

**FOR THE WEEKEND OF FEB 19-20, 2022**

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Gospel reading (Lectionary 81)**

Lk 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples:
“To you who hear I say,
love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
To the person who strikes you on one cheek,
offer the other one as well,
and from the person who takes your cloak,
do not withhold even your tunic.
Give to everyone who asks of you,
and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.
For if you love those who love you,
what credit is that to you?
Even sinners love those who love them.
And if you do good to those who do good to you,
what credit is that to you?
Even sinners do the same.
If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment,
what credit is that to you?
Even sinners lend to sinners,
and get back the same amount.
But rather, love your enemies and do good to them,
and lend expecting nothing back;
and your reward will be great
and you will be children of the Most High,
for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.
Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Stop judging and you will not be judged.
Stop condemning and you will not be condemned.
Forgive and you will be forgiven.
Give, and gifts will be given to you;
a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing,
will be poured into your lap.
For the measure with which you measure
will in return be measured out to you.

**Intercession**

For our Annual Diocesan Appeal, that inspired by Christ’s instruction to give without looking for repayment, we might generously support this important effort.

**Copy for bulletin announcement**

“What is love?” That phrase isn’t just the opening to an early ‘90s Eurodance song. It’s a question that the human heart has asked throughout history. Is it a feeling? A bond experienced between family and friends and romantic partners?

In today’s Gospel, Jesus gives us the unique, Christian answer: love gives without counting the cost. It seeks the good of the other without looking for repayment in return. This is the kind of love that Jesus encourages His disciples to have, “for the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.”

We’re called to love like this in all our relationships. With our spouse, our children, our coworkers, and with others in our community. If you’re looking for another concrete way to love—to give without counting the cost—consider contributing to our Annual Diocesan Appeal. Reread today’s Gospel and see where the Lord leads you.

**Copy for pulpit announcement**

Our Annual Diocesan Appeal is in full swing. If you’re looking for an opportunity to put Christ’s instruction to give without looking for repayment into action, consider contributing to the appeal today.

**Social media post/content**

Photo: Someone giving to someone else, maybe a person on the street

Text: “For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.”

Copy: Give without expectation and see where the Lord leads you.