

**A Reflection from Fr. Joseph**

Today's gospel, is a series of sayings of Jesus that pull in different directions. So rather than trying to harmonize them, I would like to focus on just one: the one that I think is the most problematic. Jesus says, ***"I tell you: Make friends for yourself with dishonest wealth so that when it fails, you may be welcomed into eternal dwellings."*** It sounds like Jesus is asking us to use dishonest wealth for our advantage. Isn't this out of character for Jesus? Wouldn't you expect Jesus to say, "Avoid using dishonest wealth. Only use wealth that is untainted by corruption"? That is what we would expect Jesus to say. But, he does not.

So why is Jesus advising us to use dishonest wealth? Because at times that is the only wealth we have. Wealth, of course, here means more than money. Wealth is resources, opportunities to act. Wealth is the choices that we make in order to live. And sometimes those choices are far from ideal. Sometimes the opportunities that we have are compromised, flawed, even tainted. But Jesus is telling us that it is better to use those opportunities, those choices, that wealth even if it is far from perfect.

We might have a strained relationship with a son or daughter, a child who has made some poor decisions, perhaps even illegal ones. Jesus tells us that it does us no good to wish we had a different son or daughter, someone who is better. Instead, Jesus asks us to use that flawed relationship, to exercise our role as a parent in those imperfect conditions. Even if we fail, he tells us it is worth the effort.

Our family may be characterized by divorce, perhaps even a divorce that we did not seek. Now whenever there is a family gathering - a wedding, a baptism - we must deal with painful relationships and face people we would rather avoid. Jesus says it does us no good to wish we had a happy and united family. Instead he asks us to take up the broken family that is ours and use as much patience, understanding, and love that you can to make things better rather than worse.

When you don't have the wealth you want, use the wealth you have. This saying of Jesus is difficult. It is a hard saying, and it makes no promises. It does not say that if we reach out to an estranged son or daughter, we will develop a wonderful relationship. It does not imply that our ex-spouse will be more pleasant. It does not promise that we will elect a great president. It calls us to do what we can.



Now, of course, from the perspective of faith, we have the consolation of knowing that God appreciates our intentions and honors our choices in flawed situations. We believe that God will find some way to bless us. But that aside, there is not much in Jesus' saying that is satisfying. It simply tells us that in a compromised, flawed, and dishonest world, it is better to do the little that is possible than to do nothing at all.

A 2<sup>nd</sup> collection will be taken up this Sunday, at all the Masses, for the Needs of the Church in Canada.

**DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

- Mon. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>** - ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, (Padre Pio) memorial  
Ezra 1:1-6; Luke 8:16-18
- Tue. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** - Ezra 4:4-5, 6:1a, 6ad-8, 12b, 14-20; Luke 8:19-21
- Wed. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>** - Ezra 9:5-9; Luke 9:1-6
- Thurs. Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>** - ST. JEAN DE BREBEUF & ST. ISAAC JOGUES  
Rev. 7:9-17; 2 Cor. 4:7-15; Luke 9:23-26
- Fri. Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>** - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, memorial  
Haggai 2:1-9; Luke 9:18-22
- Sat. Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>** - Zechariah 2:1-5, 10-11; Luke 9:43b-45
- Sun. Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>** - 26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
Amos 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Tim 6:11-16; Luke 16:19-31

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

- Sat. Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> 5 pm Mass for Victoria Capacillo, R.I.P.
- Sun. Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> 9 am Mass for the int. of Mireille Farwagi  
11 am Mass for Rosaria Pulice, R.I.P.  
5 pm Mass for parishioners
- Mon. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> 8 am Mass for Josie Ramos, R.I.P.
- Tue. Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> 8 am Mass for Tina Pao, R.I.P.
- Wed. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> 9 am Mass for Dec. Memb. Of the Ranalletta Fmly.  
7:30 pm Novena Mass
- Thur. Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am Mass Esther Baldasso, R.I.P.
- Fri. Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am Mass Gus Huggan, R.I.P.
- Sat. Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Mass for the int. of Amy Wang & Teddy Yang

**PROJECT ADVANCE NEWS**

Thank you to all those who generously supported our Project Advance campaign. Our goal is to increase participation. If you haven't contributed, please consider doing so. You can give at the parish office, drop off your donation marked Project Advance in the Sunday collection or give online at: [www.rca.org/giving](http://www.rca.org/giving).

