



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

THIS SUNDAY August 7 & BEYOND



"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks." (Luke 12:35-36)

This has happened to me many times. It's about 9:00 in the evening and the power goes out. Poof! Whatever I've been doing, unless I'm sound asleep, I have to stop and get some light. I get up and make a serious search for a flashlight. For some reason, I never remember where I keep them. Finally, I find them in the last and unlikeliest place I look. However,

when I turn it on, there's only the dimmest of lights awaiting me. I forgot to get new batteries. In the dark, I make a mental list to go to Walgreens.

I imagine that something like this has happened to you. If you fail to plan, you plan to fail. In today's Gospel, Jesus warns the disciples to be ready, watchful and prepared. Keep you lamps lit! Jesus is like the bridegroom who comes at an unexpected hour. He is talking about the end times, and his triumphant return in glory. I want to be prepared. I want to live in preparation. That's an excellent understanding of how to live in Christ. Don't wait until the last minute of your life to make things right with God. Live as if Christ walked with you on the road, because indeed he does! We are all like the disciples on the road to Emmaus after the resurrection. Discovering that we have been in the presence of our Lord all along.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Jesus wants us to enter into the kingdom of God. He wants to draw us close like a hen draws its chicks around her to keep them safe. There are a great many things that may frighten us in this life. There are many confusing signs along the path. Which way should I go? Yogi Berra famously said, "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." But, this leaves us wondering: Which path do I take? What will happen if I make the wrong choice?

That is where prayer and deep reflection comes in. Which path seems to lead to light? Which path leads you closer not only to your goals, but to the Heavenly Father. Finally, trust in the Lord. For no matter what best path you choose, God will walk with you, be your light, and lead you Home.

Fr. Steven Schuneman, Retired Priest in the Diocese of San Diego

Readings for this Sunday

Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm 33:12-15, 18-22 Hebrew 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40

Calendar

SUNDAY: 8:00a Low Mass (Church)
 9:30a Christian Formation (Fireside Room)
 10:30a Solemn Mass (Church)
 —*The entrance to the church is on 6th Avenue*—

Note: Child care is provided at the 8:00a, 10:30a Mass, Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

MONDAY 7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY: Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

FRIDAY: 9:00a Morning Prayer (St. Mary's Chapel)
 9:30a MASS (St. Mary's Chapel)
 AA Meetings 6:30p Rainbow Bridge (Fireside Room)
 8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)
 8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)