

# HOLY REDEEMER



# GRACE NOTES

November 2023

## November Newsletter - 2023

### Introduction...

The month of November is traditionally a time when the Catholic community remembers those who have passed away. Given Massachusetts' roots in the fishing industry, we are remembering one of the state's most prolific fishing ports – Gloucester -- and the many men (and recently women) the city has lost to the sea over the years. A large number of the fishermen were Portuguese, who came to Massachusetts from the Azores. In 1889 the rapidly growing immigrant community in Gloucester built a church and christened it Our Lady of Good Voyage in honor of the Virgin Mary. The expression "Our Lady of Good Voyage" was coined by a Portuguese fisherman, stranded in the rough Atlantic Ocean with broken oars. After imploring Mary for help the sea miraculously calmed allowing him to return safely to port.

Our Lady of Good Voyage Church in Gloucester is topped by twin steeples, between which is a statue of Mary holding a boat in the crook of her left arm, a symbol of safe voyage. After more than a century of keeping watch over Gloucester Harbor, the original weathered statue of Mary was taken down for display in the local museum, replaced by a new and sturdier version. Both statues of Mary have looked out on the departure and safe return of over a million fishing voyages during her long watch over Gloucester Harbor. Unfortunately more than 10,000 Gloucester fisherman have failed to return from the sea.



Chatham is no stranger to fisherman lost to the sea. They are all remembered in the hymn "Eternal Father, Strong to Save."

"Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep,  
O hear us when we cry to thee  
For those in peril on the sea!"



*Our Lady of Good Voyage Church in the morning sun*



## On the Shoulders of Giants – The Apostles

*Isaac Newton said that all he had accomplished in life was due to “standing on the shoulders of the giants” who came before him. Each month we remember one of the giants upon whose shoulders the parishioners of Holy Redeemer are perched. For the past several months Grace Notes has focused on the Apostles, individually illuminating each of their lives. So far we’ve profiled Andrew, Simon Peter, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, and Thomas. This month it’s Matthew.*

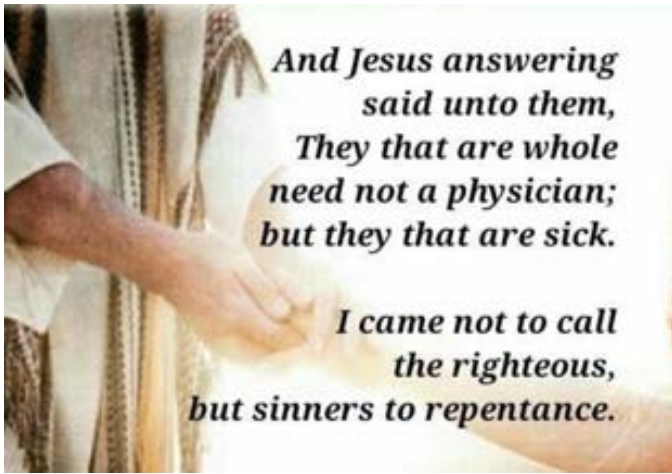
Matthew came from a family of tax collectors in Capernaum. He was a man of moderate wealth, the only Apostle of any means. The gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke all have parallel accounts of Jesus calling a tax collector to become an Apostle. Interestingly, Matthew’s Gospel calls this person Matthew, while the Gospels of Mark and Luke call him Levi:

- *“As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. ‘Follow me,’ he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.” -- Matthew 9:9*
- *“As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector’s booth. ‘Follow me,’ Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him.” -- Mark 2:14*
- *“After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. ‘Follow me,’ Jesus said to him, and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.” -- Luke 5:27–28*



These accounts so closely parallel each other that it’s hard to imagine they aren’t speaking of the same person. There are several possible explanations for the difference in names. Some suggest this person was originally named Levi, but that Jesus called him Matthew (similar to Simon, whom Jesus named Peter). It’s also possible that it’s simply a matter of him having a Greek name (Matthew) and a Hebrew name (Levi), in the same way that the Apostle Paul was also known by Saul.

