

Schedule of Masses

Weekdays:

7:00 & 9:00 am

Saturday:

8:00 am,

5:00 pm English Vigil

7:00 pm Spanish Vigil

Sunday:

7:00 am, 8:45 am,

10:45 am,

12:30 pm (Spanish),

6:00 pm

**Sacrament of
Reconciliation:**

Saturdays: 8:30 - 9:30 am

Infant Baptism:

Three months notice
& pre-baptismal
instruction required

Marriages:

Minimum six months
preparation required

Respect Life

Representatives:

Odile Draa &

Jim Thompson

Look for other ministries

In our parish on our
website:

www.st-anthonys.org

Parish Pastoral Council

Celso Doria, Mel Picanco,
Felicia Anaro, Martin Espinoza,
Anna Mello, Debbie Rivas
Allan Rodriguez, Alice Correia,
Melissa Manalastas
& Sylvia Ranjel

**St. Anthony of Padua
Catholic Church**



**Iglesia Católica San
Antonio de Padua**

July 31, 2016

Eighteenth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

Church

505 E. North St.

Manteca, CA 95336

Office: 209-823-7197

Fax: 209-823-5238

School

323 N. Fremont Ave.

Manteca, CA 95336

209-823-4513

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General e-mail:

[receptionist@st-anthonys.org](mailto:receptionist@st-anthonys.org)

St. Anthony's website address is:

[www.st-anthonys.org](http://www.st-anthonys.org)  
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Mission Statement

We covenant to give ourselves to Christ
as He gives Himself to us in the
Eucharist, so every person might be a
full, active, & conscious participant in
His Church, empowered to share & live
the Gospel.

Parish Staff

Rev. Chad Wahl, Pastoral
Administrator

Rev. Dante Dammay,
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Jairo Ramirez,
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mr. Jeff Vierra,
Deacon

Mrs. Susie Dickert,
School Principal

Sr. Ann Venita Britto,
F.C.,
Pastoral Care &
Senior Ministry

Dave Corder,
Faith Formation Director

Angelique Gutierrez,
Coordinator of
Religious Formation

Diane Lehman,
Coordinator of Youth
Activities

Emelie Diaz
Director of Liturgical
Music

Mary Ferreira,
Office Manager

Richard Sepulveda,
Facilities Manager

Mass Moments of Mercy **Because We're Not Alone**

So far in our walk through the Mass, we've explored that we are *forgiven from the first*; that we're *right where we belong*; and that *we never have to be alone again*. We've experienced waves of God's mercy and love sweeping over us. Because we're not alone we stand together for the Profession of Faith (or Creed). In the words of the **General Instruction of the Roman Missal**, "The purpose of the Creed or Profession of Faith is that the whole gathered people may respond to the Word of God...that they may also honor and confess the great mysteries of faith..."(paragraph 67). As a community we respond to the great love and mercy of God.

Because we are not alone, we extend the love and mercy of God to the world in the Universal Prayer or Prayer of the Faithful. Again in the words of the **General Instruction of the Roman Missal**, "...the people respond in some sense to the Word of God which they have received in faith and, exercising the office of their baptismal Priesthood, offer prayers to God for the salvation of all." (paragraph 69). There's a key lesson here. It's not enough to believe in God's love and mercy. It's not even enough to receive God's love and mercy. No, if we believe and have received God's love and mercy we are called on to offer God's love and mercy to all. Because we are not alone.

Dave Corder



Attention Families Faith Formation Registrations

Registration for the upcoming 2016-17 year for Youth Faith Formation will begin **on Monday, August 8th - August 31st** at the parish office.

The program registration requirements are as follows:

- Be a registered member of St. Anthony's parish
- If your child is registering for the first time, a copy of their baptismal certificate
- Registration fee of \$75 for the first child, \$20 for each additional child (no balance owed from previous years)
- Completion of all registration forms

The ONLY hours for registrations are as follows

Mondays 11am-8pm

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 9am-4pm

No registrations accepted on Fridays or on weekends
Registrations will not be accepted through mail or over the phone.

