

Homily Summary – 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Overview: This homily reflects on Jesus' assurance in Luke 12:32 that the Father delights in giving us the Kingdom. It invites us to trust in God, live in readiness for Christ's second coming, and follow the example of Abraham's faith and Mary's openness. Readiness is not passive but active, marked by vigilance, obedience, charity, and repentance.

Main Points

1. **God's Generosity and Desire for Our Salvation**
 - God is not reluctant to save; He *"wills everyone to be saved"* (1 Timothy 2:4).
 - Our lives should reflect readiness to receive the Kingdom.
2. **Faith Like Abraham**
 - Abraham *"went out, not knowing where he was to go"* (Hebrews 11:8).
 - Trust is placed in the Person of God, not merely in a detailed plan.
3. **Living in Readiness**
 - The Creed reminds us: Jesus will *"come again to judge the living and the dead."*
 - Jesus warns: *"You also must be prepared"* (Luke 12:40).
 - Readiness is cultivated daily, not delayed.
4. **Active Waiting and Charity**
 - God's people *"awaited the salvation of the just"* (Wisdom 18:7).
 - Our waiting involves active service, faith, and charity.
5. **Avoiding Excuses**
 - Delaying readiness is dangerous (Luke 12:39).
 - Jesus teaches: *"Seek first the kingdom of God"* (Matthew 6:33).
6. **Practical Tools for Readiness**
 - Frequent Confession helps keep the soul ready for Christ's coming.
 - Mary shows us perfect readiness with her "yes" at the Annunciation (Luke 1:38)

Bible Verses

- Luke 12:32 — *"Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom."*
- 1 Timothy 2:4 — God *"wills everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."*
- Hebrews 11:8 — Abraham *"went out, not knowing where he was to go."*
- Luke 12:40 — *"You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."*
- Luke 12:39 — *"If the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming..."*
- Matthew 6:33 — *"Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness..."*
- Wisdom 18:7 — *"Your people awaited the salvation of the just."*
- Luke 1:38 — *"Let it be to me according to your word."*

Catechism References

- **CCC 1021–1022** — Particular judgment at the end of our life.
- **CCC 1040–1041** — Final judgment and readiness for Christ's return.
- **CCC 1422–1498** — The Sacrament of Penance as preparation for eternal life.
- **CCC 2612** — Vigilance in prayer and Christian life.
- **CCC 2676** — Mary's "yes" at the Annunciation as a model for discipleship.

Reflection Questions

1. If Christ came in the next 30 minutes, would I be ready?
2. Where is my treasure — in heaven or on earth?
3. Do I live more like a pilgrim on the way to heaven, or as if this is my permanent home?
4. Am I delaying spiritual readiness with excuses?
5. When was my last good Confession, and how can I make it a regular habit?

Rhyme summary:

The Master comes at an unknown hour,
Bringing His kingdom in love and power.
Our lamps must burn, our hearts stay true,
With faith that's seen in all we do.
Confession keeps the soul's lamp bright,
and Mary shows us how to live readiness right.
In heaven's glory our hope will stay,
Prepared for Christ, the Truth, the Life, the Way.

Reasons to come to Mass each weekend

Hebrews 10:24-25 - "And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Exodus 20:8 - "Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy."

Luke 22:19 - "Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'"

Acts 2:42 - "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

John 6:53-54 - "So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.'"

Psalms 122:1 - "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

Matthew 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Colossians 3:16 - "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God."

Additional resources to learn more about God and the Catholic faith

- Check out the resource list available on www.frmerkley.com
- Catholic Answers: <https://www.catholic.com/>
- Word on Fire: <https://www.wordonfire.org/>
- Formed: <https://formed.org/>
- The Coming Home Network: <https://chnetwork.org/>
- Catholic Exchange: <https://catholicexchange.com/>
- Dynamic Catholic: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/>
- The Augustine Institute: <https://augustineinstitute.org/>
- Ascension Press: <https://ascensionpress.com/>
- EWTN: <https://www.ewtn.com/>
- The Catholic Company: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/>
- Busted Halo: <https://bustedhalo.com/>
- CatholicCulture.org: <https://www.catholicculture.org/>
- The Thomistic Institute: <https://thomisticinstitute.org/>
- Ignatius Press: <https://www.ignatius.com/>
- Catholic Education Resource Center (CERC): <https://www.catholiceducation.org/>