

Christian Service

Jesus summoned His disciples and said to them, “You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:42-45) With these words, Jesus defined what Christian service ought to be.

Christian service is more than simply doing good works. Just as important as the good work itself is the attitude and disposition of the Christian who does the good work.

Let us look at a couple of practical examples of good works: (1) prayer – praying is a good work because through prayer, we not only give thanks and praise to God, we can also petition for the material and spiritual needs of others and ourselves, and when done regularly, prayer also helps us to discern God’s will more clearly in our lives. One kind of attitude towards prayer that is counter-productive is when we think of prayer as a task that we should do quickly and get it over with, so that we can do other things that are more fun. On the contrary, we should have the attitude that prayer is a time to be with God. Prayer is more effective when our attitude towards prayer is that it is a spiritual exercise that should not be done hurriedly but patiently, thereby giving ourselves time to tune in to the Holy Spirit’s guidance.

(2) Helping our neighbor – in the same way, when we help our neighbor, the attitude of helping in a way that “I want to get this done and over with” should be replaced with the attitude of taking the time to think and ask ourselves, “How does God want me to help this person? In what way can I help this person that is most pleasing to God?” One thing about helping our neighbor is that it should not be done with a resentful attitude. If that’s the case, then what’s the point of helping our neighbor?



In the previous chapter of Mark, the twelve disciples had been discussing among themselves on the way to Capernaum who was the greatest. Jesus called them and said, “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” (Mark 9:35)

To those who, like James and John, have ambitions for greatness, it is only by putting oneself last and becoming a servant to all can we be truly great in the kingdom of God. The measure of greatness in the world is how much honor and awards a person gets for his accomplishments; but instead of aspiring for honor and recognition in this world, a true servant of God aspires for humility and holiness.

What does it mean to be last and a servant of all? In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus teaches His disciples the attitude of a servant; He said, “When you have done all you have been commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do’” (Luke 17:10).

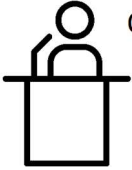
In practical terms, to be the last of all and the servant of all means several things: (1) to put the needs of others before our own needs, (2) to stop and think about how our actions and decisions will affect our neighbor, and (3) the purpose of our good works is to bring benefit to others and to glorify God.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus reminds us that if we win the praise of others, then we have already received our reward. On the contrary, our Father in heaven, who sees in secret, will repay us for the good works that we have done while nobody was looking (cf. Matthew 6:1-8). God is not interested in how many awards we have collected in this world, or how much acclaim we have received in this world. God is interested in how we use His grace to grow in virtue and holiness, as we prepare ourselves for the next life to share eternal life with Him.

耶穌聖名華人天主堂
THE HOLY NAME of Jesus CHINESE CATHOLIC MISSION
5395 Light Circle NW, Norcross GA 30071 678-691-3261 hnojatl.org
每週公告 Weekly Bulletin
2024年十月二十日 October 20, 2024

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 20 is potluck Sunday! Please bring your favorite dish to share. If you are celebrating your birthday in the month of October, we have ordered a birthday cake for you. Lunch begins after the 10:30am Mass.

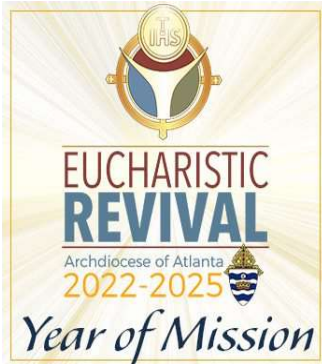


On November 10 after the 10:30 am Mass, Margaret Wu will once again lead us in contemplative prayer in the social hall and sharing: What is prayer? How to pray? Why can't I feel God's presence when I pray? All interested parties are welcome to participate.

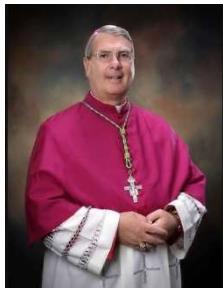
After the 10:30am Mass next Sunday, October 27, the children of our parish will go trick-or-treating inside our church. The children will knock on the door of each room in the Office Building and Education Building. We need 10 volunteers to be inside the 10 rooms. Each volunteer will prepare their



own candies and treats to give to the kids who will knock at the door. We expect more than 20 children will be participating. The sign-up sheet is with Angela Ooi. Please sign up after Mass today and help give the children of our parish a safe and happy trick-or-treat!



Reserve the date: Fr. Bill encourages all parishioners to make plans to participate in the Eucharistic Congress in Atlanta next year on June 20-21, 2025. Our church will host the first-ever Chinese Track in the Eucharistic Congress. This is an incredible opportunity for all of us to see and experience the great number of Catholics in Atlanta united under the One Body of Christ!



In response to Archbishop Gregory Hartmayer's call for every parish in the Archdiocese of Atlanta to make reparation for the satanic "black Mass" planned by the satanic temple of Atlanta on October 25, we will have Eucharistic Adoration after the 12:00pm Mass on Friday, October 25 until 2:00pm. If you cannot join us in person in the church, please offer prayers of reparation in your homes. A copy of Archbishop Hartmayer's memo to the clergy is attached in the parish bulletin this Sunday.

Mass Schedule	Confessions	Bible Study
Sundays 10:30 AM (Chinese)	Sundays 9:00-9:30 AM	Wednesdays 10:00 AM (Chinese)
Sundays 2:00 PM (English)	Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 PM	Mondays 6:00 PM (English)
	By Appointment	
Mondays 12:00 PM (English)		Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesdays 12:00 PM (English)	Anointing of the Sick	Sundays 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Wednesdays 12:00 PM (Chinese)	First Sundays after 10:30 AM Mass	Tuesdays 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Fridays 12:00 PM (English)		
First Friday 7:00 PM (English)		
First Saturday 10:00 AM (Chinese)		