Tax collectors such as Matthew were contracted by the Romans and they had very little accountability. They earned a reputation for telling people they owed more than they did and pocketing the difference, and thus they were held in low regard by the Jewish community. When tax collectors came to be baptized by John the Baptist, they said, “Teacher, what shall we do?” and he told them: “Collect no more than you are authorized to do” (Luke 3:12–13).



After Jesus called him, Matthew hosted a gathering at his house, where he and his unsavory companions dined with Jesus. When the Pharisees asked why Jesus would eat with tax collectors and sinners, he uses the opportunity to invoke one of his most important messages. *"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: I desire mercy, not sacrifice. For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."* (Matthew 9:12). By calling Matthew, Jesus was proclaiming that no one would be excluded from his movement: not even those society considered irredeemable.

Matthew is considered one of the four authors of the Gospels the other authors being Mark, Luke, and John. While there is controversy regarding Matthew's authorship, some affirming scholars point out that the Gospel of Matthew includes internal evidence linking it to Matthew's profession. Thus the Gospel of Matthew talks about money in more detail and with greater frequency than the other gospels, similar to how the Gospel of Luke, written by Luke the physician, includes greater detail about ailments and uses precise medical terminology.

Likewise, gold and silver are only mentioned once in Mark, and only four times in Luke, while Matthew mentions them 28 times. Finally, in the Lord's Prayer, Matthew makes a curious substitution compared to the version in the Gospel of Luke.

- *"Forgive us our **sins**, for we also forgive **everyone who sins against us**."* -- Luke 11:4
- *"And forgive us our **debts**, as we also have forgiven our **debtors**."* -- Matthew 6:12

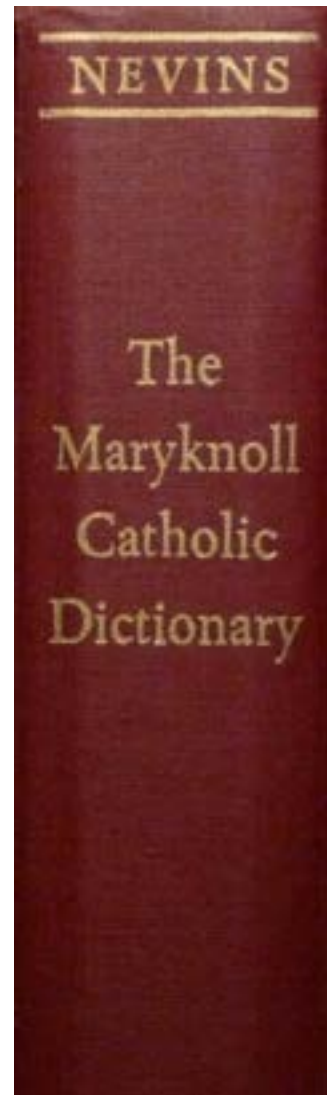


Following Jesus' crucifixion Matthew carried out his ministry in Persia, Macedonia, Syria, and "Ethiopia" (not the Ethiopia that we know today, but a region south of the Caspian Sea). All the early records of Matthew's death claim he was martyred, but they disagree about how or where it happened. According to Church tradition, Matthew converted, and then consecrated to God, Ephigenia of Ethiopia, the virgin daughter of King Egippus. When King Hirtacus succeeded Egippus, he asked Matthew if he could persuade Ephigenia to marry him. Matthew rebuked him for lusting after the girl, as she was a nun and therefore was the bride of Christ. In response the enraged King ordered his bodyguard to kill Matthew as he stood at the altar.

**Jeopardy for Catholics** – Here’s the way this works. We will give you three important components of Catholicism as noted in the “The Maryknoll Catholic Dictionary,” and ask you to name them. As always, your answers must be worded in the form of a question. This month we’re focusing on famous biblical locations. Here goes.