First Communion Process for the 2016-17 year begins in the second grade, and is now a TWO YEAR process.

Confirmation preparation begins in the 7th grade (through high school) and is a TWO YEAR process.

Sessions are **once a week** on any of the following dates of choice:

Sundays 9am-10:15am

Sundays, Spanish 10:45am-12pm

Tuesdays, 4:30pm-5:45pm

Wednesdays, 4:30pm-5:45pm

or

Wednesdays, 6:15pm-7:30pm

For more details, please visit the parish website at www.st-anthonys.org and click "Youth Faith Formation"

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 31, 2016

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart.
—Psalm 90:12

Treasures From Our Tradition

Sometimes the treasures of art can provide us with clues about traditions. Take, for example, the miter, the conical hat with lappets, or back-flaps that fall to the shoulders. This cap is worn by bishops in the Catholic West. Eastern Catholics favor a crown, but we have this curious headpiece. In Greek, the word means "turban." Old paintings and mosaics provide clues about headgear for bishops, and there is very little artistic evidence for the miter before the year 1000. Before then, some kind of head covering might have been worn to offset the damp and chill of unheated churches. The pope, as far back as the seventh century, often wore a cap called a *camelau-cum*. Around that time, artists painting St. Peter began to portray their subject wearing this hat. By the year 1000 or so, the pope began to grant similar helmet-shaped headgear as gifts to visiting abbots and bishops. They returned home with these new chapeaus, and before long everybody wanted one!

Today, miters are granted not only to bishops, but to certain favored abbots and occasionally abbesses. Pope Benedict XVI set aside the tradition of the papal tiara in favor of the miter, even on his coat of arms. Pope Paul VI was the last pope to have a coronation. As recently as the 1960s, miters were towering skyscrapers of jewels and rich silks, but now a simplicity of style is favored by bishops. Miters are here to stay, and experienced altar servers know how to await the bishop's removing of the miter, since he does not wear it when he is saying the presidential prayers or the Eucharistic Prayer.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Thank you!

Collection Totals:

July 24, 2016: \$16,102

Parish Goal: \$16,948

Next Week's Goal: \$22,915

Momentos en la Misa de Misericordia

Porque No Estamos Solos

Hasta ahora en nuestro caminar a través de la Misa, hemos explorado que *somos perdonados desde el principio; que estamos en el momento preciso; y que nunca tenemos que estar solos otra vez*. Hemos experimentado oleaje de la misericordia de Dios y el vaivén del amor Dios que nos acerca a él. Permanecemos de pie para la Profesión de Fe (El Credo) porque no estamos solos. En las palabras de la Instrucción General del Misal Romano esta escrito, "El propósito del Credo o Profesión de Fe es que nos congregamos respondiendo con una sola respuesta a la Palabra de Dios... que también podemos honrar y confesar el gran misterio de nuestra fe..." (Párrafo #67). Como una comunidad respondemos al gran amor y misericordia de Dios.

Porque no estamos solos, extendemos el amor y la misericordia de Dios para el mundo en la Oración Universal u Oración de Los Fieles. Otra vez en las palabras de la instrucción General de Misal Romano, "...el pueblo responde en cierto sentido a la Palabra de Dios la cual han recibido en la fe y ejerce la posición de su en sacerdocio bautismal, ofreciendo oraciones a Dios por la salvación de todos." (Párrafo 69). Hay una clave en esto que nos sirve de aprendizaje. No es suficiente el creer en el amor y la misericordia de Dios. No es aun suficiente recibir el amor y la misericordia de Dios. No, si creemos y hemos recibido el amor de Dios y su misericordia a lo que hemos sido llamados a ofrecer amor de Dios y su misericordia a todos. Porque no estamos solos.

