

Not the Seed at Fault, but Ourselves

The parable of the sower and the seed could also be called the parable of the fate of the word of God in human hearts. It is very simple, clear and easy to understand. There is no mistaking its meaning.

There is also no mistaking Jesus' love and concern for His people. It must have been very frustrating and disappointing for Him to go from village to village and bring them grace and salvation only to find that His words were falling on deaf ears and cold hearts.

It is with this pain and concern for souls that He tells this beautiful parable. This is also why He cried out many times at the end of His parables, "He who has ears to hear, let

him hear." Yet He continued on, patiently teaching, sowing the seed of truth and praying that it will take root and bring forth fruit.

When hearing this parable, do not these thoughts strike us: "How has the seed, the word of God, taken root in our souls? What is the fate of Christ's teaching in our hearts? What type of soil have we cultivated for God's word? Are our hearts cold, stony, filled with weeds and thorns?"

We cannot blame anyone but ourselves if the teachings of Jesus are not reflected in our lives. It is not the seed which is at fault, only ourselves.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Icon of Christ as the Sower

ST. GEORGE ROMANIAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL

EPARCHY OF ST. GEORGE IN CANTON

1123 44TH St NE, Canton, OH 44714

Website: stgeorgeoh.org

Tel: 330-492-8413 FAX: 330-493-9963

Most Rev. John Michael Botean, Bishop - 330-493-9355

Very Rev. Ovidiu Marginean, Rector - 330-492-8413

Very Rev. Iuliu Muntean - 330-493-9355

Fr. Deacon Remus Orian – 330-809-2500

Schedule for Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil Vespers: 6:30 p.m.

Day of Feast: 10:00am and 6:30 p.m.

Confessions: See calendar or at any time by request.

Ann Fosnaught, Secretary 330-492-8413 or annf@rcdcanton.org

October 18, 2020

3rd Sunday after the Holy Cross

20th Sunday after Pentecost

This Sunday: Epistle Gal 1:11-19

Gospel Lk 7:11-16

Next Sunday: Epistle Gal 2:16-20

Gospel Lk 8:27-39

Weekly Liturgy Schedule

Monday 10/19

No Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 10/20

8:30am Divine Liturgy: +Emil Neagu

Wednesday 10/21

8:30am Divine Liturgy: +Sr. Mary Dunn, OSU by Jim and Esther Dershaw

Thursday 10/22

8:30am Divine Liturgy: H/S Magdalene Florian by Family

Friday 10/23

8:30am Divine Liturgy: For a successful Fish Frys!

Saturday 10/24

No Divine Liturgy

Sunday 10/25

10:00am Divine Liturgy

Church Bulletin donated in October 2020 by Earl and Amparo Adkins for everyone's health.

All scheduled services will be held and can be viewed and prayed with at stgeorge.click2stream.com. Make sure to click on the volume to unmute at the bottom right hand corner. Also, we are every Sunday on St. George Cathedral Facebook.

All are invited to coffee hour in the small hall and outside provided by George and Maria Marcu. Thank you!

Sunday Collection: October 11, 2020

Loose	\$10.00
Sunday envelopes	\$2,108.00
Unirea	\$30.00
Candles	<u>\$82.00</u>
Total	\$2,230.00

Someone lit a candle and prayed for you last Sunday:

In memory of all Zagan Family Members	The Zagan Family
+Husband Dan Cseak	Natalie Cseak
+All family members and angel +Trisha	Del and Sandy
H/S All family members	Del and Sandy
Special Intention for Family	Doru Jacobs
Health and Salvation	Mihai and Elena Florea
In memory of loved one	Mihai and Elena Florea
In memory of loved one	Mihai and Elena Florea
H/S Stella Lazar and Family	Mircea Cristea
H/S Suzie Dragos and Family	Mircea Cristea
H/S Stella Lazar and Family	Mircea Cristea
H/S Suzie Dragos and Family	Mircea Cristea
Special intention	Aurel Bosca
Special Intention	Earl and Amparo Adkins
H/S For Family	George and Maria Marcu
+Parents and Family	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean

