

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS:
SEPTEMBER 14TH

John 12:20-32 **The Coming of Jesus' Hour**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

The Apostle writes:

Among those who went up
to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

They came to Philip,
who was from Bethsaida in Galilee,
and said to him,

“Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”

Philip went and told Andrew;
then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

Jesus answered them,

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Very truly, I tell you,
unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies,
it remains just a single grain;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Those who love their life lose it,
and those who hate their life in this world
will keep it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me,
and where I am, there will my servant be also.

Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled.

And what should I say —
‘Father, save me from this hour’?
No, it is for this reason
that I have come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name.”
Then a voice came from heaven,
“I have glorified it,
and I will glorify it again.”

The crowd standing there heard it
and said that it was thunder.
Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”
Jesus answered,
“This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.
Now is the judgment of this world;
now the ruler of this world will be driven out.
And I, when I am lifted up from the earth,
will draw all people to myself.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEEK OF THE HOLY CROSS
SEPTEMBER 15TH

John 3:11-21 **Nicodemus**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEEK OF THE HOLY CROSS
SEPTEMBER 16TH

John 8:21-30 **Jesus, the Father's Ambassador**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

Again Jesus said to them, "I am going away, and you will search for me, but you will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come." Then the Jews said, "Is he going to kill himself? Is that what he means by saying, 'Where I am going, you cannot come'?" He said to them, "You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world. I told you that you would die in your sins, for you will die in your sins unless you believe that I am he." They said to him, "Who are you?" Jesus said to them, "Why do I speak to you at all? I have much to say about you and much to condemn; but the one who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." They did not understand that he was speaking to them about the Father. So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will realize that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own, but I speak these things as the Father instructed me. And the one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what is pleasing to him." As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEEK OF THE HOLY CROSS
SEPTEMBER 17TH

John 12:31-36 **The Coming of Jesus' Hour**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.” After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEEK OF THE HOLY CROSS
SEPTEMBER 18TH

Mark 8:31-38 **The First Prediction of the Passion/
The Conditions of Discipleship**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

The Evangelist writes:

Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEEK OF THE HOLY CROSS
SEPTEMBER 19TH

John 18:33-38 **The Trial before Pilate**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

The Apostle writes:

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate asked him, “What is truth?” After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, “I find no case against him.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEEK OF THE HOLY CROSS
SEPTEMBER 20TH

Luke 23:36-43 **The Trial before Pilate**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Evangelist writes:

The soldiers also mocked Jesus, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FIRST WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS:
SUNDAY

Mark 10:35-45 **Ambition of James and John**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

The Evangelist writes:

James and John, the sons of Zebedee,
came forward to Jesus and said to him,

“Teacher, we want you to do for us
whatever we ask of you.”

And he said to them,

“What is it you want me to do for you?”

And they said to him,

“Grant us to sit, one at your right hand
and one at your left, in your glory.”

But Jesus said to them,

“You do not know what you are asking.

Are you able to drink the cup that I drink,

or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”

They replied, “We are able.”

Then Jesus said to them,

“The cup that I drink you will drink;

and with the baptism with which I am baptized,

you will be baptized;

but to sit at my right hand or at my left

is not mine to grant,

but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

When the ten heard this,

they began to be angry with James and John.
So Jesus called them and said to them,
“You know that among the Gentiles
those whom they recognize as their rulers
lord it over them,
and their great ones are tyrants over them.

But it is not so among you;
but whoever wishes to become great among you
must be your servant,
and whoever wishes to be first among you
must be slave of all.
For the Son of Man came not to be served
but to serve,
and to give his life a ransom for many.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

MONDAY: FIRST WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Mark 8:34-9:1 **The Conditions of Discipleship**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

The Evangelist writes:

Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” And he said to them, “Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

TUESDAY: FIRST WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Mark 9:33-37 **The Greatest in the Kingdom**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

The Evangelist writes:

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house Jesus asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEDNESDAY: FIRST WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Mark 9:38-50 **Another Exorcist/Temptations to Sin**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

The Evangelist writes:

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell., And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

THURSDAY: FIRST WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Mark 10:17-27 **The Rich Man**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

The Evangelist writes:

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FRIDAY: FIRST WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Mark 10:28-31 **The Rich Man**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

The Evangelist writes:

Peter began to say to Jesus, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age — houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions — and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SATURDAY: FIRST WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 20:1-16 **The Workers in the Vineyard**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SECOND WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS:
SUNDAY

Matthew 24:1-14 **The Destruction of the Temple Foretold/
The Beginning of Calamities**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Apostle writes:

As Jesus came out of the temple and was going away,
his disciples came to point out to him
the buildings of the temple.