Dave Corder

Atención Familias Registros para Educación Religiosa (Catecismo)



Inscripciones para el próximo año 2016-17 para Formación de Fe (Catecismo) comenzaran **el lunes, 8 de agosto al 31 de agosto** en la oficina de la parroquia. Los requisitos de registro son los siguientes:

- Ser un feligrés registrado en la Parroquia de San Antonio de Padua.
- Si su niño/a esta siendo registrado por primera vez, una copia de su Acta de Bautizo.
- La cuota de registro (o/costo) es de \$75 por el primer niño/a, \$20 por cada niño/a adicional en la familia (el saldo del año anterior necesita haber sido liquidado).
- Formas de registro completadas

Las UNICAS horas y días de registración son las siguientes:

- Lunes de 11 a.m. a 8 p.m.
- Martes, miércoles y jueves de 9 a.m. a 4 p.m.
- No se aceptaran registraciones los viernes o el fin de semana.
- Registraciones por teléfono o por correo no estarán disponibles.

El proceso para la Primera Comunión para todo niño/a que curse el segundo año escolar 2016–2017.

La preparación toma solo DOS AÑOS.

El proceso para la Confirmación para todo joven que curse el grado 7mo escolar en adelante (hasta la High School). Este es un proceso de DOS AÑOS.

Las clases son una vez por semana con las opciones de los siguientes días y horarios:

- Domingo de 9 am a 10:15 am
- Domingo en español de 10:45 am a 12 pm
- Martes de 4:30 pm a 5:45 pm
- Miércoles de 4:30 pm a 5:45 pm o
- Miércoles de 6:15 a 7:30 pm

Para mas detalles, por favor consulte el cito de internet al www.st-anthonys.org y enlace en "Youth Formation."

Lecturas De La Semana

- Lunes: Jer 28:1-17; Sal 119 (118):29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102; Mt 14:13-21
- Martes: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Sal 102 (101):16-21, 29, 22-23; Mt 14:22-36 o Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
- Miércoles: Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13; Mt 15:21-28
- Jueves: Jer 31:31-34; Sal 51 (50):12-15, 18-19; Mt 16:13-23
- Viernes: Nah 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41; Mt 16:24-28
- Sábado: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Sal 97 (96):1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pe 1:16-19; Lc 9:28b-36
- Domingo: Sab 18:6-9; Sal 33 (32):1, 12, 18-22; Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 [1-2, 8-12]; Lc 12:32-48 [35-40]

Clases para la Ciudadania

Caridades Católicas tiene el gusto de ofrecer el programa de Ingles (ESL)/Cívico para los Residentes Permanentes que están interesados en hacerse Ciudadano americano. **Las clases son completamente gratis.** Se ofrece cuidado de niños gratis. Para inscribirse en estas clases debe ser residente permanente por 5 años. (o 3 años si está casado/a con Ciudadano). Lleve su tarjeta de Residencia para registrarse el primer día de clase.

STOCKTON: Lunes y Miércoles de 6:00 pm-9:00 pm.

Comienza lunes 25 de julio. (salón #5).

ESCUELA CATOLICA SAN LUCAS, 3847 N. Sutter St. Stockton, Ca.

MODESTO: Los martes y jueves de 6:00 pm-9:00 pm

Comienza martes 26 de Julio (Salón #35)

MARK TWAIN JR. HIGH SCHOOL, 707 S Emerald Ave. Modesto, Ca.

Si desea más información por favor comunicarse a

nuestra oficina y al: **(209) 444-5910 o enviar un correo electrónico a Norma Hernández:**

nhernandez@ccstockton.org

Respect Life

Sidewalk Counselor Training

Are you interested in helping women choose life? Attend the 40 Days for Life Committee's Sidewalk Counselor Training on **Saturday, August 13th from 9am - 1:30pm** in the Community Room at St. Bernadette's Parish (2523 Country Club Blvd.)

You will learn how to engage people that are going into Planned Parenthood with a loving heart, offering real help in a time of crisis. All are invited to come, especially those who have participated in a previous 40 Days for Life campaign. Please arrive early for coffee and breakfast treats. Call Pilar (209) 957-1822 for questions.

Santo Nino Novena Prayers Home Visitation

Santo Nino Ministry would like to invite you to welcome Santo Nino and the Blessed Mother into your homes for one week. Please contact Cora Doria (209) 679-3748 or Grace Bautista at (209) 740-6875 for more details.

