

**THIRTY – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 14th November
(World Day of the Poor)**

The end of time is a time of confidence when God will return to his people to call us home to him.

MASSES

**Vigil Saturdays 6p.m. Sundays: 9a.m. & 11a.m.
Weekdays: Monday to Saturday 10 a.m.**

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 10.30am and 5.30pm

Monsignor Gearóid Dullea P.P.

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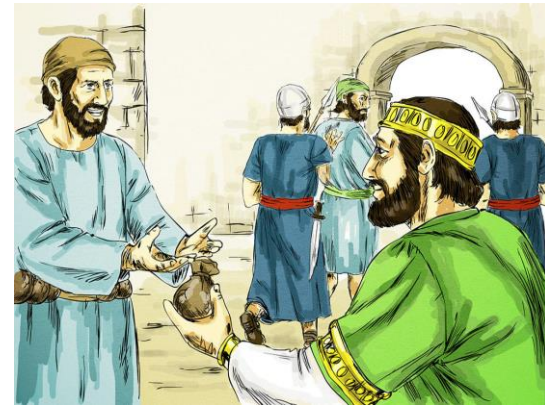
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Feast days of the week (November)

Monday 15th St. Albert the Great, 1206-80, the Dominican theologian, who taught in Cologne, was called the 'Universal Doctor', for the vast range of his interests. Patron of scientists.

Tuesday 16th St. Margaret, 1045-93, wife of Malcolm III, King of Scotland, helped by her example and influence the work of reform in the Church.

St. Gertrude, 1256-1302, a Benedictine nun, from the age of five she cultivated devotion to the Sacred Heart and advocated frequent Communion.

Wednesday 17th St. Elizabeth of Hungary, 1207-31, queen at fourteen, widowed and exiled at twenty, Franciscan tertiary until her death at twenty-four. A woman of prayer and service of the poor. Patron saint of bakers.

Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter and Paul

St. Peter's Basilica, consecrated in 1626, and St. Paul's Outside-the-Walls in 1854, both replaced older churches erected in the fourth century over the tombs of the apostles Peter and Paul. The dedications of these churches have been commemorated together on this day since the twelfth century.

Diocesan Meeting of Priests

As the priests of the Diocese are attending a diocesan meeting next week, daily Mass won't be celebrated in our church (Monday 15th - Thursday 18th November) apart from Tuesday 16th November at 10am, and any other necessary funeral Masses.

The Empty Chair

A priest went to visit a patient in his home. He noticed an empty chair at the patient's bedside and asked what it was doing there. The patient said, "I had placed Jesus on that chair and was talking to him before you arrived. For years I found it extremely difficult to pray until a friend explained to me that prayer was a matter of talking and listening to Jesus. He told me to place an empty chair nearby, to imagine Jesus sitting on that chair, and to speak with him and listen to what he says to me in reply. I've had no difficulty praying ever since."

In 1975, Cardinal Francis Xavier Van Thuan was arrested by the communist government of Vietnam and imprisoned for 13 years, nine of them in solitary confinement, and finally exiled from Vietnam in 1991. After his liberation many people said to him, "Father in prison you must have had lots of time to pray. I said to them it was not as simple as that. There were days when I was so worn out by exhaustion and illness that I could not manage to say a single prayer.



Then he told them a story. There was an old man named Jim who would go to the church every day at noon for just a few minutes and then he would leave. The priest was very curious about Jim's daily routine and one day he stopped him to ask "Why do you come here every day?" I come here to pray," Jim answered. "That's impossible. What prayer can you say in two minutes?" "I am an old and ignorant man. I pray to God in my own way." But what do you say? "I say, Jesus, here I am, it's Jim and then I leave.

After some years, Jim became ill and had to go to the hospital. When he came to the hospital, he asked for a chair for his guest. "What guest?" Said his friend who came to visit him. When I could not go to the church to visit Jesus every day, Jesus came here. What does he say said his friend, "Jim here I am, and it's Jesus".

Francis Van Thuan said, "When my strength failed me and I could not even pray, I repeated, "Jesus, here I am, it's Francis. Joy and consolation would come to me and I experienced Jesus responding, "Francis, here I am, it's Jesus."



Prayer to Saint Joseph

God, heavenly Father, grant us the fortitude of Christ your Son to face the Covid-19 crisis with thrust, patience and compassion.

Give us the grace of the Holy Spirit to free us from fear and look forward together to the future with healing and hope.

Through the intercession of Saint Joseph, the guardian of Jesus, and Mary his mother and mother of the Church,

May we be guided through this time of peril?

**Preserve us in peace; heal the sick; protect the vulnerable;
Keep safe our health care workers and all who serve society,
At home and abroad.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord.....*Amen*

The Elephant Rope (Belief)

A man was walking through an elephant camp, and he spotted that the elephants weren't being kept in cages or held by the use of chains.

All that was restraining them from escaping the camp, was a small piece of rope tied to one of their legs.

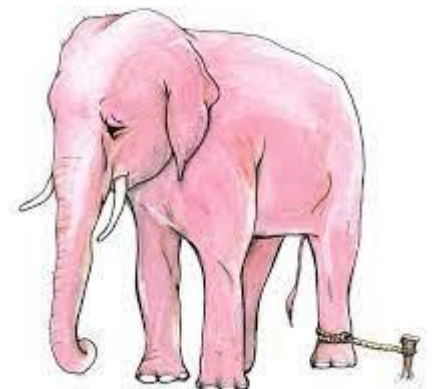
As the man gazed upon the elephants, he was completely confused as to why the elephants didn't just use their strength to break the rope and escape the camp. They could easily have done so, but instead, they didn't try to at all. Curious and wanting to know the answer, he asked a trainer nearby why the elephants were just standing there and never tried to escape.

The trainer replied; "when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it's enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free." The only reason that the elephants weren't breaking free and escaping from the camp was that over time they adopted the belief that it just wasn't possible.

Moral of the story:

No matter how much the world tries to hold you back, always continue with the belief that what you want to achieve is possible.

Believing you can become successful is the most important step in actually achieving it.



A burglar breaks into a house. He starts shining his light around looking for valuables. Some nice things catch his eye, and as he reaches for them, he hears, "Jesus is watching you." Startled, the burglar looks for the speaker. Seeing no one, he keeps putting things in his bag, again, he hears, "Jesus is watching you." This time, he sees a parrot. "Who are you?" the burglar asks. "Moses," the bird replied. "Who the heck would name a bird Moses?" the man laughed. "I dunno," Moses answered, "I guess the same kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Jesus."

