

# FAITH FORMATION RESOURCE GUIDE

BLESSED TRINITY PARISH, CLEVELAND



## WHY THIS TOOL NOW?

It is fair to ask: Why this fuss about the Sunday readings? We get a solid homily at Mass. Isn't that enough?

We are blessed to hear good preaching at Blessed Trinity! But let's be honest. Sometimes, we are distracted. What happened in our lives before we walked through the church doors weighs on our minds. Maybe we can't hear what's being said. (Did you know we have listening-assistance devices available for that?) There are reasons that we don't get it all the first time we hear the texts.

This publication empowers each of us to go deeper. The texts are multi-dimensional. With a variety of resources, you may find one that speaks to you and draws you into prayer in a way you weren't led to at Mass.

In addition, a revised New Testament translation will be published in February. With this publication, we can take a closer look at the changes and the significance of the language used in prayer.

Welcome to week three!



## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10a

Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

Second Reading: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/100426.cfm>

The Theologians' Corner - The Global Sisters Report - by Sr. Nancy Mbagara

"In our lives, how often do we turn down God's invitation, listening to the word of God without allowing it to transform us? How often do we receive the Holy Eucharist without becoming the bread to be broken? Our work, our businesses, our friends should never take precedence to the extent of lacking room for God, otherwise we miss the banquet. To whom and to what do we dedicate our time?

God never gives up on us; he constantly invites us to come to the banquet. He calls us, but he will not respond on our behalf, we must respond freely. His grace is sufficient for us, lest we allow ourselves to be transformed by it. We have all been invited and our lack of wedding garments should not be a hindrance. We should be ready for transformation.

The faith we have received should become our life. True transformation does not come in entering the banquet hall, but in resembling the master who invites us."

## Question of the Week

How do I prepare myself to meet Jesus?

From *Working with the Word*, SLU Initiatives:

"... In the gospel, it is the "king" who prepares the feast for his son's wedding. Clearly, these feasts are no ordinary events. In addition to showcasing the lavishness of the feast the stories highlight the graciousness of God who invites and provides for the guests. In the ancient Near East the wedding celebration lasted for several days and featured all the appropriate meals for each day. Thus, those who may have missed the opening celebrations can still change their minds and respond to the reissued invitation. In this respect this Sunday's gospel is like last Sunday's:

in both parables two sets of servants are dispatched and are each rebuffed; the culprits in both are dispossessed and others are either given the vineyard or invited to the feast. But whereas last Sunday's parable only promised a coming judgment, this parable describes the actual destruction of the city (Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D.). The banquet is prepared; the invitations have been issued. The king has done all that can be expected. The response is in the hands of the guests."

We are the invited...how do we respond? Do we go our own way or join in the feast?

## ACTION IDEAS

### For Individuals

We meet Jesus in many aspects of our day. Do we recognize Him? Actively look for God around you, and prepare to be surprised by the many ways He is present.

### For Couples

Make time for date night. It doesn't have to be a fancy occasion, just time to appreciate that you have a partner to walk with you, a tangible Jesus in your life.

### Family Focus

Take time to meet Jesus together in prayer. Create a prayer corner in your home or revisit the [rosary](#).

### Evangelizing

Instead of joining the conversation that tears someone down, tell them they are worthwhile. Build up a person who is being persecuted.

### Make a Change

Volunteer at the Bountiful Basement. You will be the face of Jesus to someone who needs to feel His love.

### Crossing Generations

Make a call or send a text to someone who is sick or alone. It might be someone elderly, but don't forget that our young folks are often isolated as well.

### Do It!

Tomorrow I am going to....DO IT TODAY!



# CONNECT TO PFLAUM GOSPEL WEEKLIES

Even if your student participates in a religion curriculum at school, the material on this page is relevant. It gives an opportunity for looking at the weekend texts from a personal perspective. It also gives students the opportunity to apply what they learn in the classroom in practical terms. This section also highlights insights across age groups, making family discussion possible.

Don't forget that Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered at the 11 am Mass. Our exceptional leaders take the primary school-aged children from the assembly and address the readings with them in a way that is not as "heavy" as what the adults hear in the homily. The children return to celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist together with their families.