H/S Mircea and Rita Cristea	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean
H/S Stella Lazar and Family	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean
H/S Suzie Dragos and Family	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean
+Emil Neagu (Cheti's brother)	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean
+Sica Barcutian(Liviu's brother)	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean
H/S Maria Poplacean	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean
H/S Georgeta Barcutian	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean
H/S Barbara Greavu	Danny and Cyndi Ardelean
+John, husband	Suzie Dragos
In memory of Deceased in Dragos and Eberhart Family	Suzie Dragos
H/S Stella Lazar	Suzie Dragos
H/S All Family	Suzie Dragos
+Emil Neagu	Helen Bikis
+Emil Neagu	Greg and Cheti Bikis
H/S All Family here and at home in Romania	Greg and Cheti Bikis

+++

Special Announcement:

Please pray for: Missy Lawver, Carol Hoge, Veronica Maier, Sr. Agnes Scalero, Earl Adkins, End to Corona Virus attack, Clore Family, Georgeta Barcutian, Grace Mary Fein, Barbara Greavu, Connie McAdams, Suzie Dragos, Doris Rotar, Virginia Rogers, Stella Lazar and all who need our prayers.

Sick and homebound: Magdalene Florian (Florida), Alex and Theresa Gonyias (Home), Ann Stimer (Home), Maria Poplacean (Canton Regency Rm.#256), Aurelia Lupsor (Canton Christian Home) Natalie Cseak (St. Joseph, Louisville), Eugene Popa (St. Joseph, Louisville) and Irene Pontones (Chapel Hill Retirement Community)

For holy Baptism contact the parish office at least one month prior to the date requested.

For First Reconciliation contact the parish office when your child turns 7.

For Weddings contact the parish office at least six months prior to the date requested.

To guarantee announcements for the bulletin, they need to be given to the office by Wednesday prior to the Sunday bulletin. Thank you!

To facilitate **accurate counting**, please use separate checks/cash for the special collection, candle and Sunday collection envelopes. Thank you for your attention to this detail!

Please let the office know if you have an upcoming surgery, illness, etc., so we can put you on our prayer list. Thank you!

Altar Candelabrum for October 2020 is donated by **the Craciun Family for the health of Mrs. Georgeta Barcutian and Mrs. Mary Cornea.**

Left Iconostasis Candelabrum for October 2020 is donated by **Helen Bikis and Family in memory of +John Bikis, Jr.; 4 years.**

Right Iconostasis Candelabrum for October 2020 is donated by ...

Blessed Virgin Mary Candelabrum for October 2020 is donated **Tim Reichel.**

If you would like to sponsor a candelabra for any month of the year in honor of a living member or in memory of any loved ones that have passed away, please get in touch with the Church office and Ann will be able to schedule it for you. Thank you for your continuous support of the Church!!!

Prescura for October 2020: Amparo Adkins, Suzie Dragos, Elena Florea, Ann Fosnaught, Maria Marcu, Debbie Murari, Jacqui Oprean, Virginia Rogers, Patricia Wendt, Dodi Zbuka and Psa. Gabriela Marginean.

Announcements

Thank you to Dave and Debbie Murari for sealing the new cupboards in the cookie room.

Thank you to Terry Seeberger for getting us the snorkel lift from Central Allied to do all the work needed at the church and the diocese.

For the sick and homebound, St. George Cathedral offers a **live stream** of the Divine Liturgy which can be found at the following website: stgeorge.click2stream.com. Please make sure that you turn on the sound at the bottom right hand corner of the screen.

Amazon donates a percentage of your purchases to the charity of your choice when you go to smile.amazon.com. As you are shopping online, you can go to choose the St. George Cathedral. Thank you for using smile.amazon.com!

