

## REFLECTION: WEDNESDAY IN THE NINETEENTH WEEK AFTER TRINITY

*Readings: Ephesians 3:2-12; Luke 12:39-48*



In this day, when we are celebrating a votive Mass of Saint Joseph, the Patron of the Universal Church, I think it is well for us to focus on a phrase in the Epistle - *Through the Church the manifold wisdom of God is made known*



he Angels and demons, St Peter tells us in were not privy to the mystery which is the Church, until it was revealed by Christ. As Scott Hahn comments, "*Christ continues to teach, heal, and save the world through his mystical body [the Church]. To the blessed Angels, [the Church] is a glorious vision of an ever-expanding family; to the demons, [she] is a frightful spectacle of their own achievements toppling over with the triumph of the Gospel.*"



hrough the Church, God is making himself known. Through her, the faith is taught. Through her, Christ is working the Father's purpose out in the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. This is a truly astounding mystery indeed. For you and I, we are the crew on that ship, which is the Church, that storm-tossed barque of Peter. It is through us, the living members of the Mystical Body, that Christ reaches out to proclaim his Gospel, to make known all his unsearchable riches.



nd this is both amazing, and slightly terrifying, because we hear in the Gospel, that, "*Every one to whom much is given, of him much will be required!*" If that is the case, then, since we have this great vocation, it follows that we must carry out our duty well, and with diligence. This is because God will require of us an account of how we have deployed our skills, talents, abilities, wisdom, insights, finances, and, most of all, our time. He demands much, as he should, because all these things that we think of as ours, actually come from him. These resources are not our own, they are merely lent to us for a time, and we must be their stewards that God's kingdom may come, that his will be done here on earth, as it is done in heaven. This stuff of which we are made, this earth, this mortal clay, our flesh and blood, must be returned. Even the voice with which we utter our prayers, our songs, our speech, will one day be silent in the grave, and we will have to look at the records of how we used it.



o we must continuously ask ourselves: "Are we making the most of our resources to make Christ known, loved and served among the nations?"; "Have we well-used what we have been given?"; "Can we do better?" There is always room for us to improve. More we could do, and seemingly never enough resources to do it. Remember, though, in Jesus Christ, that God himself has already come to the party. He is now with us, always there to help us. Five loaves and two fish fed the five thousand. We are fed by the Eucharist, we are partakers of Christ himself. We can do all things through him who strengthens us, and who gives us so much, in order that we can do great things for God. Arise, let us go hence!