

READINGS

October 23, 2016

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Sirach 35: 12-14, 16-18

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

Gospel: Luke 18: 9-14

LUKE 18: 9-14

Jesus directed his story to some who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else. That attitude seems to be a hazard for everyone who takes seriously the business of growing in holiness. We mightn't publicly, or even consciously, pride ourselves for being virtuous, but there we are, up in our ivory towers, taking pot-shots, not necessarily at everyone else, but certainly at those whom we judge to fall short of those standards that, to us, are so obvious. It can often be easy for those of us who have been schooled to do so, to say: *God, have mercy on me, a sinner*, in a half-hearted way because, even though we can accuse ourselves of the list of things we were taught to confess as kids, we don't think we are really into sin in a bad way. At least we're trying, and are certainly a lot better than those who are into drugs, or who drink themselves stupid, or brazenly flaunt their sexuality, or drive like maniacs, or who never come near Mass.

What was the Pharisee up to that led Jesus to say that, while *the tax collector went home at rights with God*, the Pharisee did not? What was his sin, that meant that he was *not at rights with God*? The Pharisee believed that he didn't need mercy because, really, as far as he could see, he didn't sin. Yet Jesus saw what he didn't. Like most of us, the Pharisee was quietly pleased with his virtue; and *he despised others*: his approach to others lacked love. He failed in the one thing necessary – love. And he was proud. The way Jesus put it, what the Pharisee didn't see was his pride, and his pride kept him clear of God.

Adapted from Fr. John McKinnon

PLEASE CONSIDER BISHOP VÁSQUEZ' INTENTION FOR TODAY:

For the Church, that we may always bow before the Lord through humble acts of service, we pray...

STEWARDSHIP

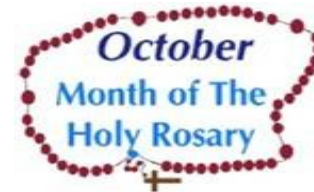
October 16th.....\$3,011
St. Vincent De Paul.....\$535
Our Lady of Wisdom relies on Bobcat Catholics like you for more than half the resources necessary to bring students of Texas State closer to their Catholic faith. Contact our Development Director, Daniel Glaze, to join this mission at 512-392-5925.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Righteousness is the state of being in right relationship with God – being in a state of grace. Justification restores the fractured relationship with God. The Pharisee in today's Gospel does all the right things: he fasts, tithes, is honest, and is not greedy. As important as actions are, he wrongly believes his actions justify him before God. The tax collector, on the other hand, knows he has fallen short and is entirely dependent upon God's mercy. He gives us the Jesus Prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." The tax collector went home in a state of grace because he humbled himself before God. What is the motivation behind our actions? Is it humble service to God? God hears the prayer of the lowly servant.

FR. CHARLIE BANKS will be available for Spiritual Direction this Tues., October 27th. Please sign up in the Lobby for 30min. appointments.

Catholic Relief Services **special collection** next Sun., Oct. 30th, for Hurricane relief in Haiti.



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

ROSARY every Sunday 9:30am in the Chapel

ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament *Tuesdays* 5:45-9pm and *Mornings* Mon-Fri 8:30-9:30am in the Chapel

NIGHT PRAYER hosted by the men of Lambda Omega Alpha, 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings after Adoration.

FREE LUNCH every Tues., 11am-1pm in the Lobby

BIBLE STUDIES every day!

Visit www.txstatecatholic.org



The annual diocesan **Catholic Services Appeal** will be conducted Sunday November 6th. Each year, our bishop asks every one of us to make a commitment to support the work of our diocesan programs and ministries. By sharing the gifts God has granted us, we can work together to care for the Church. Please experience the joy of giving and join us as we work to continue Christ's work of spirituality, charity and education.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Our Development Office needs your help! We are looking for 4 interns (All ages welcomed) to start working with our office in January. Weekly hour commitment would vary from 4-12 hours. Ask Daniel Glaze, Development Director if you have questions. Go to our website for more details [Www.txstatecatholic.org](http://www.txstatecatholic.org)

Everyone is Invited to the **OLOW Halloween Costume Party**

Hosted by the Ambassadors **Friday** October 28th 8pm 421 Lindsey St.

OCTOBER IS PRO-LIFE MONTH

Pick up your Baby banks Today! All boxes will be picked up at the end of October and the money raised goes to the Diocesan office of Pro-Life as well as our own Bobcats for Life.

DONATION DRIVE

The men of Lambda Omega Alpha invite you to join them in donating to the Hays-Caldwell Women's Center Until Oct. 31st. Items can be placed in the large tub in the lobby. Please see the tub for a list of items needed.

Join Us for ALL SAINTS DAY

(A Holy Day of Obligation) Tuesday November 1st Mass at 12:30pm and 5:15pm followed by Adoration until 9pm.