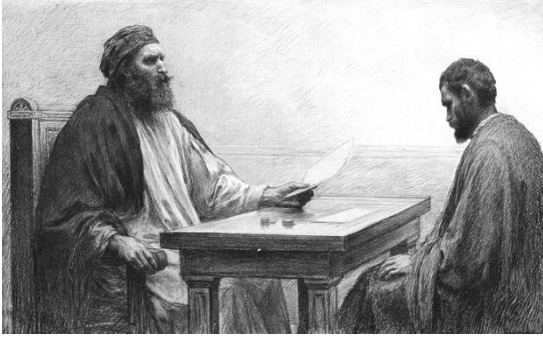




# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

## THIS SUNDAY September 18 & BEYOND



The gospel lesson for this Sunday contains a verse (Luke 16:10) that I purposefully call to mind every day: “He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.” It’s an important admonition not to devalue any of the day’s tasks and interactions, or think that they’re somehow separate from our relationship with God. While I can appreciate how this might sound like an impossible burden, for me, being reminded that even the smallest of things matter actually lifts that weight off my shoulders.

I find this so encouraging because it means that my whole life is of the utmost importance to God. What he wants most is the one thing I can give him that he can’t get for himself – my heart. He doesn’t want just the best parts, and he’s not interested in waiting for what’s still under construction. God wants the whole thing, right now, “as is,” so that he can show us that not even one moment of our lives has been left empty or meaningless. When we faithfully invite him in, nothing is so little that God can’t use it to bring us closer, which is especially comforting when it seems like being “faithful in a very little” is the best I can do.

Being faithful in a little and in much can happen at the same time when we do whatever we can with what we have. When we do that, God celebrates with great joy even what seem like tiny things or baby steps to us, but we have to be single-minded about it. Jesus warns that we can’t serve two masters, but will eventually love one and hate the other (see Luke 16:13). Whenever we hold something back or set limits on what God can ask of us, we’re setting the stage for that very thing.

Much of our growth in the spiritual life then is becoming aware of those limits and asking God for help in removing them. If that seems impossible, we can start by doing what we can with what we have. Am I praying, meditating, and reading the Bible every day? Do I attend Mass as often as I can? Have I resolved not to sin at all (even in the smallest way!), or to do anything that might offend or displease God? Do I actively seek to love and serve those around me? By inviting God more fully into the places he’s already welcome, we can keep growing in love and learn to share our burdens, and so allow him to make much of even our little faith.

Father McQueen

## Readings for this Sunday

Amos 8:4-12   Psalm 138   1 Timothy 2:1-8   Luke 16:1-13

## Calendar

SUNDAY:            8:00a Low Mass (Church)  
                      9:30a Christian Formation (Fireside Room)  
                      10:30a Solemn Mass (Church)  
                              —The entrance to the church is on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue—  
*Note: Child care is provided at the 8:00a, 10:30a Mass, Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.*  
                      2:00p Grossmont College Chamber Music Concert (Church)

MONDAY            7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY:        Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

FRIDAY:            9:00a Morning Prayer (St. Mary's Chapel)  
                      9:30a MASS (St. Mary's Chapel)  
                      AA Meetings 6:30p Rainbow Bridge (Fireside Room)  
                              8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)  
                              8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)

## GROSSMONT COLLEGE CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

Sunday, September 18 at 2:00pm



Enjoy an afternoon concert by four leading members of the Grossmont musical family as they perform chamber music for voice, piano and violin. This unique concert event opens the 2016-2017 performance season of the Grossmont Symphony Orchestral & Master Chorale. Featuring music faculty member Audra Nagby, soprano, in addition to GSO concertmaster, Ondrej Lewit, violin, plus baritone, Michael Sokol and pianist Irina Bendetsky; the concert includes music from Bach and Beethoven to Faure, Spohr, Wolf and more.

Admission: \$10 General, \$5 Student