Sister Ann's Corner

Grief Support Workshop

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Whether or not the death was sudden and tragic, or one with warnings and preparation, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion, and sadness. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief. Join us for a six week workshop and let us help you to begin the healing process.

Dates and times:

Fridays from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
August 5th, August 12th, August 19th, August 26th,
September 2nd and September 9th

Location:

St. Anthony Parish Conference Room
505 E. North St.
Manteca, CA 95336

THIS WORKSHOP IS OPEN TO ALL REGARDLESS OF RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION.

Please contact Carol Delmanoswski at 823-7555 to register by phone or to obtain additional information.

Registration is required!

Please pray for those who need the support of this community of faith:

Kevin Wise	Shelley Cultrera	June Torres	Tim Barth
Ramona Baker	Freitas	Barbara Donnelly	Joseph Kusy
Maria N. Dias	Raquel Selinas	Lolita Rilcopiro	Daniel Portillo
Delia Soria	Omar Gonzalez	Ricardo	Cynthia Juarez
Eva Segura	Galvan	Dominguez	Warren Rogers
Jacob Sanchez	Jeannie Andres	Jaedyn Hendryx	George Bettencourt
Michelle Vicente	Marcelino J. Loza	Gerri Arriaga	Nicholas Bush
Steve Gannon	Edna Romero	Martin Landeros	Jenevieve Mario
Steve Hernandez	Dennis Duncan-	Ruben Bright	Leah Carroll
Debbie Kapina	Christopher	Michael Kautzer	
Elizabeth Cantu	Houser	Pat Moretti	
Patricia Lorraine	Beatrice Rios	Brian Donnelly	
Navarro	Alonzo Family	Esther Yoo	

Meeting Prayer Shawl Ministry

St. Anthony's Prayer Shawl Ministry's next meeting will be Thursday, August 4, 2016, at 10 am at the home of Michelle Harmon. Please call Michelle at (209) 824-8756 for further info. New members are always welcome.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If someone would like to request a shawl (for ladies) or lap robe (for men), please contact Kathleen Gomes at prayer.shawls@comcast.net. Shawls and lap robes are not just for those who are ill; they are also given out to celebrate a special occasion such as an anniversary. A message of love and caring comes with each shawl or lap robe and the giving of the shawl or lap robe enriches the giver as well as the recipient.

Receptionist

St. Anthony's, Manteca

The parish is currently in need of a receptionist. The applicant must have current level of knowledge and skills required to function as a receptionist. Computer knowledge including MS Word, Publisher and Outlook is required. We prefer an applicant with prior work experience in an office environment. Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English and Spanish are necessary. Deadline for applications: July 29, 2016 or until filled. To apply, please forward a current résumé and completed application to: St. Anthony's Church, attention Mary Ferreira, 505 E. North St., Manteca, CA or email mary@st-anthonys.org

St. Anthony C.Y.O. Sports News

C.Y.O. will start collecting registrations for **Co-ed Cross Country Running** for Grades 4th thru 8th. Fees are \$60 per child.

C.Y.O. will start collecting registrations for **Girls Basketball** for grades 3rd thru 8th. Fees are of \$100 for the 1st child and \$75 for each additional sibling. Applications and medical release forms are available on St. Anthony's School website or at the parish office. The cut off date for both sports is mid August.

St. Anthony's School Job Openings

Anthony's School is now accepting applications for the substitute teacher pool for the 2016-2017 school year. Employment Applications can be found on the school website at www.sasmanteca.org under the information tab. Passing CBEST score is required for consideration. All candidates will be called the last week of July to complete fingerprinting, Shield the Vulnerable and other requirements. Completed applications may be dropped off at the school office, parish office or emailed to susie.dickert@sasmanteca.org.

Worry

Don't tell me that worry doesn't do any good. I know better. The things I worry about *never* happen.

—Anonymous

If you are ill or in the hospital, please call 823-7197 to let us know, we can arrange a visit from a Priest, Deacon, or Sr. Ann.

