



Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us to use our talents well. When Jesus told this parable, the 'talent' he was speaking about was a sum of money - a weight of silver or gold. In our time, the word 'talent' describes the special qualities or abilities which people have.

The marvellous thing about human beings is that everyone has a special talent, something unique, which only that person can contribute to the world. If we think of the talents which people around us have, instead of thinking

of their faults, it helps to make the world a more joyful and encouraging place.

Using our talents just for our own enjoyment can be like hiding our talents in the ground. How much better to use them to bring happiness to others! Let's enjoy this week and help spread God's love, through using our talents well.

*Dom Henry Wansbrough*



To see this week's Parish Version of The Wednesday Word: [wednesdayword.org](http://wednesdayword.org) - Parents' Pages - Lectio Divina with Fr Henry.

## THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023



Jesus said to his disciples, "There was once a man who set out on a journey. Before he left, he summoned his servants and handed over his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two talents, and to a third he gave one talent - giving to each according to their ability. Then he left on his journey. After a long time the master came back and settled his accounts with them. The servant who had received the five talents brought his master an extra five talents. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents; look, I've made you another five talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have proved yourself faithful over little things, so I will put you in charge of much more. Come and share your master's joy.' The servant who had been given two talents made two more and his master said the same thing to him. But the servant who had been given one talent had just buried it in the ground and then dug it up and returned it to his master. The master was angry and had that lazy servant thrown out."

*Adapted from Matthew 25:14-30*  
The 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

You are warmly invited to learn more about the Gospel through your local parish church.

**"Do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Put your talents at the service of God."**

*Pope Francis*



We are all unique and valuable to God. Out of His love for us, God has entrusted us with individual talents. When used well, our talents help us to find our purpose in life. We can be certain that when we use our talents to share God's love, we will be rewarded.



# 1 Our Special Time Together

Enjoy reading the Gospel overleaf (or below for younger children)

Jesus said to his disciples, "There was once a man who set out on a journey. Before he left, he summoned his servants; to one he gave five talents (a large amount of money in those days), to another he gave two talents and to a third he gave one talent. After a long time he returned. The servant who had received five talents had made five more, and the servant who had two talents had made two more. The master was delighted and said to them, 'Well done, good and faithful servants; come and share your master's joy.' But the servant who had been given one talent had just buried it in the ground and then dug it up and returned it to his master. The master was angry and had that lazy servant thrown out."

**What did the good servants do with their talents?** Which words stood out for you in this Gospel, and why? See the picture opposite. What does it make you think about?



# 2 Wednesday's Word is ...

## TALENT



# 3 Loving God & Each Other

"Life is a talent entrusted to us so that we can transform it and increase it, making it a gift to others."

*Pope St John Paul II*

Ask your child what the word 'talent' means to them. Everybody has some God-given gifts or talents. They might not be as obvious as being good at sport, or acting, or singing, but they are just as valuable and please God greatly (e.g. helping out someone who is new to school, being able to cheer people up, or simply being a patient listener or a good friend). As a family, name each other's special talents. Each of you say which talent you are especially grateful to God for.

"Whatever gifts and talents we are given by God are to be shared with the community."

*St Baldwin of Canterbury*

When we share our individual talents, our families and communities are enriched. Each of you talk about a talent that you admire in a friend, a teacher or someone in your community who uses their talents well - to serve God and help others. Is there a talent you would like to develop? Who could you ask to help you? In this coming week, how could you use your talents to show your love for God and for the good of others at home, at school or in the community?

Dear Lord Jesus, help us to develop our talents and to know how we can use them for the good of others in this coming week. Amen.

## Gospel Gallery

S O M S T N E L A T S S  
 D M T R E D O U B L E D  
 E E A V E R M A W S R E  
 L S L S L P V G D O V N  
 B V E I T E V A G M A O  
 U G N M G E R V N E N M  
 O A T H E H R F S T T M  
 D V S M A S T E R P S U  
 N E S V O R O E V D R S  
 W S U M M O N E D A M W  
 O D E L I G H T E D N S  
 S H G I L E D N E L A T

## WEDNESDAY WORDSEARCH

SMARTSEARCHERS FIND THESE EIGHT WORDS EITHER **ACROSS** OR **DOWN**

- SUMMONED SERVANTS
- GAVE TALENTS
- SOME DOUBLED
- MASTER DELIGHTED

SUPERSEARCHERS FIND THE WORDS **BACKWARDS** OR **DIAGONALLY**



Search for at least three differences between this picture and the colour one. Then draw them in before colouring.

Cross out the letters **d k w** in the jumbled words below to find 4 real words.  
**codmewk wjodyk faditwhfulk swhadrek**  
 'Well done, good and \_\_\_\_\_ servants;  
 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ your master's \_\_\_\_\_.'

Our happiness comes from giving, just as much as it comes from receiving. Each one of us has special talents. God wants us to use our talents to help people who are in need - people around us and people all over the world.

Write a promise and then draw a big smile on Smiley

This week I will try my best to...

.....  
 .....