- *Number 1:* The walls of this biblical city came tumbling down when Joshua blew his horn. (Hint: The city is thought to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited places in the world.)
- *Number 2:* Paul was on the road to this city when he was struck blind by a heavenly light. (Hint: The city was liberated by T.E. Lawrence (also known as “Lawrence of Arabia”) during World War I.)
- *Number 3:* This valley was the location of David’s famous victory over Goliath. (Hint: It was also the name of a touching movie starring Tommy Lee Jones and Susan Sarandon).

The answers are provided on the final page of Grace Notes.



## Ministry Fair

Holy Redeemer will conduct a “Ministry Fair” following each of the three masses on the weekend of November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Last year’s Ministry Fair was very successful, and each of the church’s ministries recruited at least one new member. We’re hoping to replicate last year’s success and make the Ministry Fair an annual event.

As we did last year, participants at each of the three masses will be requested to come downstairs to the basement at Our Lady of Grace to find out more about Holy Redeemer’s ministries and partake of some refreshments, and to sign-up for one if they wish. Handouts will also be available in the pews for those individuals who do not wish to come down to the Ministry Fair but would still like more information about a particular ministry.





You can make a difference . . .



If you are unable to attend mass on November 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> and would like more information about Holy Redeemer's ministries, contact information for the leaders of each ministry is provided below.

We hope that if you have not already done so you will consider volunteering for one of the ministries. You will be helping others and yourself as well.

- *St. Vincent DePaul Society* – Please contact Judy McDonald at [chatham158@aol.com](mailto:chatham158@aol.com) if you would like more information about the Society.
- *Knights of Columbus* – Please contact Ray Tallia at [capemanray@aol.com](mailto:capemanray@aol.com) if you would like more information about the Knights.
- *Hospitality Ministry* – Please contact Janet Holden at [jtholden@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jtholden@sbcglobal.net) if you would like more information about the Ministry.
- *Bereavement Ministry* – Please contact Marilyn Whelden at [mawhelden@comcast.net](mailto:mawhelden@comcast.net) if you would like more information about the Ministry.
- *Pro Life Ministry* – Please contact Rosemary O'Reilly at [poreilly23@comcast.net](mailto:poreilly23@comcast.net) if you would like more information about the Ministry.
- *Choir* – Please email Cheryl Duerr at [cduerr@holyredeemerchatham.org](mailto:cduerr@holyredeemerchatham.org) or [clduerr@gmail.com](mailto:clduerr@gmail.com) or call her at 617-852-3533 if you would like more information about joining the Choir.
- *Holy Redeemer Women's Club* – Please contact Judy McDonald at [chatham158@aol.com](mailto:chatham158@aol.com) if you would like more information about becoming the Club.
- *Church Flower Ministry* – Please contact Janet Holden at [jtholden@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jtholden@sbcglobal.net) if you would like more information about the Ministry.
- *Holy Launderers Ministry* - Please contact Thea Lane at [aglane003@gmail.com](mailto:aglane003@gmail.com) if you would like more information about the Ministry.
- *Eucharistic Ministers* – Please call the rectory at 508-945-0677 or send us an email an [parish@holyredeemerchatham.org](mailto:parish@holyredeemerchatham.org) if you would like more information about becoming a Eucharistic Minister
- *Altar Server Ministry* – Please give us a call at the rectory at 508-945-0677 or send us an email at [parish@holyredeemerchatham.org](mailto:parish@holyredeemerchatham.org) if you would like more information about the Ministry.
- *Lector Ministry* - Please call the rectory at 508-945-0677 or send us an email at [parish@holyredeemerchatham.org](mailto:parish@holyredeemerchatham.org) if you would like more information about the Ministry.
- *Liberty Commons Ministry* – Please call the rectory at 508-945-0677 or send us an email at [parish@holyredeemerchatham.org](mailto:parish@holyredeemerchatham.org) if you would like more information about the Ministry.

