

## Going Deeper – 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday (Year B)

### Scripture

The readings this weekend are:

- + 1 Kings 17:10-16
- + Hebrews 9:24-28
- + Mark 12:38-44

### How to Give

Money is a very private matter in our culture. We generally don't like to talk about how much we earn, or spend etc. Likewise, it is not thought highly of someone if they brag about how much time they give to volunteering or how many people they have fed. The action is credible but to brag or 'show off' is not pleasant.

God requires that we respond to the needs of those around us and to the needs of the Church but the attitude and motive are important rather than the amount you give.

We see a widow in 1 Kings 17 about to make a last meal before she and her son run out of food and die. Elijah, a prophet sent by God, asks the widow for food and drink and promises that God will provide for her if she does this. She helps Elijah with what little she has and she is blessed in return.

Another widow in the Gospel of Mark gives what was considered a small amount of money to the temple treasury. Jesus said that she had given more than the rich people putting in large amounts of money, for she gave out of her poverty and they, out of their wealth. They had plenty more to live on but the poor widow had nothing.

This teaching is not an excuse to give small or large amounts but it is a teaching that promotes using what resources we do have to help those around us. It's about having the right motive when giving of money, of time, of our gifts and talents. We do it because we have been given much and the Lord requires us 'to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God' Micah 6:8.