

FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 33rd. SUNDAY YEAR-A.2023.

THE TALENTS PAYBACK TIME:

The beauty of this world we live in is that God created all of us very **unique** from each other yet we have one **common factor that we are all created in his image.**(let us create man in our own image-Gen.1:26)

God has given each one of us different **gifts and talents** all for the well being of each other and our **productivity.**This uniqueness sometimes causes **frictions and misunderstandings in the way we think and act** yet it is supposed to help us bear with one **another in this world.**

The parable in the gospel today(Mt.25:14-30),Jesus is going away to heaven,He **entrust his property the kingdom on earth** to his church and we are his church.He is giving the **talents and grace that we may expand this kingdom here on earth** by bringing others and society to **salvation** under the rule of **love,peace and justice.**He will return again and **gather the gain of investments in you and me,the talents he has bestowed upon us.**How have you traded those investments and talents yourself.You **must give an account.**

The three unnamed characters most likely they represent you and me and what talents and gift each of us has been given.Two of them **took the risk of trading with what they were given,one was so scared of the risk involved.**The underlying factor in all the characters is not condemnation by the lord but the **trust he has for all by investing on them.**He has the same trust and confidence in us but the issue is how are we **managing what is entrusted to us.**We are entrusted with different talents some five,others two others one.The issue is not **how many talents we have but rather how are we using what we have.**many times we may not use what we have due to **fear and anxiety,**thus fencing and burying the talents on the ground like the one given one talent thus leading to improper utilization of what we have been given.

It is real pathetic to see so many talents too going to **wastage and drainage because of lack of proper direction** perhaps due to **pride and stubbornness.**We see so many people with good

brains,wisdom,footballers,soccer,athletes,celebrities and very rich ones yet they turn to be controlled by substances, drugs,alcoholism pride and all these talents go to waste.They end up not only destroying the society but also themselves.Something must be done urgently and we save the situation.what account will they give and will we give to the lord.We must be responsible for one another.

We are called to use our **talents in a humble, faithful and responsible manner**.we are not equal in **ability hence we must not compare ourselves or compete** with any one.we must walk at our own speed we we have been given different **talents,skills,intelligence,strength,genetic inheritance**.we are **not equally talented neither equally gifted**.

Consider what we are given in our first reading (Prover.31:10-13)the **virtues wife**,she has the skills of raising her family,caring for her spouse and managing her home.All of us have talents what **can you offer?are you using the the talents and resources you have fully in the service of God and his church?**

St. Paul in his letter is inviting us to be **alert and be people of light always**.