



Things to Ponder

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Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Luke 21:5-19

Dear Parish Family,

Do you ever wonder what you would do without immediate access to information — even of the most obscure type? When I was young, my parents told me that they grew up without television and that they never spent long periods of time on the telephone. I used a manual typewriter throughout college and seminary that had been my father's in the 1940's. Today's technology brings us closer but also accentuates the threats that lurk around the corner and across the globe. Our ancestors viewed the disasters of their day as signs of the end times.

The evangelist Luke and the apostle Paul counsel us today not to be too quick in our evaluation of present-day signs. They tell us not to be afraid but to persevere in prayer and good works. These pursuits, however, might set us apart from family and friends who choose to ignore the presence of God in our midst. Crises do have a healing effect, as the prophet Malachi indicated. They cause us to “wake up,” remind us not to be self-centered, and urge us to reorient our priorities.

The frenetic activity associated with the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season is already upon us. Perhaps we can pause briefly in the midst of it all and ask the simple question: “Am I ready to meet the Lord face-to-face?”

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Bill Foley

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