~GOSPEL MEDITATION~

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

November 15, 2026
The 33rd Sunday
in
Ordinary Time

Readings:

Proverbs 31:10 - 13, 19 - 20, 30 - 31
Psalm 128
1 Thess. 5:1 - 6
Matthew 25:14 - 30



A friend once took his young adult son to the casino for his birthday. He handed him $100 and said, “Let’s have a great time.” The son, a graduate student with limited money, quietly pocketed the money and refused to play. “I don’t want to lose it,” he said. But he missed the point: the money was not really his to pocket; it was his father’s invitation to share an experience together.

God sees our gifts a bit like this. In Jesus’ parable, a servant buries his master’s talent and explains: “Master, I knew you were a demanding person…so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground” (Matthew 25:24-25). The master condemns him not for failure but for refusing to risk. The servant’s fear distorts his image of the master and leads to a small, loveless response. No love, no risk. No risk, no relationship.

How easily we fall into this trap! We treat God’s gifts as fragile possessions rather than invitations. We play it safe, avoid risk, and tell ourselves we are wise and God is cruel. But Jesus praises those who trust the Master’s goodness enough to act boldly. They are not reckless but confident enough in their Master to risk their gifts for Him.

So, what is my interior story about God right now? Is it marked by generosity, adventure, and trust? Or by fear, caution, and suspicion? That hidden narrative shapes everything. Because love, by its nature, always takes risks with, and for, the beloved.

— Father John Muir
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