

October 14, 2018



The rich young man in today's Gospel wants to know, HOW TO LIVE IN THIS LIFE so that he might live forever in the world to come. He learns from Jesus that not only observing commandments but also the willingness to love unconditionally one's neighbor in charity prepares us for eternal life.

The Wisdom of God is not precepts, but a person - Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Wisdom whose Spirit was granted to Solomon; Jesus is the Word of God spoken to us and Jesus is God, who is revealed to us at every sacrament.

In Jesus we encounter Wisdom, the living and effective Word of God. As He does with the rich man today, He looks upon each of us with love. That look of love, that loving gaze, is a personal invitation for us to give up everything and follow Him. Nothing is concealed from His gaze, the thoughts of our hearts are exposed, and each of us must render an account of our lives.

Let us have the attitude of Solomon and prefer Wisdom to all else. This choice requires a leap of faith because Jesus tells us that we must trust in His promise even in persecution. What, then, are the "many possessions" that keep us from giving ourselves totally to God? What are we clinging to, material things, comfort zones, relationships? What will it take for us to live fully for Christ's sake and the sake of the Gospel? Let us pray for the wisdom to enter into the kingdom of God.

Fr. Michael Jeeva Antony

SAVE THE DATE — PARISH MISSION!

November 18-20

with Fr. Blaise Czaja, C.P. (Passionist)



El Joven Rico en el Evangelio de hoy, QUIERE SABER CÓMO VIVIR EN ESTA VIDA, para poder tener vida eterna en el mundo que vendrá. Él aprende de Jesús, que no solo observando los mandamientos es lo que te prepara para la vida eterna, sino la disponibilidad de amar incondicionalmente al prójimo en caridad.

La Sabiduría de Dios no son preceptos, sino una persona – Jesucristo. Jesús es la sabiduría del cual, el espíritu fue dado a Salomón; Jesús es la Palabra de Dios para nosotros y Jesús es Dios, que se nos revela a nosotros en cada sacramento.

En Jesús encontramos Sabiduría, la Palabra de Dios viva y efectiva. Al igual que hace con el joven rico de hoy, también nos mira a nosotros con amor. Esa mirada de amor; ese amoroso contemplar; es una invitación personal para todos, de dejar todo y seguir a Jesús. Nada se oculta de su contemplar, los pensamientos de nuestro corazón están expuestos, y cada uno debemos dar cuenta de nuestra vida.

Tengamos la actitud de Salomón y elijamos Sabiduría ante todo. Esta elección requiere de la fe porque Jesús nos dice que, debemos confiar en su promesa aun en la persecución. Entonces ¿que son las "posesiones" que nos detienen de darnos totalmente a Dios? ¿A que estamos aferrados? A cosas materiales, zonas de comodidad, relaciones? ¿Qué es lo que nos tomara vivir totalmente para Cristo y el Evangelio? Oremos para recibir Sabiduría para entrar en el Reino de Dios.

Padre Miguel Jeeva Antony

IT'S GETTING COLE! & TIME FOR CCS'S WARM CLOTHING DRIVE!

Your donations of warm clothing will be distributed free of charge by Catholic Community Services (CCS), to the homeless and to low-income families in Eugene & Springfield areas.



DESIRED ITEMS: *All sizes — all brands — all types!*

WINTER COATS
SHOES

BLANKETS
WARM SWEATERS, PANTS

SOCKS
MITTENS/GLOVES/HATS/SCARVES

Are you a Catholic and current member of an AA group in the Eugene area?? A faith support group for members of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) is forming that will affirm Catholic values & spirituality. Would you be interested in attending a such a group? And would you be willing to be a resource person for other Catholics who want to know more about AA? If so, please send your **FIRST** name + first initial of your **LAST** name + your phone number to Theresa at: telliott@stpetereugene.org.

YOU'RE INVITED— Please come to honor and support our local priests and religious! The 2018 Priest Appreciation Dinner is on Friday, **November 2nd**, sponsored by the Eugene 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Assembly 898, to honor our priests, deacons, sisters, and widows of fellow Knights. Held at the Holiday Inn (919 Kruse Way, Springfield, OR) with **6:00pm** reception followed by dinner at **7:00pm** ... special guest is Bishop Peter Smith. Cost is \$40/person — to make reservations contact Dave Olszyk at 541-689-8070, or email to: olsdan@proaxis.com.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE You are invited to join other Christians across our nation for the **40 Days for Life** Fall campaign of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, from **Sept. 26th through Nov. 4th**. Locally, we will also have, in addition, a 40 day Vigil of peaceful prayer in the public right-of-way outside the Planned Parenthood facility (3579 Franklin Blvd). For more info, or to volunteer for the prayer Vigil, contact Eileen at 541-543-7168 or email: etmoregon@yahoo.com. website: 40DaysforLife.com/Eugene.

FAITH SERIES: CATECHISM THROUGH THE YEAR

WHY ARE THERE SO MANY RULES?

Why are there so many rules and regulations in the Catholic Church? This is often asked of Catholics, especially when a personal relationship with God is the desire of every human heart. The contrast between rules and relationship is seen between two books of the bible: Song of Songs and the Book of Sirach. Songs celebrates the love between God and his people, and Sirach provides many rules for living, even to table etiquette (Sur 31L12-31).

Are these two books in a fundamental contradiction? Which of them more accurately describes “religion that is pure and undefiled before God” (Jas 1:27)?

The dilemma is solved when we recall our Lord’s words: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments” (Jn 14:15). A genuinely loving, personal, relationship with God must be more than devout feelings. We express our love for him by obedience to the “rules and regulations” he has given us for living.

This truth should not surprise us. Even in human relationships, following certain rules demonstrates the genuineness of our love. In marriage, for example, spouses express their love, in part, by obeying the divine commandments against adultery, lying, and coveting another person’s spouse (Ex 20:14,16-17).

The gospel sums up the intent of God’s commands in a brief statement: “Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself” (Lk 10:27). Simple enough — or so it seems. But we must unpack the meaning of those few words in order to apply them to all the various situations in which we find ourselves each day. To help, God has graciously given us Sirach, and other biblical books, with rich insights, guidelines, and ordinances. The Church makes use of these in formulating her precepts.

Certainly Christian faith is much more than a collection of “rules and regulations”. A personal relationship with our Lord is essential. But the relationship doesn’t dispense with the rules. Rather, the rules help to define the relationship, and our obedience to them is the clearest indicator of our love for God.

RECOMMENDED READING: Excerpt taken from The NEW Catholic Answer Bible

Dt 6:4-9 · Ps 119 · Wis 6:17-19 · Jn 14:15-24; 15:10 · 1 Jn 5:3 · 2 Jn 6 ·

& Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) Nos. 577-582 · 1776-1802 · 1949-1986 · 2030-2051 · 2552-2557 · 2614 ·