We recommend the student curriculum program for teaching lessons at home. You can learn more at <https://www.gospelweeklies.com/weeklies-revised-reimagined/>. The parish can purchase these at a discounted rate if enough families are interested. Contact Terri at the parish office for more information. You'll also get lots of other free resources, like teaching guides and activity suggestions, when you subscribe.



This Sunday's Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14  
 "The Gospel proclaims another of Jesus' parables—the story of the wedding feast. A king sent his servants out to invite people to his son's wedding. He really wanted to share his great joy. The king was surprised and hurt when many refused his invitation. After his further invitations met with disaster, the king dispatched his servants to go into the streets and get enough guests to fill the hall. Even then, somebody showed up without a wedding garment. God invites many to the great feast between Jesus and humankind, but even then it is possible to refuse the invitation." (The Gospel at Home, copyright © 2026 Pflaum Publishing Group, a division of Bayard, Inc.)

SEEDS (Pre-school): Jesus is the Son of the King in the Gospel story. Every week, He throws a banquet for us at Mass. How do you get ready for Mass? How is it a celebration?

PROMISE (K-grade 1): The King invited everyone to His party, but some would not come. Has it ever been hard for you to go to Mass on Sunday? What do you like about going to Mass that makes you more eager?

GOOD NEWS (Grades 2 and 3): Have you ever gone to a party and not known anyone else there? The King invites everyone to the feast. Whom might you invite to go to Mass with you or to meet you at Church next weekend?

VENTURE (Grades 4 through 6): Do you appreciate the special Food that is ours in Holy Communion? It is God with us. Does your attitude reflect how awesome this is?

VISIONS (Grades 7 through 9): Do you feel different about eating fast food vs. Christmas dinner? Walking in procession to receive Communion is not a drive-through line. It reminds us that we are together on a journey to our heavenly home. The Eucharist nourishes us along the way. Be mindful of these actions.



## KIDS VIDEO LINKS

[The Bible Bag](#) (Gospel lesson for young children)  
[Lesson and Saint of the Week](#)  
[Holy Heroes Gospel Video](#)

[28th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cycle A](#) All readings Diocese of Bridgeport

[The Parable of the Wedding Banquet](#)  
[Albert's Expeditions](#) Videos about creation/creatures

[Lessons and Activities](#) Diocese of Bridgeport

[The Kids' Bulletin](#)

[Songs and Fingerplays for Young Children](#) Pflaum Publications

[Sunday Connection](#) Loyola Press (Multiple age groups)

[Sunday Reflections St. Louis University Initiatives](#): Reflections, Challenges, Social Justice from these contributors and more: John Foley, S.J., Larry Gillick, S.J., Anne Osdieck, Ron Rohlheiser, OMI, John Pilch, John Kavanaugh, S.J.

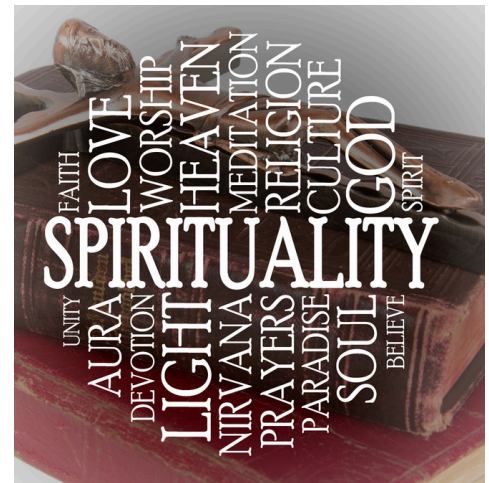
[Center for Action and Contemplation Podcasts](#)

[Center for Action and Contemplation Daily Meditations](#)

[3 Reflections on Wedding Banquet Parable by Pope Francis](#)



QR CODE TO  
 CATHOLIC MOM  
 MULTIPLE ACTIVITIES OR  
[SUNDAY MASS ACTIVITIES](#)



## ACTIVITY AND SPIRITUALITY LINKS

[TRY THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS](#)



## MUSIC AND VIDEO LINKS

[Come to the Feast](#) – Marty Haugen  
[Come to the Feast](#) -- video (2:57) Bob Hurd  
[I Cannot Come](#) – Sr. Miriam Therese Winter  
[This Is Our God](#) – video (4:32) Phil Wickham

[Dynamic Catholic Gospel Reflection](#)