



## Things to Ponder

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### Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Luke 12:32-48

Dear Parish Family,

1.  
I have always loved a summer thunderstorm. I have fond memories of looking out from within the house at the rain bashing against things and lightning illuminating the sky. This fascination, however, was tempered a bit when one evening a bolt of lightning hit behind the house and burned the telephone wire. We were safe and our home was spared: but I now have a more healthy respect for the power of nature.

Just as the suddenness of a summer storm can shock the unsuspecting bystander, so the shrill sound of a telephone in the middle of the night can sound a note that transforms lives. On August 11, I will remember the anniversary of deaths of both my father and my uncle; they died five years apart. I am usually awake at the hour when that telephone call alerted me that my father had passed.

The Scriptures today remind us of the Boy Scout motto: “Be prepared!” Nonetheless, we can never be completely prepared for all of the surprises of life! Our second reading (Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19) reminds us of outstanding examples from our collective past of people of faith. The definition of faith provided in this reading ought to sustain us throughout the challenges and joys of the Christian life:

"Faith is the realization of what is  
hoped for and evidence of things not seen."  
(Hebrews 11, 1)

Yours in Christ,

*Rev. Bill Foley*

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