



32nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME ***YEAR B – November 11, 2018***

Two of our readings today are about good stewards who place the needs of others above their own. Both of them are widows.

The first reading concerns a widow who shared with the prophet Elijah all the food she had to live on.

The gospel reading concerns a widow who gave to the Temple in Jerusalem all the money she had to live on.

Each of these widows gave with the same generous heart. Each had a perfectly legitimate reason to excuse herself from giving, but each refused to exercise that excuse. They knew that the important thing was not what they had to give but the love with which they gave it. Each knew that what counted in God's eyes was not the size of the gift but the size of the giver's heart. Each one gave not from her surplus but from her substance - actually what she could not really afford to give.

They gave with the same generosity that God gives to us. As a result, God blessed each widow with the same generosity that they had shown Him.

To follow the example of these two women requires a great act of faith. Do we believe that God will do the same thing for us if we are as generous as the two widows. Each of us must answer that question for ourselves.

Someone once said, there are three kinds of givers: grudge givers, duty givers, and thanks givers. Grudge givers say, I hate to give and so I won't. Duty givers say I ought to give, let me think about it. And thanks givers say, I want to give because I can.

Grudge givers give reluctantly and with a certain feeling of resentment. Duty givers give reluctantly, but with a certain feeling of obligation. Thanks givers give from the heart without any feeling of resentment or obligation.



No one can tell you what you should give or to whom you should give. You must decide that between yourself and God. God does not ask us to give everything we have. He asks us to share what we have with those who need help and deserve it.

Everything we have comes from God. It is God's gift to us. What we do with it is our gift to God.

For a few moments in silence, reflect on how you use the gifts that God has given you.

TIME – TALENT – TREASURE