

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

19th Sunday of Ordinary Time

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION

MONTHLY FOCUS: FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION (15 AUGUST)

Be Watchful in PRAYER

We are moved by the faith of the people of God on the Passover night before their exodus out of Egypt. In the first reading, we are told that they clung onto the promise God made to them and were soon rewarded with their salvation and the downfall of their enemies.



SCRIPTURE QUOTE TO MEMORISE:

Be vigilant,
stay firm in
the faith, be
brave and
strong.

(1 Corinthians 16: 13)

In the face of hardship and distress, we rise above it through our deep faith in God. We make difficult decisions in our lives based on our Christian faith, our faith values. Most of the time, we honestly do not know where it will lead us, but our hope is in the Lord. Paul wants us to be confident in God. The second reading reminds us of the heroes of faith: Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Esau, Joseph and Moses. They let the Lord lead them, and by their faith they were rewarded, though not all of them in their lifetime, but in God's time.

Jesus, time and again, tells us not to be afraid and to know that our Father is pleased to give us the heavenly kingdom. He tells us to accumulate spiritual treasures that cannot be stolen or destroyed. Today, he also gives us two parables. In the first parable, he wants us to be vigilant so that when He comes again, we will not find ourselves left out. The message in His second parable is also watchfulness. This time he addresses the stewards of our communities and the Church. **Watchfulness means living in a consistently virtuous and obedient way to Christ's teachings.**

What will it be like for us when Christ comes again? Are we ready to give an account to Him on how we have lived our lives? Or perhaps we have become so drunk in our materialism and power that we fail to see Him among us?

Jesus wants us to be in heaven with Him. So, we have to be prudent, to be attentive in prayer and service to others. In this way, we will be ready to greet Him at His Second Coming.

Let us ponder on these: how do I recognize the Lord when He comes again, how can I acquire spiritual treasures and am I on the right track to claim my place at His banquet? ✠

SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Wisdom 18: 6-9;

Psalms 32: 1, 12, 18-20,
22;Hebrew 11: 1-2, 8-19
(or 1-2, 8-12);Luke 12: 32-48
(or 35-40).