

“Walking with Christ.”

The Poor Widow...

By: Deacon Rick Lawlor

This weekend's Gospel is centered on this notion of gifts, giving and generosity, so consider this story. *Three sons left home, went out into the world and prospered. Getting back together, they discussed the gifts that they were able to give to their elderly mother. The first said: “I built a big house for our mother. “The second said: “I sent her a Mercedes with a driver. “The third said: “I’ve got you both beat. You know how Mom enjoys the Bible and you know she can’t see very well. I sent her a talking parrot that can recite the entire Bible. It took twenty monks in a monastery 12 years to teach him. I had to pledge to contribute \$100,000 a year for twenty years but it was worth it. Mom just has to name the chapter and verse, and the parrot will recite it. “Soon thereafter, Mom sent out her letters of thanks. She wrote to the first son: “Milton, the house you built is too big. I live in only one room, but I have to clean the whole house. “She wrote to the second son: “Marvin, I am too old to travel. I stay home all the time, so I never used the Mercedes and the driver is so rude. She wrote to the third son: “Dearest Melvin, you were the only son to have the good sense to know what your mother really likes... The chicken was delicious.”*

Giving gifts is a beautiful, symbolic gesture of love, it's a reminder that I love you and I'm grateful for you, or in some cases I'm sorry that I have hurt you. The theme of our readings this weekend is one of giving. The gifts we give one another and the biggest gift of all, the gifts we have received from God and the greatest gift of all these is our salvation. Jesus gave us everything, he gave his life for us to save us from our sins. Today we are reminded and called to give everything back. In our Gospel this weekend the poor widow is our example, because she gave everything she had. It was not a large monetary cash donation, rather she went to the temple and gave God all that she had, she had given her love and devotion, for she truly walked as a child of God. She gave all that she had knowing it was a leap of faith and Jesus is much more interested in our love and devotion than he is in our money. My friends, today we are called to trust in God and to love one another freely regardless of the cost. For when we do this, when we truly love freely we are giving everything we have to God and when we place our trust in the Lord everything will work out just fine.

May Almighty God Bless you today and Always.

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:3)