St. Anthony's Weekly Events

Monday, August 1

9:30 am	Legion of Mary, Mary's Room
6:00 pm	Knights of Columbus, Cafeteria
6:30 pm	Christian Initiation, Rec. Hall
7:00 pm	Spanish Choir, Church
7:00 pm	Santo Nino Ministry, Cry Room

Tuesday, August 2

10:00 am	Bible Study, Conf. Room
5:00 pm	Catechist Training, Mary's Room
6:00 pm	Y.M.I., Cafeteria
6:00 pm	Misa & Hora Santa, Church
7:00 pm	Harvest Festival Committee, Conf. Room
8:00 pm	Music Ministry, Church

Wednesday, August 3

7:00 pm	Liturgy Committee, Conf. Room
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Thursday, August 4

9:30 am	Legion of Mary, Mary's Room
10:00 am	Bible Study, Conf. Room
5:30 pm	Legion of Mary, Mary's Room
6:00 pm	Y.L.I., Cafeteria
6:30 pm	Alabare, Cry Room
7:00 pm	Bible Study, Conf. Room
7:00 pm	Music Ministry, Church
7:00 pm	Voces para Cristo, Mary's Room

Friday, August 5

10:00 am	Y.L.I., Cafeteria
7:00 pm	Grief Support Workshop, Conf. Room
6:00 pm	Coro Angeles de Dios, Room 4
6:00 pm	Hispanic Youth Group, Gym, Rec. Hall
7:00 pm	Cursillos de Cristiandad, Cafeteria

Saturday, August 6

7:00 am	Cursillos de Cristiandad, Cafeteria
10:00 am	Sto. Nino, Cafeteria

Sunday, August 7

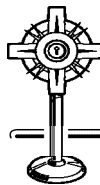
9:00 am	Coffee & Donuts, Cafeteria
9:00 am	Catechist Training, Conf. Room

Please Join Us!

Bishop's Awards Dinner

We are celebrating parish ministry leaders at the 2016 Bishop's Awards Dinner on Saturday, October 29, 2016 at St. Bernard's Parish—Holy Family Center in Tracy. Bishop Blaire would like to celebrate his retirement by honoring outstanding parish ministry leaders in our Diocese at the 2016 Bishop's Awards Dinner. Proceeds from the event benefit SEEDS: which provides tuition assistance to students who otherwise could not afford a Catholic education and Catholic Charities which supports families, reduces poverty and builds strong communities.

To purchase tickets and for sponsorship opportunities, call the Development Office at (209) 4660-0636 or visit: <http://stocktondiocese.org/bishops-awards>.



Perpetual Adoration

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Spend an hour with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Vacant Hours:

Monday	4 am to 5 am
Tuesday	10 am to 11 am
Tuesday	12 am (midnight) to Wednesday 1 am
Friday	1 pm to 2 pm – Partner need for every other week.
Saturday	12 pm (noon) to 1 pm
Saturday	12 am (midnight) to Sunday 1 am

Adoration partner hours needed:

There are a number of available hours. Please contact Mark Lilly for information on available hours.

If you would like to sign up for a Holy Hour, please email **Mark Lilly** at stanthonadoration@comcast.net or call 239-5732.

Catholic Charities ESL/CIVICS Citizenship Program

The ESL/CIVICS classes are for Legal Permanent Residents who are interested in becoming U.S. Citizens. The classes are free. Free Child care is offered for children. To register for these classes you must be a Legal Permanent Resident for 5 years (or 3 years if you are married to a U.S. Citizen).

Take your Legal Permanent Resident card to register the first day of class. We offer this service at the following two locations:

STOCKTON: Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm. New cycle begins Monday, July 25th (Room #5) ST LUKE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, 3847 N. Sutter St,

MODESTO: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm. Classes to begin Tuesday, July 26th (Room # 35). MARK TWAIN JR. HIGH SCHOOL, 707 S Emerald Ave,

If you need more information please call : **(209) 444-5910** or send an email to **Norma Hernandez:** nhernandez@ccstockton.org.