## Flower Ministry

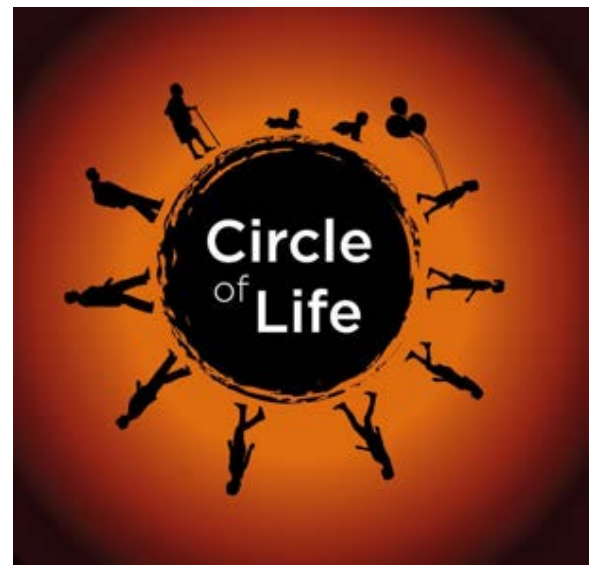
Holy Redeemer's newest ministry is the "Flower Ministry." Jesus said, "Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." With that in mind, Holy Redeemer has launched a Flower Ministry to make sure that the church is consistently adorned with lilies, hydrangeas, roses, and a host of other beautiful flowers. If you would like to help make Holy Redeemer the most beautiful and fragrant church on the

Cape, please drop a donation in the flower pot at the back of the church. If you would like to join the Flower Ministry, please contact Janet Holden at [jlholden@sbcglobal.com](mailto:jlholden@sbcglobal.com).



### ***Circle of Life Seminar***

Holy Redeemer will conduct an "Circle of Life" seminar on Saturday, November 11, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at Our Lady of Grace. The event will include presentations by a financial planner, a lawyer, a funeral director, and a hospice representative. Father Sullivan will also discuss Catholic perspectives on advanced directives such as do-not-resuscitate arrangements and the ethics surrounding them, and Catholic funeral practices. While end of life issues are not topics many people like to discuss, death is inevitable, and the better we plan for it the less our families will feel burdened by our passing. If you would like any additional information about the Circle of Life seminar please call the rectory at 508-945-0677 or send us an email [parish@holyredeemerchatham.org](mailto:parish@holyredeemerchatham.org).



### **Getting to Know the Congregation – Deacon Art LaChance**

We've all had this experience. We're at a party, we know very few of the other guests, and we end up moving from person to person, talking about vanilla subjects like the weather or sports or movies. After a few minutes of conversation we tune out the person we're speaking with and start looking for someone new to chat with. Occasionally we might even end up speaking with someone so obnoxious we make up an excuse to move on. Is there something burning in the kitchen? Glancing at our watch we discover it's only 8:30 and it'll be at least an hour before we can grab our coat and sneak out a side door.

Then out of the blue we're chatting with someone like Holy Redeemer's new deacon Art LaChance, a person who can speak intelligently on any topic, and can do so with wit, self-deprecating humor, and remarkable insights, all the while displaying genuine interest in our opinion. And suddenly we do a complete one-eighty and pray that the party will last forever.

Welcome to Holy Redeemer Parish Deacon Art. We're glad you're here.



By way of background, Deacon Art is married and has three children. He met his wife Julie in high school – in French class – and they just celebrated the 50th anniversary of their first date. They live in Sandwich with their eldest son Jason, where Art has served at Corpus Christi Parish since his ordination in 2002. He is blessed that his two other children -- Eric (with wife Kristina) and Bethany -- live close by, and he is able to spend precious time with them and his two grandchildren, Avery, and Brady.



Trained in Radiology at the Air Force Academy, in illustration at the New England School of Art and Design, and in management at Columbia University, Art has spent 40 years in healthcare. He currently serves as the Senior Director of Radiology at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton. In his free time, he enjoys painting, writing, and searching for the hidden treasures of Cape Cod with his wife. More about the painting later.

