

Saint Anthony of Padua Parish

With the Eucharist at the centre, we are a community desiring to be saints, sent out to love like Jesus and proclaim Him in every circumstance.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 14, 2018

Are we too attached to our possessions?



Have we ever met someone who lived a different kind of life, who showed us a better way of being human? For example, when St. John Paul II was a priest and professor in Poland his classes were packed because everyone wanted to hear him speak. Flocks of people went to him for advice, and it's unanimously said that he was a different kind of person: deeply human, full of life and laughter, but always thinking and pensive. He didn't waste time on frivolous things, but focused on the most important things: God, prayer, asceticism, relationships, philosophy, etc. He showed immense respect for people by listening, and disciplined himself by fasting, wearing worn-out clothes, and giving away what he didn't need; but he also knew how to truly enjoy life. As pope, millions testify to the power of his presence, words and teaching, the depth of his soul and his power to touch ours. He took life seriously and dedicated himself fully to God's plan.

Have we ever met someone like this? A Catholic school teacher once told me that when she took her Gr. 7s up to the Abbey, they were in awe of P. Abbot, because he lives a better kind of life: He's real, human, and deeply religious.

God speaks to us through these encounters and says, "I want you to have this!" So, how do we come to receive this gift? This is the implicit question the man in the Gospel today asks when He encounters Christ, and we're going to follow what St. John Paul II says about this encounter. Whenever I read his commentary, something inside me comes alive: There's more to life! I want to be better! Christ is the answer!

"A man ran up and knelt before him" (Mk 10:17). St. John Paul says this man represents every person who goes to Jesus and questions Him about the full meaning of life (*Veritatis Splendor*). Everything we do, deep down, tries to answer his question, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mk 10:17). This "is the essential and unavoidable question for... every man, for it is about the moral good which must be done, and about eternal life." And why does he go to Jesus? St. John Paul says it was because he was taken by the attractiveness of Jesus's person. He now has questions he never had before. This is what we need to do: When

we see a better life, we need to draw near to Jesus with our spiritual hunger.

When Jesus answers, "You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; you shall not defraud; honour your father and mother'" (Mk 10:19), He's saying that God's commandments show the way of life.

Our society always talks about being nice and being a good person—but that's hollow, because there's no meat to it, and that's why we get average people of no great character. But God's commandments are clear and challenging: God first, honour our parents, and respect human dignity. People who follow these have a clearer and more human life.

But the commandments are still only the starting point. There's more to the life of perfection. That's why, when the man says he keeps the commandments, Jesus says, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me" (Mk 10:21). And here we come to the heart of the matter: We all desire the life God offers us; we see it in Jesus, in St. John Paul II, in the saints, in holy people; and we may even follow the commandments. But we lack something: We're still holding back parts of our life from Jesus. "When the man heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions" (Mk 10:22). This man had a 'disordered attachment' to his possessions. This is a technical spiritual term, meaning he values it too much.

In Star Wars, episode II, Anakin says that attachments are forbidden for Jedi. But we'd say differently, because there are ordered attachments and disordered attachments. Are we attached to our family? I sure hope so. But I hope not more than God.

Let's focus on disordered attachments to possessions because this is what Jesus talks about today. Possessions are good, but the reality is we live in a materialistic, consumeristic society, right? Most of us, for example, buy things we don't need. One friend once told me that when she goes shopping, she feels like she has to buy things. We sometimes may buy totally useless things, just because we want it for a second. Do we ever buy clothes because friends have it? Do we have too much of things? [...]

The greatest danger is that disordered attachments prevent us from following God. We're not generous with our money. We tend to give from our surplus, the extra, the leftovers, rather than sacrificially giving like Jesus.

Some of us are also called to follow God more fully in terms of giving of our time, but sometimes the focus on money holds us back. Our hearts dream about better cars, bigger houses, having the best stuff. Did I ever tell you about the man who himself told me that he was neglecting his family because he loves his work? Possessions and money are fine, but not if they stop us from becoming saints. We're not here just to become good Christians and follow the commandments—that's beautiful! But there's more.

...continued on inside page

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 Mailing Address: 1345 West 73rd Ave., Van., BC V6P 3E9
 Tel 604.266.6131
 Hours Tuesday—Friday
 9:00 am—12:00 noon
 1:00 pm—3:00 pm
 In case of emergencies,
 please call the office anytime.
 Web: *stanthonyvan.com*
 Email: *office@stanthonysvancouver.org*

Parish Registration

Our parish family warmly welcomes new parishioners. Please register by filling out a registration form located in the vestibule or the Parish Office. If you are registered and moving, please advise the parish office.

Sunday Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm
 Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm

Weekday Masses

Monday 8:15 am
 Tuesday 7:30 pm
 Wednesday-Friday 8:15 am
 Saturday 9:00 am

Confession

Weekday 8:00 to 8:10 am *except Tuesday*
 Saturday 9:45 am & 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm
 1st Saturday each month 9:45 am to 1:00 pm;
 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm;
 7:00 pm to 9:45 pm

Eucharistic Adoration at 1365 West 73rd Avenue
 Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 10:00 pm in the chapel

First Friday of each month: 8:45 am to 10:00 am in the church followed by **Benediction**.
 First Saturday of each month: 9:30 am to 9:30 pm in the church during all-day confessions.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Please call the parish office for more information on RCIA classes and other Sacraments.

