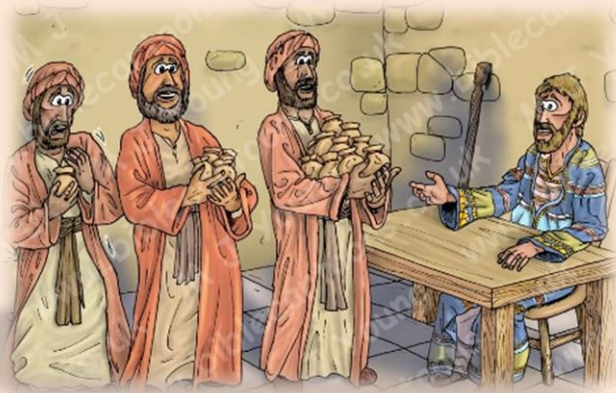


**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,
November 15, 2020**

YOU'VE GOT TALENT



The parable of the talents reminds us to use the “talents” that God has given us. Those who use their talents increase their skills, achieve success, and are rewarded. Those who do nothing with the gifts God has given them end up losing what they have been given.

While Sunday’s Gospel could be interpreted as a motivational story, it takes on a different meaning when we ask ourselves who the “man going on a journey” might be. We come to know who he is when we realize that immediately after this parable, Jesus speaks about the Son of Man coming in glory to separate the sheep from the goats.

Jesus is the man going on the journey. A journey that will encompass his passion, death, resurrection, and finally his ascension when he will leave to go back to the Father – but Jesus will return.

We are now in that “long time” as we wait for Jesus to return in glory. And we are the servants entrusted with “talents” by Jesus, our master.

Those talents are not sums of money or particular aptitudes and skills, but rather the faith that Jesus has blessed us with and called us to put into action. We do that by sharing the message of the Gospel with others and by using the opportunities we are given to make God’s love, mercy, and peace more present in our society.

As always, I pledge my continued prayers for you and wish you a blessed and successful school year, fruitful in learning and moral growth.

Father John Carlos