



Liturgy Cycle A

## Thirty-Second Sunday Of The Year Parable Of The Lamps

### **Introduction**

We are all called to be bearers of the light of Christ, lamp- carriers, if you like. But like the five foolish maids, we too are sometimes careless and irresponsible, and allow this lamp to go out or at least grow very dim.

### **First Reading (Wisdom6: 12-16)**

They sang the praise of wisdom. At the same time it says that wisdom can be found by all those who seek it.

### **Second Reading (1 Thessalonians4: 13-18)**

St Paul consoles his converts at Thessalonika who are worried about the fate of their loved ones who have died. He tells them that God will raise them up as surely as he raised up Christ.

### **Gospel (Matthew 25: 1-13)**

A story, which urges us to stay awake because we do not know the day or the hour of the Lord's coming.

### **Prayer Of The Faithful**

Let us pray to God our Father for the gift of wisdom, so that we may always be ready to receive Christ his Son.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church: that through an effective preaching of the Gospel it may provide a lamp of hope for the world darkened by despair. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all political leaders: that they may be watchful and responsible, and so provide a lamp of peace for a world darkened by war. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



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**For all those who live foolishly and irresponsibly, with no thought for Christ or the kingdom of God. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**That through prayer and good works we may wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Lord, hear our prayer.**

### **Communion Reflection**

**An empty lamp,  
no matter how beautiful it may be,  
is a useless lamp for it cannot give light.**

**The foolish have no oil in their lamps.  
They have burned themselves out  
through a life of self-seeking  
and dedication to worldly cares and vanities.  
They do not even think of the Lord,  
much less wait for his coming.**

**The wise have oil in their lamps.  
They are detached from themselves  
and from the cares of the world,  
and are full of charity.  
They are indeed waiting for Lord,  
and desire nothing else but his coming.**

**Lord, grant that when you come  
our minds may be alight with faith,  
our souls alight with hope,  
and our hearts alight with love.  
Then you will lead us into the wedding feast,  
a feast of unending light and joy.**