When asked about the commute he now faces between Sandwich and Chatham, Art's response was "I've been commuting all my life." In high school he scurried all around the Boston area helping install new pools. In his professional life he's commuted to Boston, to Rhode Island, to New Jersey, and lots of places in between. "So driving to Chatham is a piece of cake."

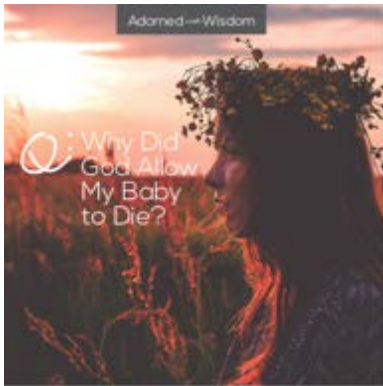
Art's most interesting commute was probably to the Cottage Hospital on Nantucket. In the early days of the pandemic -- when clear information about the medical issues we were all facing was limited -- it was important that healthcare workers limit their contact with the community as much as possible. Accordingly, Art was required to live on Nantucket for 13 weeks – a fourth of a year – which meant he was not able to return home to see his family. We all know that healthcare workers were heroes during the pandemic, but we don't always appreciate the depth of their hardship.





Art admits to a rebellious period in the 90s, as he worked to better understand his faith and the role of the Catholic Church; a period of searching that nearly all the members of the Holy Redeemer Parish have experienced at one time or another. Then he had an epiphany and went from simply hearing the word of God to living the Eucharist. Little by little he was drawn into the religious life. He went from serving as a lector, to training the lectors, to helping with the Eucharistic Ministers, to writing intentions, to being ordained as a deacon, to delivering homilies. His mantra became to “find the thread and focus people’s attention on it.”

He says that his three happiest revelations during his religious journey have been: that God would forgive me; that Julie would marry me; and that people would listen to my ramblings.



Art’s career in radiology has brought him into close contact with many people who are dying. His first experience with death was a newborn baby who died seven hours after delivery, and he had to face the inevitable question: why God would take this baby’s life. He had no answer then and he still has no clear understanding, but he points to the fact that “38 years later I still think about that baby, and I still talk about it, and that must mean there’s something greater going on.”

Now back to Art’s painting. After his four-year stint in the Air Force, Art was ready for a career change. He always had artistic talent and felt he could combine art and his training in radiology to become a medical illustrator. And he was very good at it. Perhaps the high point was a five-volume set on radiological techniques published by Massachusetts General Hospital for which Art was the medical illustrator.

After finishing that project Art could see that the future for medical illustration would involve more computers and software and fewer human artists, and he returned full-time to radiology. Prior to returning, however, he obtained a management degree from Columbia so he could better control his destiny and play a more active role in guiding the future direction of radiology.

He did not abandon his artistic talents entirely, and as the following watercolor paintings illustrate Art is a spectacular painter, with a brilliant eye for detail, color, and emotion.



Please take the opportunity to chat with Deacon Art about religion, painting, radiology, or any other topic that's on your mind. You'll be glad you did.

## Calling All Painters

In conjunction with its annual Christmas Greens Sale on December 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, the Holy Redeemer Women's Club will also be holding an Art Sale fundraiser on the same dates. A highlight of the Art Sale will be the inclusion of some watercolors by Holy Redeemer's resident artist extraordinaire, Deacon Art LaChance. If you are a painter who works in watercolor, oil paint or acrylic paint, and would like to donate some of your work to the Art Sale, please leave your paintings at the back of the church. We will take very good care of them. If possible, please frame your work before you drop it off.



The Women's Club provides financial support to a variety of worthy causes, including the Chatham Angel Fund, which was established to ensure that all Chatham children have a warm and merry Christmas. If you are a painter please share your talents with the rest of us and also help the Women's Club with their fundraising efforts.