St. Anthony of Padua School

Kindergarten to Grade 7
 1370 West 73rd Avenue,
 Vancouver, BC V6P 3E9
 Principal: Michael Perry
 Telephone: 604.261.4043
 Website: *stanthonyofpaduaschool.ca*
 School Email: *office@stanthonyofpaduaschool.ca*

Weekday Masses & Intentions

Day	Feast or Memorial	Missal Page	Intention
Monday, October 15	<i>Memorial</i> St. Teresa of Jesus	1196	Chung Shee † & Colin Kim Sing †
Tuesday, October 16	<i>Memorial</i> St. Marguerite D'Youville	1198	Amanda Jayamanna †
Wednesday, October 17	<i>Memorial</i> St. Ignatius of Antioch	1200	Alice Edge
Thursday, October 18	<i>Feast</i> St. Luke, Evangelist	1747	Gaspare Leone †
Friday, October 19	Ferial	1204	Eleonora Piazzon †
Saturday, October 20	Ferial	1205	Deceased Members of the CWL †

Prayers for the Sick At Holy Mass we remember the sick including: Nita Carvajal, Nung Chum, Isobel Clancy, Nick De Vos, Elaine dos Remedios, Teresa Gaio, Feli Hempl, Cecile Hernandez, Yvonne Kharoubeh, Molly Loui-Ying, Huguette Piché, Barney Rousseau, Therese Rozario, Christina Sayo, Filomena Sison, Liliana Taylor, Fernando Tiago, Theresa Yoshioka.

Upcoming Homily Themes

October 20 & 21

What is God's Hope for Me When I Suffer?

October 27 & 28

Helping Those in Need

November 3 & 4

What a Priest Does All Day

November 17 & 18

The Mass is a Sacrifice



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LET'S PARTY!

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St. Anthony of Padua Parish Centre Project

Silent Auction Items Needed!

Our annual Dinner & Dance fundraising event is fast approaching on Saturday, November 17th at the Continental Restaurant in Richmond. Tickets will be on sale after all the Masses and we sincerely hope everyone will come and help us make this a successful event. Last year you were extremely generous in providing gifts for the Silent Auction and we would ask if you could please support us again this year. Items such as gift baskets, sports and entertainment tickets, electronics, would be very much appreciated! All proceeds will go towards the Parish Centre Fund. Thank you for your support!

Consecration to Mary, the Mother of God

Congratulations! 45 parishioners registered for this beautiful and prayerful event which will draw us closer to Christ through Mary's intercession. Our parish's day of Consecration to Mary is December 8th following 33 days of preparation which begins on November 5th. There are 2 ways to prepare:

1. **33 days to Morning Glory** by Father Michael Gaitley focussing on the works of 4 prominent saints who were devoted to Mary.
2. **Total Consecration Through the Mysteries of the Rosary** by Father Ed Broom.

We have space for more participants in both programs. If you wish to join us, please contact Tilly Bara at 604-321-4954 or mb391906@gmail.com as soon as possible.



Talk on Crisis in the Church

Mark your calendar! **Prof. Roberto de Mattei** is one of the most sought after speakers on the current gravest and unprecedented crisis in the Church. He will be the guest speaker in the AGM of Una Voce Canada (Vancouver Traditional Mass Society) which will be held on Saturday, November 10, following the 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass at Holy Family Church, 4851 Beatrice Street, Vancouver, BC. The meeting will take place in the parish hall. All are invited! For more information, visit <https://unavocecanada.org/>

HELLO
My name is

Name Tag Weekend is coming soon...during the Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast after all Sunday Masses on October 28. After the Anticipatory Mass on Saturday, October 27, the Name Tag Committee will be serving .Burger Bites, \$3.50 or \$5.00 (drink included). Reservations can be made at the Welcome Booth

...continued from the cover

We're here to become saints. Jesus looked at the man today with love (Mk 10:21)—did you catch that? Jesus looks at us with love and says, "You lack one thing. You're still too attached."

While some saints had lots of money, the historical truth is that the vast majority of them gave away their money to those in need, because it's extremely hard to become a saint and have lots of stuff. It's possible but much harder, and it's rare. Yes, it is hard to tell the difference between needs and attachments. There are principles, but it often comes down to one's judgement. This is where honesty comes in. We have to ask ourselves hard questions from the point of view of faith. Yes, we should save up for retirement and our children's education, but what kind of retirement? The saints would save up for what's necessary. Same

for education.

So, what is one thing today that cuts us to the heart? Where did we feel uncomfortable? Stay there; God is speaking through that discomfort. Could we all this week get rid of one thing we don't need? Or could we make a donation to a charity that is sacrificial? Could we not buy something we want? Self-denial is critical here. The best way to find freedom is to let go of stuff. [...]

We'll pray today that our mother Mary intercede for us, that she gives us the grace to let go, because it's so hard for us to let go. Brothers and sisters, it's really a joy to let go! Why? Because we gain so much. Jesus only asks us to let go of things that can't really fulfill us. He wants to fill our hearts with so much more!

- excerpt from Fr. Justin's homily, October 14, 2018

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THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
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SERVING WITH FAITH AND JOY
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