"English Cursillo Retreat Weekends"

Greetings CURSILLISTAS, is there someone close to your heart that is ready to live a weekend? If so, the Diocese of Stockton English Cursillo Movement will be hosting this years Retreats on the following dates:

Men's Cursillo Retreat 3-day weekend
October 6 - 9th, 2016

Women's Cursillo Retreat 3-day weekend
October 20 - 23rd, 2016

Cursillistas should be familiar with the group method to teach candidates and candidates must be able to receive the body and blood of Christ. For more information on being a sponsor and applications contact Gilbert Somera (209) 401-7143.

Mass Schedule

Readings & Special Observances

MONDAY, AUGUST 1

7:00 am – Fr. Jairo

†Myra Lucas (William Sarina)
†Tala Avakian (Avakian Family)

9:00 am – Fr. Chad

†Marge Lilly (Lilly Family)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

7:00 am – Fr. Jairo

†Sean O'Brien (Knights of Columbus)

9:00 am – Fr. Dante

†Cyril Tadena (Florentina Tadena)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

7:00 am – Fr. Jairo

†Jo Sheryl N. Kierulf (Bing Navarra)

9:00 am – Fr. Chad

Special Intention (Van Ryn Family)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

7:00 am – Fr. Dante

†Vivian and James Young (Connie Young)

9:00 am – Fr. Chad

†Elvira Kalin (Felix Kalin)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

7:00 am – Fr. Dante

†Myra Lucas (Minnie Martz)
†Filemon Sanchez & Luisa Aguas
(Grandchildren)

9:00 am – Fr. Jairo

Special Intention Marcelino Jimenez Loza
(Wife)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

8:00 am – Fr. Dante

†William Cabral

5:00 pm – Fr. Chad

†George Sepulvida (Keith Mills)

7:00 pm – Fr. Jairo

†Manuela Vargas

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

7:00 am – Fr. Dante

Memorial Mass Fund Members

8:45 am – Fr. Dante

†Judy McCleary (Lino & Mary Ferreira)
†Maria Garcia Dutra (John & Maria Escobar)

10:45 am – Fr. Chad

For the People of the Parish

12:30 pm – Fr. Jairo

†Rafael Campos Cacho (Rafael and
Campos Family)
†Maria Asuncion Perea & Celana Melgarejo
(Perea & Melgarejo Rodriguez Family)

6:00 pm – Fr. Chad

†Flavio & Nellie Apodaca (Priscilla Bunting)

Today's Readings

First Reading — Do not spend your life toiling for material gain (Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23).

Psalms — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 90).

Second Reading — Christ has raised you to new life, so seek now what is above (Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11).

Gospel — Be on guard against all greed, for your life does not consist of earthly possessions, but of the riches of the reign of God (Luke 12:13-21).

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Saints & Special Observances

Sunday: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Alphonsus Liguori

Tuesday: St. Eusebius of Vercelli;
St. Peter Julian Eymard

Thursday: St. John Vianney

Friday: Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major;
First Friday

Saturday: The Transfiguration of the Lord;
First Saturday

Readings for the Week

Monday: Jer 28:1-17; Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102;
Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Ps 102:16-21, 29,
22-23; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13;
Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19;
Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Dt 32:35cd-36ab,
39abcd, 41; Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9;
2 Pt 1:16-19; Lk 9:28b-36

Sunday: Wis 18:6-9; Ps 33:1, 12, 18-22;
Hb 11:1-2, 8-19 [1-2, 8-12];
Lk 12:32-48 [35-40]

Hitting It Big

It seems to be commonly accepted nowadays that everyone wants to win the lottery, hit the slots big at the casino, or be a millionaire. This attitude is akin to what the first hearers of the parable of the successful farmer would have thought: Why, of course he'd want to find a way to preserve his good fortune for the future, to secure for himself a life of leisure, eating, drinking, and merriment. It's exactly the kind of life that the right ticket, hand of cards, or quiz show answer might bring us today. Being surrounded by this "common wisdom" makes the words of Qoheleth, the psalmist, Paul, and Jesus all that much harder to hear today. Perhaps good fortune will be ours, perhaps it will not be. But if we make that fortune or the quest for it the heart, the very center, of our lives, then we will live to regret it. We will not achieve the future security we pursue, and we will lose the present moment in the chase.