



EUCHALET

11 November 2018

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

Long Live Generous Hearts!

Today we are invited to reflect on the importance of being generous, regardless of whether we are rich or poor. The generosity of a person is not measured by the amount one gives, but by the disposition which prompts the giving.

There are many ways of being rich, just as there are many ways of being poor, for material wealth and money are not the only factors that determine what a person can offer. But the highest form of richness and generosity is the loving disposition toward others which, like an inexhaustible fountain, gives its very best without asking for anything in return. Such spiritual richness will never be affected by any economic crisis because its “shares” are bonded with the bank of God.

In this Eucharist let us ask for such grace for ourselves and all the people dear to us.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

Greeting

P –Blessed be God, the source of all riches and favors! May His grace be with you all!

All –And with your spirit!

Penitential Act

P –As we prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us ask the Lord’s forgiveness for all our sins, especially for our lack of generosity. *(Pause)*

P –Lord Jesus, you came to share the poverty of our humanity in order to make us share in the riches of your divinity. Lord, have mercy!

All –Lord, have mercy!

P –Lord Jesus, you praised

the generosity of the poor widow in order to make us follow her example. Christ, have mercy!

All –Christ, have mercy!

P –Lord Jesus, you promised an eternal reward even for a simple glass of water given to a thirsty person for love of you. Lord, have mercy!

All –Lord, have mercy!

P –May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All –Amen!

Gloria

All –Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have

mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen!

Collect (Opening Prayer)

P –Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep from us all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All –Amen!

LITURGY OF THE WORD



1st Reading 1 Kgs 17:10-16
On the run to avoid the vengefulness of King Ahab, the

prophet Elijah found refuge and food in the house of a poor widow who lived in a land ravaged by drought. The Lord amply rewarded the generosity of the woman – a symbol of the abundance with which He will reward even the least act of care toward those in need.

R – A proclamation from the First Book of Kings

In those days, Elijah the prophet went to Zarephath. As he arrived at the entrance of the city, a widow was gathering sticks there; he called out to her, “Please bring me a small cupful of water to drink.” She left to get it, and he called out after her, “Please bring along a bit of bread.” She answered, “As the Lord, your God, lives, I have nothing baked; there is only a handful of flour in my jar and a little oil in my jug. Just now I was collecting a couple of sticks, to go in and prepare something for myself and my son; when we have eaten it, we shall die.” Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid. Go and do as you propose. But first make me a little cake and bring it to me. Then you can prepare something for yourself and your son. For the Lord, the God of Israel, says, ‘The jar of flour shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry, until the day when the Lord sends rain upon the earth.’”

She left and did as Elijah had said. She was able to eat for a year, and he and her son as well; the jar of flour did not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry, as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

The Word of the Lord!
All – Thanks be to God!

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 146*

R – Praise the Lord, my soul!

R. M. Velez



* The Lord keeps faith forever, secures justice for the

oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets captives free. **R.**

* The Lord gives sight to the blind; the Lord raises up those who were bowed down. The Lord loves the just; the Lord protects strangers. **R.**

* The fatherless and the widow he sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia! **R.**

2nd Reading *Heb 9:24-28*

In today's passage the author of the Letter to the Hebrews continues his exaltation of the superiority of the priesthood of Christ. He emphasizes the exceptional purifying power of his once-and-for-all self-offering and his glorious Second Coming for the salvation of all those who believe in him.

R – A proclamation from the Letter to the Hebrews

Christ did not enter into a sanctuary made by hands, a copy of the true one, but heaven itself, that he might now appear before God on our behalf. Not that he might offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters each year into the sanctuary with blood that is not his own. If that were so, he would have had to suffer repeatedly from the foundation of the world. But now, once for all, he has appeared at the end of the ages to take away sin by his sacrifice.

Just as it is appointed that human beings die once, and after this the judgment, so also Christ, offered once to take away the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to take away sin but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him.

The Word of the Lord!
All – Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation *Mt 5:3*

All – Alleluia! Alleluia!

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel *Mk 12:38-44*

The moving generosity of the poor widow who donated to the Temple treasure all that she had to live on stands in sharp contrast with the greed of those “who devour the savings of the widows.” Her gesture is also a convincing encouragement for all those who feel that they cannot do much to help others.

P – The Lord be with you!
All – And with your spirit!

P – A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to Mark

All – Glory to you, O Lord!

In the course of his teaching Jesus said to the crowds, “Beware of the scribes, who like to go around in long robes and accept greetings in the marketplaces, seats of honor in synagogues, and places of honor at banquets. They devour the houses of widows and, as a pretext, recite lengthy prayers. They will receive a very severe condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury and observed how the crowd put money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Calling his disciples to himself, Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood.”

