a letter on the importance of the Bible for Christians. He did this to mark the 1600th anniversary of the death of St. Jerome, one of the first great Scripture scholars of the Church.

It should go without saying that we, as Christians, know that the Bible is important. One question to ask ourselves is: how often do I take time to read the Bible? We can find ourselves treating the Bible like fine china: knowing it's precious but not making much use of it in our daily lives. Pope Francis wants to change that. In his letter, he offers this encouragement:

One of the problems we face today, not only in religion, is illiteracy: the hermeneutic skills that make us credible interpreters and translators of our own cultural tradition are in short supply. I would like to pose a challenge to young people in particular: begin exploring your heritage. Christianity makes you heirs of an unsurpassed cultural patrimony of which you must take ownership. Be passionate about this history which is yours.

*This is why the present anniversary can be seen as a summons to love what Jerome loved, to rediscover his writings and to let ourselves be touched by his robust spirituality, which can be described in essence as a restless and impassioned desire for a **greater knowledge of the God who chose to reveal himself**. How can we not heed, in our day, the advice that Jerome unceasingly gave to his contemporaries: **"Read the divine Scriptures constantly; never let the sacred volume fall from your hand"**?*

All of this said, let's be honest: it can be tough to just open the Bible and start to read. Without preparation or understanding some of the background about what we're reading, sometimes the words can be difficult to fully understand without some guidance.

This is one reason that our parish has a Bible Study every Autumn. Two years ago we looked at the Gospels, and last year's topic was the letters of St. Paul. This year, we will be studying the writings of the Prophets.

Obviously, our normal format of meeting in-person for the study will be changing due to current circumstances. I hope that this will also allow some people who normally can't participate to do so. The study on the prophets will be a six-part series, with each session being about 20 minutes. They will be released as YouTube videos every Thursday for the coming weeks. The whole series will be able to be found on our parish website.

20 minutes a week – can you commit to that in order to grow in your appreciation of Sacred Scripture?

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Please make an appointment to meet with

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Religious Education: 508-998-7445

School: 508-995-4313

School Fax: 508-995-0456

ACCESSIBILITY

- Open for Prayer Every Day
- Wheelchair Lift
- Cry-room

St. Francis Xavier Parish

125 Main Street

Acushnet, MA 02743

tel: (508)-995-7600 fax: (508) -995-1794

email: info@sfxparish.com

Fr. Riley J. Williams, Pastor

[rjw@sfxparish.com]

Deacon David Pepin

[dbp@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Janine Hammarquist, Rel. Ed. Coordinator

[jlh@sfxparish.com]

[ministry@sfxacushnet.com]

Mr. Steven Guillotte, Director of Pastoral Services

[sng@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Michelle Russo, Parish School Principal

[mrusso@sfxacushnet.com]

Mrs. Anabela Shaughnessy, Asst. Principal

[ashaughnessy@sfxacushnet.com]

HOLY MASS

Sunday 7:00am, 9:00am & 11:00am

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Monday-Saturday 9:00am

First Friday 9:00am & 6:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday 5:30-6:30pm

(9:30-10:00am Monday Holidays)

Saturday 9:30-10:00am

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm

First Fridays 6:45-7:15pm

Any Time by Appointment

ADORATION

Monday 6:30am-8:30pm

Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm

Thursday 6:30am-8:30pm

Friday 6:30am-8:30pm

Saturday 6:30 am-2:45 pm

VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Monday & Wednesday: 6:30 pm

ON THE COVER

The king said to him, 'My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?' But he was reduced to silence. Then the king said to his attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside...' (Mt 22:11-13)

In the Lord's Prayer we petition God the Father by asking, "*Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*" Is it any wonder then that this once most pervasive prayer has become less so in a world that would appear to retort, "*My will be done, in heaven as it is on earth*"? For is it not true that we live in a time when we would prefer that God conform to us, rather than we conform to him.

Now it seems to be that the many people today who are giving up the practice of Christianity still believe in life-after-death. This is not surprising since pagans have always believed in life-after-death in one form or another. However, today belief in heaven is becoming very personal with as many notions about life-after-death as there are people to imagine them. However one thing that all these novel notions have in common is the removal of all or most moral conditions for the attainment of heaven. Each man has taken over God's judgment seat and has granted himself amnesty. No savior, no redeemer, no priesthood is needed. Entrance into heaven is as easy as being born.