Then he asked them,

“You see all these, do you not?

Truly I tell you,

not one stone will be left here upon another;
all will be thrown down.”

When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives,
the disciples came to him privately, saying,

“Tell us, when will this be,
and what will be the sign of your coming
and of the end of the age?”

Jesus answered them,

“Beware that no one leads you astray.

For many will come in my name, saying,

‘I am the Messiah!’

and they will lead many astray.

And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars;

see that you are not alarmed;

for this must take place,

but the end is not yet.
For nation will rise against nation,
and kingdom against kingdom,
and there will be famines
and earthquakes in various places:
all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs.
Then they will hand you over to be tortured
and will put you to death,
and you will be hated by all nations
because of my name.”

“Then many will fall away,
and they will betray one another
and hate one another.
And many false prophets will arise
and lead many astray.
And because of the increase of lawlessness,
the love of many will grow cold.
But the one who endures to the end will be saved.
And this good news of the kingdom
will be proclaimed throughout the world,
as a testimony to all the nations;
and then the end will come.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

MONDAY: SECOND WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 10:16-22 **Coming Persecutions**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

TUESDAY: SECOND WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 11:20-24 **Reproaches to Unrepentant Towns**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Apostle writes:

Then Jesus began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done, because they did not repent. “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades. For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEDNESDAY: SECOND WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 12:29-32 **Jesus and Beelzebul**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“How can one enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property, without first tying up the strong man? Then indeed the house can be plundered. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

THURSDAY: SECOND WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 12:33-37 **A Tree and Its Fruits**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Either make the tree good, and its fruit good; or make the tree bad, and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers! How can you speak good things, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person brings good things out of a good treasure, and the evil person brings evil things out of an evil treasure. I tell you, on the day of judgment you will have to give an account for every careless word you utter; for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FRIDAY: SECOND WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 12:38-42 **The Demand for a Sign**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Apostle writes:

Some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Jesus, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth. The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here! The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SATURDAY: SECOND WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 12:43-45 **The Return of the Unclean Spirit**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it wanders through waterless regions looking for a resting place, but it finds none. Then it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ When it comes, it finds it empty, swept, and put in order. Then it goes and brings along seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and live there; and the last state of that person is worse than the first. So will it be also with this evil generation.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

THIRD WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS:
SUNDAY

Matthew 24:23-31 **The Coming of the Son of Man**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“If anyone says to you, ‘Look! Here is the Messiah!’
or ‘There he is!’ — do not believe it.

For false messiahs and false prophets will appear
and produce great signs and omens,
to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

Take note, I have told you beforehand.

So, if they say to you, ‘Look! He is in the wilderness,’
do not go out.

If they say, ‘Look! He is in the inner rooms,’
do not believe it.

For as the lightning comes from the east
and flashes as far as the west,
so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

“Immediately after the suffering of those days
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light;
the stars will fall from heaven,
and the powers of heaven will be shaken.

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven,
and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn,
and they will see ‘the Son of Man

coming on the clouds of heaven'
with power and great glory.
And he will send out his angels
with a loud trumpet call,
and they will gather his elect from the four winds,
from one end of heaven to the other.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

MONDAY: THIRD WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 24:32-44 **The Lesson of the Fig Tree/
The Unknown Day and Hour**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

TUESDAY: THIRD WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 6:20-26 **Sermon on the Plain**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

Jesus looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEDNESDAY: THIRD WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 5:33-39 **The Question about Fasting**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Evangelist writes:

They said to Jesus, “John’s disciples, like the disciples of the Pharisees, frequently fast and pray, but your disciples eat and drink. Jesus said to them, “You cannot make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days.” He also told them a parable: “No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine desires new wine, but says, ‘The old is good.’ ”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

THURSDAY: THIRD WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 21:34-38 **Exhortation to the Vigilant/
Ministry in Jerusalem**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.” Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FRIDAY: THIRD WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

John 5:17-23 **The Work of the Son**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

The Apostle writes:

Jesus answered them, “My Father is still working, and I also am working.” For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the sabbath, but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God. Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgment to the Son, so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SATURDAY: THIRD WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

John 5:24-30 **The Work of the Son**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life. Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will come out — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just, because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FOURTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS:
SUNDAY

Matthew 24:45-51 **The Faithful or the Unfaithful Servant**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Who then is the faithful and wise slave,
whom his master has put in charge of his household,
to give the other slaves their allowance of food
at the proper time?

