

**October 26-27, 2019**

**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sirach 35:12-18**

**Second Timothy 4:6-18**

**Luke 18:9-14**

For the past weeks our assorted media has documented the embarrassing fate of those who bribed their son's and daughter's way into prestigious universities. The walks of shame for relatively minor periods of jail-time are not what any of the prestigious executives and celebrities imagined would ever befall them, yet, despite their wealth and social standing, their arrogance has now been their comeuppance. A passage from this weekend's Gospel of Luke could almost be part of the legal indictments against them: 'O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity – greedy, dishonest, adulterous – or even like this tax collector...' Approaching All Saints and All Soul's Days later this week, we are reminded that our human/physical lives have points of termination, we do not live forever amid the Land of Gracious Living. Many of us have mourned the passing of mother, father, family members, friends, co-workers...frequently failing to take to heart the reality that as has gone all those we have loved, so too we will pass from this life to the judgment/embrace of God. Have we, within our lives, adopted the JESUS RECOMMENDED attitude of humility: 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner....' OR...have we slipped into an arrogant attitude of thinking WE DESERVE eternal life with Jesus? Arrogance – Hubris, is both comical to behold (aka, the walks of shame for the bribers mentioned above...they thought they could get away with anything...) and violent to our soul. As Proverbs 16:18 reminds us: 'Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.' God does not desire for us to fall or be ruined but it is up to us, individually, to humbly acknowledge and seek to rid ourselves of our pride and arrogance.

Thank you for spending part of your Autumn weekend with our Santa Clara Community, we are enriched by your presence and participation. **This coming Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, is ALL Saints Day and a Vigil Mass is celebrated on Thursday evening, October 31<sup>st</sup> (Halloween, before the trick or treaters), at 5pm, with the usual morning Mass on Friday at 8:30am and then the St. Francis School Mass (which is open to everyone) at 10:00am.** More PERSONALLY poignant, ALL SOULS will be celebrated throughout next weekend, with the Special All Souls Remembrances continuing through November. **If you wish to enroll your own beloved dead in these Masses, special ALL SOULS envelopes are available at the exits.** *Our AUTUMN FAMILY FAITH DAY begins immediately following this weekend's 12noon Mass on Sunday, please come out to the patio for lunch and guidance on how the afternoon will unfold.* A reminder that our annual **HEART & SOUL – CHRISTMAS ADOPT-A-FAMILY SELECTION** (supporting vetted families from our Sister Parish of Immaculate Heart of Mary in Santa Ana) will occur on the weekend of November 9-10...if this is an important part of your personal Advent/Christmas celebration...make sure you do not miss that weekend! In the meantime, may your life be filled with many treats and very few tricks and please remember, you are loved. FKB