Virtual Benefit for the nuns of Christ the Bridegroom Monastery will be hosted on Saturday, November 7th with virtual event on Facebook every evening for a week prior to the virtual banquet. There is no cost to attend the dinner, but registration is requested by October 25 to receive a hand packed gift from the Nuns. Every person who registers before the event will be remembered at the Divine Liturgy once a month for a year. Learn more about and support the nuns and their life of prayer and hospitality. Donations given at the event or designated ahead of time will be doubled by matching donors. For more information and to register my please visit www.christthebridegroom.org or call 440-834-0290.

Parish events:

Stewardship Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 21 at 6:30pm. Email Fr. Ovi if you want an invite to the meeting.

Curbside Fall Fish Fry will be hosted at St. George Cathedral on Friday, October 23 and 30 and November 13 and 20 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. You can order and prepay online at <https://www.stgeorgeoh.org/> or call the office at 330-492-8413. **See P-sa. Gabi or Ann if you are available to volunteer to help!**

To Tickle Your Funny Bone 😊

A little girl sat on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story from time to time, she'd reach up and touch his wrinkled cheek. Then she would touch her own cheek thoughtfully.

Finally, she spoke, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart", he answered. "God made me a long time ago."

“Did God make me, too?”, she asked.

“Yes, indeed, honey”, he answered. “God made you just a little while ago.”

She touched his face again, and then her own.

“He's getting better at it, isn't he?” she asked.

Word of Life

“We are called to reverence and love every human person as ourselves. It is our responsibility to care for and protect human life, especially the lives of the most vulnerable among us. *The Gospel of Life* teaches us that ‘the task of accepting and serving life involves everyone; and this task must be fulfilled above all towards life when it is at its weakest’” (EV 43).

*Excerpt from *Evangelium vitae*, © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

“Serving Moms in Need: Living the Gospel of Life”

respectlife.org/serving-moms-in-need

That the life of every person,
from conception to natural death,
will be protected in our laws and cherished in our hearts;

Let us pray to the Lord, Lord have mercy.

Happy Birthday! La mulți ani!!

Carol Popa – October 18th

Brendan Woodburn – October 20th

Nicholas Popa – October 24th

	Mon 10/19	Tue 10/20	Wed 10/21	Thu 10/22	Fri 10/23	Sat 10/24	Sun 10/25
	Prophet Joel. Varus,	Brendan Woodburn's Great-martyr	Ven. Father Hilarion Abstinence	H. Father Abercius	Apostle James, Abstinence	Nicholas Popa's Arethas and +Rev. Fr. John	Marcian and 6th SUNDAY AFTER
9am		Liturgy: +Emil Neagu 8:30am - 9:30am	Liturgy: +Sr. Mary Dunn, OSU by Jim and Esther Dershaw 8:30am - 9:30am	Liturgy: H/S Magdalene Florian by Family 8:30am - 9:30am	Liturgy: for a successful Fish Fry 8:30am - 9:30am		
10am							Divine Liturgy 10am - 11:30am
11am							
12pm							Coffee: Earl and Amparo Adkins 11:30am - 12:30pm
1pm							
2pm							
3pm							
4pm							
5pm							
6pm		Small hall in use 5:30pm - 8pm				Fish Fry 4pm - 6pm	
7pm			Stewardship Committee meeting 6:30pm - 8pm				

FROM TIME TO TIME, Christians in a number of communities, including the ancient historic Churches, are encouraged to tithe to their congregation. Tithing – the giving of 10% of one’s income – is mandatory in some groups. Mormons, for example are required to tithe and only tithe-paying members are allowed to enter Mormon temples and to receive its “ordinances” (sacraments). Many Pentecostal groups teach that, if you are not tithing, you are robbing God.

Tithing in the Old Testament

The practice of tithing arose at the start of the Israelite nation. When the Israelites occupied the Promised Land, eleven of their twelve tribes were given a portion of the conquered territory. The twelfth tribe, Levi, which was set apart as the nation’s priests, received no land. The eleven landed tribes were to give their tithes to the Levites (temple assistants, comparable to our deacons). These mandatory tithes were used to support the priests, manage the temple, and provide relief for foreigners, orphans and widows (see Num 18).