Blessed is that slave
whom his master will find at work when he arrives.
Truly I tell you, he will put that one
in charge of all his possessions.

But if that wicked slave says to himself,
‘My master is delayed,’
and he begins to beat his fellow slaves,
and eats and drinks with drunkards,
the master of that slave will come on a day
when he does not expect him
and at an hour that he does not know.
He will cut him in pieces
and put him with the hypocrites,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

MONDAY: FOURTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

John 12:20-28 **The Coming of Jesus' Hour**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

The Apostle writes:

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

TUESDAY: FOURTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

John 16:20-24 **Jesus' Departure; Coming of the Advocate**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEDNESDAY: FOURTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 12:16-21 **Parable of the Rich Fool**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Evangelist writes:

Then Jesus told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

THURSDAY: FOURTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 13:6-9 **The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Evangelist writes:

Then Jesus told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FRIDAY: FOURTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 15:3-7 **The Parable of the Lost Sheep**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Evangelist writes:

Jesus told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SATURDAY: FOURTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 15:8-10 **The Parable of the Lost Coin**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Lord Jesus says:

“What woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FIFTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS:
SUNDAY

Matthew 25:1-13 **The Parable of the Ten Virgins**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“The kingdom of heaven will be like this.

Ten bridesmaids took their lamps
and went to meet the bridegroom.

Five of them were foolish,
and five were wise.

When the foolish took their lamps,
they took no oil with them;
but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

As the bridegroom was delayed,
all of them became drowsy and slept.

But at midnight there was a shout,
‘Look! Here is the bridegroom!
Come out to meet him.’

Then all those bridesmaids got up
and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish said to the wise,
‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’

But the wise replied,
‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us;
you had better go to the dealers
and buy some for yourselves.’

And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came,

and those who were ready
went with him into the wedding banquet;
and the door was shut.

Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying,
'Lord, lord, open to us.'
But he replied,
'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'
Keep awake therefore,
for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

MONDAY: FIFTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 16:1-12 **The Parable of the Dishonest Steward**

The Lord Jesus said to the disciples:

“There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

TUESDAY: FIFTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 18:1-8 **The Parable of the Persistent Widow**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Evangelist writes:

Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEDNESDAY: FIFTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Luke 19:11-28 **The Parable of the Ten Gold Coins**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke.

The Evangelist writes:

As they were listening to this, Jesus went on to tell a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. So he said, “A nobleman went to a distant country to get royal power for himself and then return. He summoned ten of his slaves, and gave them ten pounds, and said to them, ‘Do business with these until I come back.’ But the citizens of his country hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We do not want this man to rule over us.’ When he returned, having received royal power, he ordered these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to be summoned so that he might find out what they had gained by trading. The first came forward and said, ‘Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds.’ He said to him, ‘Well done, good slave! Because you have been trustworthy in a very small thing, take charge of ten cities.’ Then the second came, saying, ‘Lord, your pound has made five pounds.’ He said to him, ‘And you, rule over five cities.’ Then the other came, saying, ‘Lord, here is your pound. I wrapped it up in a piece of cloth, for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; you take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.’ He said to him, ‘I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave! You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money into the bank? Then when I returned, I could have collected it with interest.’ He said to the bystanders, ‘Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds.’ (And they said to him, ‘Lord, he has ten pounds!’) ‘I

tell you, to all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. But as for these enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them — bring them here and slaughter them in my presence.’” After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

THURSDAY: FIFTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Mark 4:21-25 **Parable of the Lamp**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Is a lamp brought in to be put under the bushel basket, or under the bed, and not on the lampstand? For there is nothing hidden, except to be disclosed; nor is anything secret, except to come to light. Let anyone with ears to hear listen!” And he said to them, “Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you. For to those who have, more will be given; and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FRIDAY: FIFTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Mark 4:26-29 **Seed Grows of Itself**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Mark.

Jesus also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SATURDAY: FIFTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 22:1-14 **The Parable of the Wedding Feast**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Apostle writes:

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SIXTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS:
SUNDAY

Matthew 25:14-30 **The Parable of the Talents**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus Says:

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey,
summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them;
to one he gave five talents, to another two,
to another one, to each according to his ability.