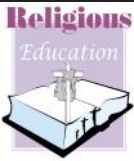
Perhaps it would be, if man were as holy as God. But heaven is a place of holiness because it is where God *is*. Thus, man must be made holy if he is to reside there. Yet, no man can achieve holiness on his own. He must be purified by Jesus Christ who perfected human nature in Himself and ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us (**Jn 14:3**). Without Jesus Christ there is *no* heaven for man.

On this **28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**, we place on our bulletin cover the image of a wood-cut engraving by the Pre-Raphaelite painter, **John Everett Millais**, entitled *The Marriage Feast* (courtesy The Met). This was just one work by Millais in a series of parables crafted for a private patron.

Here we see the man, silent before the king, being removed from the wedding feast. His garment is tattered but this does not mean that he is poor. It is a symbol of the man's unrepentance, for he has tried to enter into heaven without purification. In fact, his silence means that he will not confess his sins, yet in his stubborn pride still expects a seat at the king's table. Yet his pride fails him and he lowers his posture and eyes before the king of heaven. Notice that there is no cheer over his removal. Even the guard who removes him does so gently and soberly.

Catholics believe and proclaim with the psalmist, "*Holiness befits your house O Lord*" (**Ps 93:5**) We believe that one must be holy to enter into heaven. For most of us who die with restitution still needed to be paid, there is purgatory or a "purging" of all that is not holy in us; "*for you will not be released until you have paid the last penny*" (**Mt 5:26**). Thankfully, our Lord is a kind and merciful creditor. He forgives our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Though our sins be as scarlet, nothing is impossible for God. But the grace of God is needed. No one can force open the gates of heaven, unless He be Jesus, the Son of God.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 11, 2020



No Classes Sun Oct 11th due to
Columbus Day.

Catholic School families were sent an email with the Registration requirements for First Holy Communion. Please fill out the forms and return to the Rel. Ed. Office by Sun. Oct. 18th.

First Communion Parent Meeting via Zoom on Sunday October 18th @ 1pm. Please check your email for the link.

2nd Graders from SFX School receiving the Sacraments here at St. Francis will attend classes with us in the Parish Center on Sun Oct. 25 & Nov. 1, 8, 15 & 22. *Please wear a mask.*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Will take place on Sundays in church during our regularly scheduled class times. Every student should have an adult accompany them. This will take the place of the Family Faith Formation Classes. Every grade level will have two scheduled hours of Adoration during our class year from October-May. This will include all Sacramental Students also. Please check your email for the scheduled dates. **Sunday October 18th will be Levels 1, 4 & 3 accompanied by a parent in church.** Please note the change that Level 3 will be joining us for this hour.

To keep informed of important dates please visit our Parish Master Calendar on our website at www.sfxparish.com.

If you have any questions please email
Mrs. Hammarquist at jlh@sfxparish.com

Stay Safe, Healthy and Holy
God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

The month of October is quite special for our school community as we dedicate time to pray the Rosary and also to honor and research the lives of the saints! Our students have much to learn about the journey to sainthood and the ultimate reward of heaven! Gaining knowledge about the lives of extraordinary men and women who followed Our Lord's call to holiness is critical in realizing that we are all called to emulate them! As school tradition has it, our staff and students will culminate their learning with an All Saints Day Celebration. Like everything lately, this year's celebration will look and feel quite different than in year's past, but is sure to be wonderful nonetheless! More details and a narrative pertaining to All Saints Day to follow! Thanks so much for your continued support and prayers.

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal



January: Banquet Scene
Limbourg Brothers (14th Century)

"The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests." - (Mt 22:8b-10)

UPCOMING HOLIDAY: The parish office will be closed this Monday 12 October for observance of **Columbus Day**. There will be no vespers that evening. Confessions will move to Monday morning and Eucharistic Adoration will go on as usual through the day and overnight.

As Columbus Day approaches, please consider reading an article on-line in *The Catholic Thing* by EWTN contributor Robert Royal entitled "Lying for Justice". This insightful and fair article can be found at <https://www.thecatholicthing.org/2020/09/21/lying-for-justice/>. Let us balance with wisdom the needs to increase justice and to preserve a truthful history.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: We will hold a special national collection **this Saturday, 10 October and Sunday, 11 October** to assist those suffering from natural disasters, such as in Louisiana from Hurricane Laura and in California due to the many wild fires. Thanks in advance for your generosity

**SFX
Women of
Grace**

What is the power of the Rosary? Saint John Paul II said, *"through the Rosary the faithful receive abundant grace, as though through the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer."* Wow! That's powerful!!!