The Gospel of the Lord!
All – Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Homily

Profession of Faith

(Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed)

All – I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father be-

fore all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *(bow)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.** For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Prayer of the Faithful

P –Encouraged by Jesus’ words of praise for the humble offering of the poor widow, let us implore the grace of an ever-greater generosity for ourselves and all mankind. Let us pray together:

All–**Lord God, teach us to be generous!**

C –For the Universal Church: May she always be a shining example of generosity and detachment from material things. Let us pray! *R.*

C – For the Holy Father and the other leaders of the Church: May they always edify us with their practical concern for the poor and the marginalized. Let us pray! *R.*

C –For our civil leaders: May they view authority as an opportunity to serve the community rather than as a source of honor

and profit for themselves. Let us pray! *R.*

C –For the poor of our land: May they experience the concrete support of the community, while they themselves show solidarity with the needier among them. Let us pray! *R.*

C –For all the victims of natural calamities, the refugees, and the homeless: May they be promptly assisted in their present needs and be helped to rebuild their shattered lives. Let us pray! *R.*

C –For all of us: May we wholeheartedly give our time, talent, and treasure for the needs of the people around us. Let us pray! *R.*

C –Let us pray in silence for our personal intentions. *(Pause)*
Let us pray! *R.*

P –Lord God, purify our intentions and widen our concern that we may constantly imitate the generosity of Jesus who gave himself for us all, and now lives and reigns for ever and ever.
All–Amen!



Preparation of the Gifts

P –Pray, brethren . . .
All–**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

Prayer over the Offerings

P –Look with favor, we pray, O Lord, upon the sacrificial gifts offered here, that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of your Son, we may honor it with loving devotion.
Through Christ our Lord.
All–Amen!

Preface VII

P –The Lord be with you!
All–**And with your spirit!**
P –Lift up your hearts!
All–**We lift them up to the Lord!**
P –Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!
All–**It is right and just!**

P –It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you so loved the world that in your mercy you sent us the Redeemer, to live like us in all things but sin, so that you might love in us what you loved in your Son, by whose obedience we have been restored to those gifts of yours that, by sinning, we had lost in disobedience.

And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints, we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

All–**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Memorial Acclamation

P –The mystery of faith!
All–**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again!**



All–**Our Father . . .**
P –Deliver us, Lord . . .
All–**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever!**

Sign of Peace

Breaking of the Bread

All–**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us! (2x)**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace!

Communion

P –Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.
All–**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion Antiphon
(To be recited only when no
Communion Hymn is sung.)

**The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pas-
tures where he gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads
me.**

Prayer after Communion

P –Nourished by this sacred
gift, O Lord, we give you thanks
and beseech your mercy, that, by
the pouring forth of your Spirit,
the grace of integrity may endure
in those your heavenly power has
entered.

Through Christ our Lord.
All–Amen!



P –The Lord be with you.
All–And with your spirit!

P –Bow your heads and pray
for God's blessing. (Pause)
May the Lord make you
sensitive to the plight of the
poor and generous in help-
ing them.

All–Amen!

P –May He preserve you from
extreme poverty and from

all physical and moral dan-
gers.

All–Amen!

P –May He reward abundantly
all your acts of generosity
and your availability to help
those in need.

All–Amen!

P –May almighty God bless
you: the Father, and the
Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All–Amen!

P –Go in peace, glorifying the
Lord by your life!

All–Thanks be to God!

WHAT MAKES SMALL PEOPLE GREAT

• Jess P. Balon

The poor widow thought that nobody would
notice her as she dropped her simple offering
into the large basin of the temple treasury.
She did not feel ashamed, of course, for she was
offering her contribution only for the Lord and not
for people to see – and the Lord knew that she was
giving even more than she could afford.

**There is an extraordinary resemblance be-
tween the generosity and simplicity of this wid-
ow praised by Jesus (see Mk 12:43f) and that of
the widow of Zarephath (presumably a pagan),
who shared with the prophet Elijah the little she
had left for her own and her son's sustenance. (See
today's First Reading.)**

**Their offering was more than an act of gener-
osity. It was also an act of faith, of total reliance
on God's providence,** for they had offered all that
they had to live on. (See Mk 12:44.) And they had
offered it with an immense love – the silent, discrete
love of the simple people whose only treasure and
sure hope is God.

There is a **striking contrast** between the anony-
mous widow featured in today's Gospel passage
and the shameless greed of the scribes who "devour
the savings of widows and recite long prayers for
appearance' sake" (Mk 12:40).

**Today's First Reading and the Gospel epi-
sode contain a challenge for all of us: the chal-
lenge to imitate the generosity, faith, and love
of the two poor widows.** Such a demand confronts
us whenever we are tempted to be overconcerned

about our future material needs. If we have such a
frame of mind, it is very difficult for us to share our
resources with the poor and to give for the needs
of the Church. We have to overcome this danger
by trusting fully in God's providence.

The **First Reading and the Gospel also con-
tain a message of hope** – a hope rooted, first of
all, in the certitude that God notices and appreci-
ates even the small acts of generosity which people
often ignore or despise. **He will leave nothing un-
rewarded of what is offered with a sincere heart.**
Unlike most of us, *God looks at the intention,* rather
than the amount given or the result attained.

This means that even the poorest can become
rich in God's sight by offering their modest gifts
with a pure intention. **The Lord rejects nothing
of what is offered Him out of love.** Such is the
basic conviction that grounds the "Pondo ng Pinoy"
Movement. Indeed, it can be said that **the Lord
values more the crumbs of the poor than the
baskets filled with big loaves presented by the
wealthy.**

Such a loving attention given by God to what is
small and humanly insignificant applies not only to
material offerings, but also and especially to non-
material ones: to the simple acts of respect, conde-
scension, solidarity, forgiveness, patience, love . . .
with which we can embroider our days and enrich
our lives. **Nothing is lost of what is offered to
God. Its fruit remains in us and spread around
us, multiplied a thousand times.**



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