

CALL TO PRAYER

Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment, and listen attentively to this week's passage.



THE WORD OF GOD

Matthew 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and **elders** of the people in **parables**, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He **dispatched** his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. A second time he sent other servants, saying, 'Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast.'" Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged and sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to meet the guests, he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment. The king said to him, 'My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?' But he was reduced to silence. Then the king said to his attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into the darkness outside, where there will be **wailing** and grinding of teeth.' Many are invited, but few are chosen."

The Gospel of the Lord

FAITH SHARING

Questions of the Week

Choose one

1. Why is it important for you to do what Jesus asks of you?
2. Each week, we are invited to participate in Mass. When you are at Mass, how well do you really participate? How could you be more present in heart, mind, and spirit?
3. How could the Church help one to: "full active and conscious participation" in one's faith?
4. Using Jesus' parable as your starting point, describe in your own words who will be welcome and why they will be welcome at the eternal banquet of God.



CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, our help and guide, make your love the foundation of our lives. May our love for you express itself in our eagerness to do good for others. We ask this, as we ask all things, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

GOSPEL WORD SEARCH

S S N H R O S I Y E
 E T M O Z Y N V C N
 L S N B M V O N W D
 B E W A I M E X I H
 A U M T D L U S S T
 R G E N I N P S Y N
 A D L S T A E H P E
 P V W E T N T T R M
 O M E C I R S V T R
 K T H S O I C K B A
 H E U W A I L I N G
 D B S E R V A N T S
 G S E V L A C G F R
 R A T L Q X X D E W
 Y X T E D Q Y O A H
 J V S H E E R M S N
 G N I K E R R G T A
 D E T A E R T S I M
 N E V A E H E S P K
 T E U Q N A B D W K

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| ATTENDANTS | KING |
| BANQUET | KINGDOM |
| BUSINESS | MISTREATED |
| CALVES | PARABLES |
| DISPATCHED | SERVANTS |
| ELDERS | SILENCE |
| FEAST | STREETS |
| GARMENT | SUMMON |
| GATHERED | TEETH |
| GUESTS | WAILING |
| HEAVEN | WORTHY |
| INVITED | |

GOSPEL GLOSSARY

Elders are wise and experienced leaders.
 A **parable** is a story that teaches a lesson.
To dispatch means to send out.
Wailing is loud crying.