**ST. JUDE'S PARISH - 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

*We are still in need of some door prizes valued at \$50 - \$100. If you are willing and able to help, please drop off your donation at the parish office. Thank you for your generosity!*

## ALTAR SERVERS

All grade 4 students interested in serving, **your forms are now due**. If you have not yet completed and returned your form please do so ASAP. You will be trained and the dates and times of rehearsals will be communicated to you by phone or email. Those who have previously served are also asked to complete a registration form to let us know that you intend to continue serving this year. **Former altar servers please volunteer your services at the Mass you attend, until a new schedule is provided.**



## PREP NEWS

Our Parish Religious Education Program for children in grades 1 through 7 attending public school has begun. Classes are held every Tuesday from 6:30 - 7:45 pm in our school. Registrations are still being accepted prior to classes.

## RCIA & ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Begins at St. Jude's on Thursday, Sept. 26th. Interested? Know someone who might be? Come or invite them to join our parish program called RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult). The program is suitable for anyone who is interested in learning more about our faith, for Catholics who have not yet received the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion and for those who would like to deepen their faith. For more info call (604) 434-6700.



## SCHOOL NEWS

- School Mass: This Wed., Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Join us!
- Outdoor Ed: Our gr. 7 students will be attending outdoor Ed., this week, from Wed. Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> To Fri. Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>. Please keep them in your prayers.
- Care Day & Early Dismissal: is this Friday. All students will be dismissed at 12 noon.

## ST. JUDE'S PARISH - 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

*The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is requesting a few more items, valued at \$50 - \$100, to be used for door prizes. If you are willing and able to donate an item please contact Imelda Baterina or drop off at the parish office. Thank you for your generosity!*

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### Up-Coming Events

#### Stewardship Reflections

***"No servant can serve two masters. He will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (wealth)." (Luke 16:13)***

Is money a "god" that you put before God? Giving money to support the Church and other charity is a pillar of our faith, just like attending Mass every Sunday and participating in parish ministry. Giving money frees us from being a slave to money. It increases our dependence on God and our trust that God will provide all that we need.

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## Newman: A Saint for Our Times

### Panel on the Life and Thought of Cardinal Newman

**Blessed John Henry Newman** will be canonized as a saint of the Catholic Church on Oct. 13, 2019. His life has inspired so many people around the world and continues to do so up to now – attested primarily by the numerous Newman Clubs, Centres, and Associations today. Join us this evening as our panellists address different aspects of Cardinal Newman's achievements and legacy. Hear the story of how his life can be a role model for us and our journey towards holiness. Join us for this free event on Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 7 p.m. at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver.

### Men's Ministry - Into the Breach

Into the Breach is a men's only, 8-week faith study exploring what it means to be a Catholic man in contemporary culture. Thursdays from Oct. 3 - Nov. 28 at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Register online for \$10 at [secure.rcav.org/into-the-breach](https://secure.rcav.org/into-the-breach)

### Catechist Evening with Archbishop Miller

Join us Friday, Oct. 11, at 6 p.m. for an evening to celebrate catechists and the work that they do as they prepare for the new catechetical year. There will be Mass, a blessing, and reflection by Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB. A light meal will be provided. At the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Register online for \$15 at [secure.rcav.org/catechist-evening](https://secure.rcav.org/catechist-evening)

### MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Attention Married Couples: wouldn't it be wonderful to be as joyful together as you were on your wedding day? Lack of time, distractions, work & family responsibilities make us forget that our marriage is a priority. Spend a weekend rediscovering and renewing your marriage. ***"As the family goes, so does the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live"*** - St John Paul II

Limited spots available: October 18-20, 2019 at the Holiday Inn Express, Langley, BC. Register online: <https://rcav.org/wwme/> Questions? Sharon & Glen Goh Tel: 604 723 5998.

### An Evening with Archbishop Miller

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Archbishop's Dinner will take place Tuesday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Hyatt Regency, Van. This year, in partnership with Providence Health Care and with St. Mark's College, Archbishop Miller has designated the proceeds to help foster Catholic health-care ethics in the education of health-care providers and in the support of their day-to-day practice. Reception at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. For more info or to reserve your table(s) please visit [rcav.org/dinner2019](https://rcav.org/dinner2019).

### Upper Room Conference

At the Upper Room Conference, you will hear from incredible speakers, be able to connect with other disciples, and gain insight and resources on how to live out your missional call in your homes and communities. We'll have times of worship, prayer, community, and hear from amazing speakers like Cardinal Dolan, Sr. Miriam James, and Archbishop J. Michael Miller. This conference has been a long time coming. Led by the vision of Archbishop Michael to see the Gospel shared, the heart of Upper Room comes back to Pope Francis' declaration of the Extraordinary Missionary Month and the prodding of the Holy Spirit in our Archdiocese. The conference takes place at the Vancouver Convention Centre on Saturday, Oct. 26. Registration and conference info at [upperroomvancouver.com](https://upperroomvancouver.com) We believe that God is beginning a new movement in Vancouver. Join us as we listen to the Holy Spirit and respond to God's call in our Archdiocese.