Then he went away.

The one who had received the five talents
went off at once and traded with them,
and made five more talents.

In the same way, the one who had the two talents
made two more talents.

But the one who had received the one talent
went off and dug a hole in the ground
and hid his master’s money.

After a long time
the master of those slaves came
and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents
came forward, bringing five more talents, saying,
‘Master, you handed over to me five talents;
see, I have made five more talents.’

His master said to him,

‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things,
I will put you in charge of many things;
enter into the joy of your master.’

And the one with the two talents
also came forward, saying,
'Master, you handed over to me two talents;
see, I have made two more talents.'

His master said to him,
'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things,
I will put you in charge of many things;
enter into the joy of your master.'

Then the one who had received the one talent
also came forward, saying,
'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man,
reaping where you did not sow,
and gathering where you did not scatter seed;
so I was afraid,
and I went and hid your talent in the ground.
Here you have what is yours.'

But his master replied,
'You wicked and lazy slave!
You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow,
and gather where I did not scatter?
Then you ought to have invested my money
with the bankers, and on my return I would have received
what was my own with interest.
So take the talent from him,
and give it to the one with the ten talents.

For to all those who have, more will be given,
and they will have an abundance;
but from those who have nothing,
even what they have will be taken away.
As for this worthless slave,
throw him into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

This is the Truth. Peace be with you.

MONDAY: Sixth Week After the Holy Cross

Matthew 13:1-9 **The Parable of the Sower**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Apostle writes:

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

TUESDAY: SIXTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 13:10-17 **The Purpose of Parables**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Apostle writes:

Then the disciples came and asked Jesus, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” He answered, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. The reason I speak to them in parables is that ‘seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.’ With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says: ‘You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive. For this people’s heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn — and I would heal them.’ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEDNESDAY: SIXTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 13:18-23 **The Explanation of the Parable of the Sower**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

THURSDAY: SIXTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 13:24-30 **The Parable of the Weeds Among the Wheat**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

Jesus put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FRIDAY: SIXTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 13:31-35 **The Parable of the Mustard Seed and Yeast/ The Use of Parables**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

Jesus put before them another parable:

“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.” Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: “I will open my mouth to speak in parables; I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SATURDAY: SIXTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 13:36-43 **The Explanation of the Parable of the Weeds**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Apostle writes:

Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SEVENTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS:
SUNDAY

Matthew 25:31-46 **The Judgment of the Nations**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory,
and all the angels with him,
then he will sit on the throne of his glory.
All the nations will be gathered before him,
and he will separate people one from another
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
and he will put the sheep at his right hand
and the goats at the left.

Then the king will say to those at his right hand,
‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father,
inherit the kingdom prepared for you
from the foundation of the world;
for I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
I was naked and you gave me clothing,
I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me.’

Then the righteous will answer him,
‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry
and gave you food,
or thirsty and gave you something to drink?’

And when was it that we saw you a stranger
and welcomed you,
or naked and gave you clothing?
And when was it that we saw you sick
or in prison and visited you?’

And the king will answer them,
‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it
to one of the least of these who are members of my family,
you did it to me.’

Then he will say to those at his left hand,
‘You that are accursed,
depart from me into the eternal fire
prepared for the devil and his angels;
for I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,
I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not give me clothing,
sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’

Then they also will answer,
‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry
or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison,
and did not take care of you?’

Then he will answer them,
‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it
to one of the least of these,
you did not do it to me.’

And these will go away into eternal punishment,
but the righteous into eternal life.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

MONDAY: SEVENTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 13:44-46 **More Parables**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

TUESDAY: SEVENTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 13:47-53 **More Parables/Treasures New and Old**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.” When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

WEDNESDAY: SEVENTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 18:23-35 **The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

THURSDAY: SEVENTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 22:15-22 **Paying Taxes to the Emperor**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Apostle writes:

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

FRIDAY: SEVENTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 21:28-32 **The Parable of the Two Sons**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

This is the truth. Peace be with you.

SATURDAY: SEVENTH WEEK AFTER THE HOLY CROSS

Matthew 21:33-46 **The Parable of the Tenants**

Let us be attentive to the Gospel of Life and Salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew.

The Lord Jesus says:

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

This is the truth. Peace be with you.