

**The Reflection from Pastor Fr. John  
Carlos, Holy Cross Church, Harrison, NJ,  
November 8, 2020**

WISE ADVISE



Whether we are wise or foolish also depends upon the quality of the advice we receive and follow. That is true in our everyday lives and it is particularly true in our spiritual lives.

The wise advice that reveals how to live a holy, fulfilling, and joyful life is found in the Gospels and in the Church.

The Gospels give us the teaching and example of Jesus Christ, "the way, the truth, and the life." He is God's wisdom made visible; he reveals how human life is to be lived.

Then in the teachings of the Church, we have the accumulated wisdom of the billions of Christians who have gone before us during the past 2,000 years.

While the wise follow that good advice, the foolish ignore that instruction and follow the advice of the world.

The world advises us to live for today, to place our needs above those of others, to make ourselves the arbiters of what is true and good, to imitate the celebrities of the moment, and to dismiss eternity and judgment as quaint notions unsuited to a secular age that has no need of God.

In Sunday's Gospel, five virgins act wisely and are admitted to the wedding banquet, while the five who act foolishly find themselves looking at a locked door.

If we are to be admitted and judged worthy of a place at God's heavenly banquet we need to act according to the advice and wisdom given us by Christ and his Church.

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