As we celebrate the Rosary during the month of October, journey with us to discover its efficacy as a beautiful "Christocentric" prayer that takes you through the mysteries of the life of Christ.

Each *Daily Graceline* will include a beautiful image, a short quote and a question for reflection and pondering.

These free nuggets of daily inspiration are sure to be source of encouragement and spiritual growth for you!

Go to womenofgrace.com to sign up.

God Bless - Carol Eccleston

MORE ADORATION

Once again, we will be expanding our Eucharistic Adoration hours, this time on **October 21st** when we add Wednesday morning and overnight connecting it to Saturday afternoon. Thus our Eucharistic Adoration hours as of the week of October 19th will be Monday morning after the 9 am Mass until Tuesday morning before the 9 am Mass and then Wednesday after the 9 am Mass running continuous until Saturday afternoon before Confessions at 3:00 pm. (N.B. *The only gap remaining is from Tuesday A.M. to Wednesday A.M.*).

In consideration of this, our Adoration Coordinator, Mary Cardoza, is looking to fill two important overnight hours: 2:30 am to 3:30 am (Thursdays) or 3:00 to 4:00 pm (Friday).

Please email our Adoration Coordinator, Mary Cardoza at maryonfire33@gmail.com if you are able to cover either of those hours. Thank you.

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

October 11th - Bishop's Disaster Relief
October 18th - Propagation of the Faith
October 25th - Diocesan Assessment

MONTH'S MIND MASS

We remember the following individuals
that were deceased or memorialized
in the past month at our
Sunday 11:00 am, Oct 11th Holy Mass

Robert Guenette

READINGS FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 11, 2020

Sunday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/
Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10
Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31—5:1/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a
and 6-7 [cf. 2]/Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6/Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48 [41a]/Lk
11:37-41
Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/
Lk 11:42-46
Thursday: Eph 1:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2a]/Lk
11:47-54
Friday: Eph 1:11-14/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13 [12]/Lk 12:1-7
Saturday: Eph 1:15-23/Ps 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7 [7]/Lk 12:8-12

**OVER 17,000
BABIES SAVED
WORLDWIDE!**

Sept. 23 - Nov. 1 2020

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

Join with your fellow parishioners for a peaceful prayer vigil in Attleboro, MA on Saturday, **24 October**. See the sign-up sheet in the parish church.

ANNUAL SFX BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

See the donation envelopes on the pro-life table
in the parish entrance!



Harvest Fair - To Go! On **Saturday 17 October** from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm, St. John of God Parish at 1036 Brayton Avenue, Somerset, will be holding the food portion of its annual Harvest Fair with a To Go sale. Items include Portuguese or Apple Butternut Squash Soup, Chourico and Peppers, Favas, etc. Desserts are Portuguese Sweet Rice and Malassada. You can also take a chance on a raffle: 1st prize is \$500 cash; 2nd prize is a Lottery Ticket Basket, and 3rd prize is a gift card basket. Father Jason Brillhante, who celebrates each Wednesday Mass here for us, is pastor of St. John of God. Please give your support.

THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 11 OCTOBER

ProceSSIONAL Hymn: Praise to the Lord

Praise to the Lord the Almighty, the King of creation;

O my soul praise him, for he is my help and salvation,

*All ye who hear, Now to his altar draw near,
Joining in glad adoration.*

1st Reading: Is 25:6-10A

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines. On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever. The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face; the reproach of his people he will remove from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken. On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! This is the LORD for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!" For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm: *I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life*

2nd Reading: Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

Brothers and sisters: I know how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need. I can do all things in him who strengthens me. Still, it was kind of you to share in my distress. My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father, glory forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Mt 22:1-14

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. A second time he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those invited: "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast."' Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged and sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to meet the guests, he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment. The king said to him, 'My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?' But he was reduced to silence. Then the king said to his attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.' Many are invited, but few are chosen."

Offertory Hymn: Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

Communion Hymn: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Recessional Hymn: Let All Things Now Living

*Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving
To God our Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days...*