



## SMALL GROUP NEWSLETTER ST. MARY OF THE VISITATION PARISH CAMBRIDGE, (H) ONT.

### CHRIST THE KING

November 26th, 2017

#### Introduction to the Word:

We are going to spend the next few weeks talking about the Season ahead under the title of “Company’s Coming.” Each week we are going to look at aspects or virtues we need to have in our life as we get ready for The Feast of the Nativity of Jesus! This Season can be overwhelming - like trying to get to the front of customer service counter on Black Friday - but we need to look even in the midst of it - at what really counts. This week we talk about Hope and how in order to possess it, we must be like Christ and King and seek Humility as a primary characteristic of our life.



#### Warm Up Activity: (5-10 minutes)

- What do the terms “humility” and “hope” mean to you?
- How do they apply to last week when we looked at the words “consumer” and “contributor” and how does it all apply to the life of Discipleship in a parish family?

#### Let us pray together our Heart to Home Prayer:

*God Our Heavenly Father, we long to make our thoughts your thoughts,  
and our ways your ways. As we prepare with attentive mind and open heart  
to hear your Word Lord, we long to be empowered with your Spirit  
so that we may bring your Word to our families, our parish and our communities.  
This, our prayer, we make through the intercession of Our Lady of the Visitation and in name of  
Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

#### GOSPEL (Matthew 25:31–46)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to His disciples: “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

“Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to



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one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ “Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### [Consider hearing again the Sunday Message as Small Group](#)

#### **Questions for Discussion:** *(15-20 minutes)*

- In this week we will lay out some initial thoughts on the virtue of hope and making hope a habit. How can we make Hope a habit?
- We are pilgrims on a journey who have not yet arrived. Hope points us towards the fact that we are not there yet, that life isn't all it is supposed to be. What do you find as encouraging things which lead you to live in Hope?
- We need to awaken our desires and tap into them if we are to have hope. What is your hope (not wish) for this Christmas? Identify someone who needs to hear the message of hope Christmas.

#### **Moving Forward in Prayer** *(15-20 minutes)*

*(This time is reserved for quiet prayer as well as for an action-response to the communal reflections. You may wish to create and add petitions of prayer at this time. This time also intent to provide moments to connect and “outreach” to the larger community.)*

- Start talking about Advent and how your group wants to make it special – consider the [Kindness Counts Campaign and Red Stocking](#) project which will begin very soon.

#### *GROUP PRAYER COMMITMENT*

- Offer a Holy Hour in Adoration for the intentions of our Parish and its Pastor.
- Pray the [Prayer of Humility](#) that was distributed this past weekend in your daily prayers

Leader: **Let us seek the intercession of the Patroness of our Parish as we pray: [Hail Mary](#)**

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