October 22, 2019

Scripture

Luke 12:35-38
Jesus said to his disciples:
"Gird your loins and light your lamps
and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding,
ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.
Blessed are those servants
whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.
Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,
have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.
And should he come in the second or third watch
and find them prepared in this way,
blessed are those servants."

Our Scripture Reflection

After the initial shock of labor and delivery, we enter this world and quickly become comfortable with it, so much so that after a number of years we forget that the earth is not our true and lasting home. As Mom used to say, “Son, we’re just passing through.” Because of this, Jesus’ words in today's Gospel can sound frightening and even cruel. What does He mean by "be like servants who await their master’s return…” We were given the gifts of life, time and talent to do the work that has been assigned to us by our master. When He returns, and He surely will in His time and on His schedule, we will be expected to give an accounting for what we did in this life. Any excuses we might offer Him upon His return for our lack of production will be unacceptable.

Food for your Journey

We baby boomers have been a futureless generation, raised in the eternal present of TV and advertising. We have allowed ourselves to be persuaded by ads that teach that if we take good
care of ourselves, we will stay healthy. Sick people, hospitals and funerals destroy our illusions of invulnerability. They force us to think of the future.
— Mary Pipher, Another Country: Navigating the Emotional Terrain of Our Elders (Riverhead, 2000), 41.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear God, How blessed I am to be Your child and to be given the honor to do Your work in this life. Sometimes, however, I forget that all I have comes from You and that I will be accountable to You for what I have done with my time and talent. May I remember at the beginning of each day to make an offering of my life, my faith and all that I will accomplish to You. May this daily offering keep me focused on what really matters. Amen