Here's a text if you've only a minute …

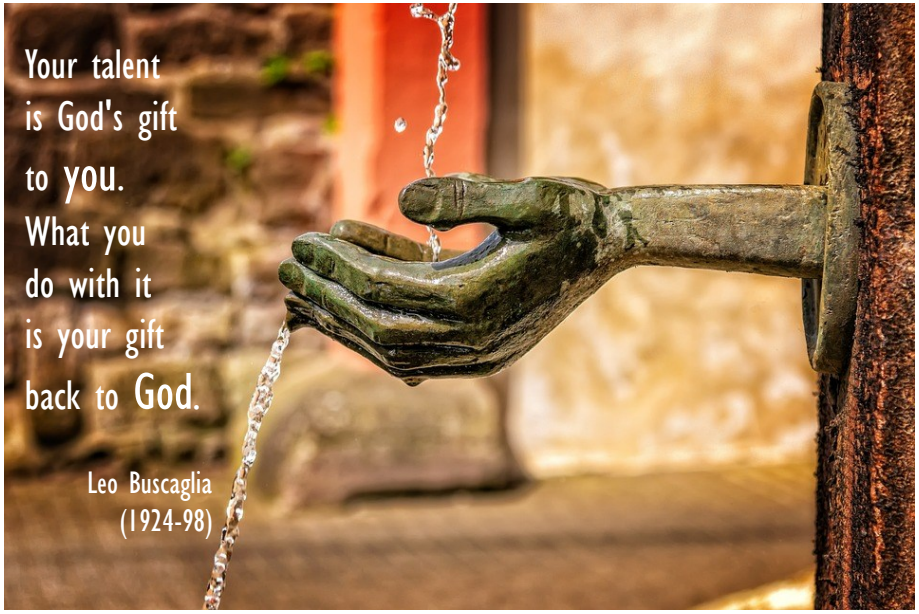
You will call upon me, and I will answer you *Entrance Antiphon*

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! *Psalm*

You are all children of light and children of the day.
Gospel acclamation

Let us pray that God will help us to be faithful.
Father of all that is good,
keep us faithful in serving you
for to serve you is our lasting joy.
Old Opening Prayer

This week's texts if you'd like to reflect further:
Prov. 31:10–13,19–20, 30–31; Ps. 128 (127); I Thes. 5: 1–6; Mt. 25: 14–30



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ST BEUNO'S OUTREACH IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM



PREGO LEAFLET

Thirty-third Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year A, 15th November 2026

'Well done,
good and faithful servant!'

The readings in this final week of Ordinary Time, Year A, remind us again of the need to be always prepared for the coming of Christ by the way we live our lives.

In the **First Reading**, the writer extols the virtues of the perfect wife. Although using language which reflects the practice and culture of biblical times, the passage speaks powerfully of the value and dignity of manual work, the importance of charity, and respect for all, whatever their role in life.

The **Psalm** speaks again of the dignity of work, of being self-sufficient, providing for one's family, and living in awe of the Lord.

St Paul reminds us in the **Second Reading** that if we live our lives in the light of Christ, we have no need to fear the coming of the reign of God.

In the **Gospel**, Jesus uses the parable of the talents to show the importance of making best use of what we have been given for the benefit of others.

This week, we pray for those who struggle to realise where their own talents lie, and those who lack the opportunity to be recognised, valued and celebrated. We also continue to pray for peace across the world.

Opening Prayer

Grant us we pray, O Lord our God,
the constant gladness of being devoted to you,
for it is full of lasting happiness
to serve with constancy
the author of all that is good.

1 Thessalonians 5: 1–6

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers and sisters, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.

As I settle in the place where I will pray today, I spend time becoming still in whatever way works best for me. To begin, I may like to focus on my breathing. Without changing it, I ask the Holy Spirit to help me put aside any worries or anxieties for this time of prayer.

When I feel ready, I read through the passage slowly, perhaps imagining St Paul writing personally to me. I read his words and let them sink in. Perhaps there's a word or a phrase that particularly resonates? I stay with it, and ponder its significance, asking the Lord to help me see and hear more clearly.

Returning to the text, I notice what comes to mind when I consider *'the times and the seasons'* in which we're now living.

In what ways does my faith in the promises of the Lord influence my response to what I see around me? I ponder.

Perhaps I recall particular times in the past when I felt that I was *'in darkness'*. Who or what helped me find my way back to the light? I may want to talk to the Lord about what that felt like.

Paul reminds me that I am a *child of light, a child of the day*. What does that mean to me? How might others see that light through the way I live my life?

Before concluding my prayer, I may want to bring before the Lord someone for whom 'the worst' has happened. In my own words, I ask that the Lord be close to them in their time of darkness.

Gospel Matthew 25: 14–21 (abbreviated)

Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also the one who had the two talents made two talents more. But the one who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

'Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master."'

I take a few moments to ponder how I am feeling as I come to pray. I ask the Lord to be with me in whatever way he knows I need today.

Perhaps putting myself in the place of one of the servants, I read the passage through slowly a number of times, noticing how it feels as I look at what the master has given to me. What motivates me now? Ambition … confidence in my own ability … the desire to please … doubt … fear ... or something else? I ponder.

I pause to consider the ways in which my own life has been enriched by the talents I have been given. How do I express my gratitude? Or do I sometimes take things for granted? What is it that I truly value?

I may like to invite Jesus to come and sit by my side as I review what has been entrusted to me. I look back, without judgment, at the ways in which I have already made use of my talents.

I listen to what Jesus says to me about how I am using them now, and what I might do in the future. How does it feel to hear him call me '*Good and faithful servant*'?

In whatever way feels right, I offer my thanks to the Lord for this precious time in his presence.