The tithe was seen in the Torah as a recognition that all of creation was God’s: *“And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD’s. It is holy to the LORD. If a man wants at all to redeem any of his tithes, he shall add one-fifth to it. And concerning the tithe of the herd or the flock, of whatever passes under the rod, the tenth one shall be holy to the LORD”* (Lev 27: 30-32).

If a person failed to pay the tithe or held back some of it, he was considered to have robbed God. As the nation became more established and prosperous, the temptation to avoid paying the full tithe was not uncommon. The prophet Malachi thundered against this practice, but also promised that those who paid the tithe would be blessed: *“Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the LORD of hosts. “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it...”* (Mal 3: 8-10).

Malachi distinguishes between tithes and offerings. The tithe was the required tenth of one’s income which was God’s by right. An offering was whatever was freely given over and above the tithe. Sometimes such gifts are called “love offerings,” made from personal devotion rather than by law.

Tithing in the New Testament

Tithing was practiced regularly by Jews into New Testament times. In the Gospels, we see that the Lord Jesus criticized the Pharisees for being strict about determining tithes of everything they have received while ignoring more important matters: *“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of*

the Law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!” (Mt 23:23, 24). He did not condemn tithing, only the mechanical performance of it while ignoring the spirit behind it.

Similarly, in His parable of the Publican and the Pharisee (Lk 18:9-14), the Lord Jesus shows the Pharisee taking pride in his fasting and tithing. The Lord does not reproach the Pharisee for doing these things, but for taking pride in them.

That even the poor sometimes gave more than was required was noted – and praised – by Jesus when He visited the temple: *“Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood”*” (Mk 12:41-44).

Nowhere in the New Testament is tithing mandated. Generosity and openness in giving are recognized and praised while mean-spiritedness is condemned. In the story of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11), two believers are reproached for pretending to give to the Church whatever they received for selling a piece of land. St Peter discerned the lie and said to Ananias, *“Ananias, why*

has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God” (vv. 3, 4).

Giving in the Writings of St Paul

St Paul teaches several principles for giving in 2 Cor 9. First, in v.5 he notes that all giving should be *“a matter of generosity and not as a grudging obligation.”* He then adds: *“But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So, let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver”* (vv. 6, 7). In v.7 St Paul sees the individual believer as responsible for determining the amount he can give *“as he purposes in his heart”*.

Instead of giving a set amount (the tithe), the believer is expected to give as his heart dictates, out of his faith that he is “in Christ.” Some, like popular Orthodox author Frederica Mathewes-Green, believe that a commitment to tithing, like fasting, can foster spiritual growth. She recommends, *“Aim to give a percentage of your income. Start with whatever percentage you give now, and raise it a little each year. In time, you will reach the tithe. Then you will be giving as generously as the people of the Bible, who lived in conditions we would see as abject poverty. ... there is no better indication of your priorities”* (*Christianity Today* 59.5).

Many churches have annual pledge drives asking members to make a specific commitment of what they purpose to give in the year ahead. The introduction of set amounts for giving as “dues,” “pew rents,” or “fees” in some churches suggests that many Christians believe in paying only for services rendered.

The Ministry of Giving

St Paul indicates another principle for giving in Rom 12:4-8: *“For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; **he who gives, with liberality**; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”*

Some Christians have been gifted to teach or lead the Church; others have been gifted to support the Church in a significant way. As good singers should use their voices to build up the Church, those with material abundance should use their wealth as a gift given them to support the Church over and above the average donor. The many believers who have built churches, shrines, schools or hospitals with their own resources have ministered in this way by using the gift they have received.

*4th Sunday after the Holy Cross
(St Luke, 3 St Luke)*



Giving Back to the Giver