## ...Conclusion

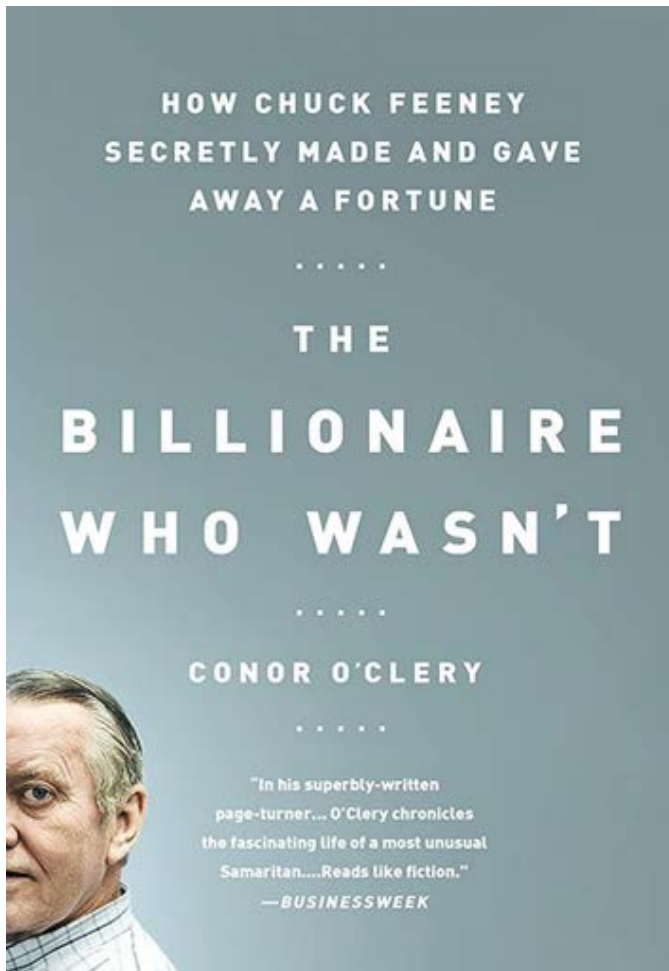
He was called "The Billionaire Who Wasn't." Charles F. ("Chuck") Feeney was a pioneer of duty-free shops and a shrewd investor in technology start-ups. During his lifetime he quietly amassed a fortune of more than \$6 billion dollars. And as quietly as he made his fortune he gave it all away to charity. He was a real-life "Michael Anthony," the "anonymous benefactor" who gave out \$1 million dollar checks on the 1950s television show "The Millionaire."

Chuck Feeney died last week at the age of 92.

"Chuck Feeney is a remarkable role model, and the ultimate example of giving while living," his fellow billionaire Bill Gates told Forbes Magazine in 2012. Another of the world's richest people, Warren Buffett, presented a Forbes 400 Lifetime Achievement Award to Mr. Feeney in 2014, calling him "my hero and Bill Gates's hero — he should be everybody's hero."







Unlike philanthropists whose names are publicized, celebrated at banquets, and emblazoned on building facades and museum wings, Chuck Feeney gave anonymously to human rights groups, peace initiatives, universities, medical institutions, scientific endeavors, and scores of causes intended to improve lives around the globe. In 1982 he established a foundation, which he named Atlantic Philanthropies. Over the ensuing decades Atlantic Philanthropies funded – among many other things -- Operation Smile's free surgeries for children with cleft lips and palates; AIDS clinics in South Africa; public-health facilities in Vietnam; earthquake relief in Haiti; and a medical campus for the University of California at San Francisco.

Grants to institutions and individuals were paid by cashier's checks to conceal their source. Beneficiaries were told that the money came from a generous "client" who wished to remain anonymous. Those who learned his identity were told not to reveal his involvement.

An Irish American, he was more open about his giving in Northern Ireland, which he visited frequently. His aid to Sinn Fein, the Irish Republican Army's political arm, and the Ulster Defense Association, the Protestant loyalist paramilitary group, helped secure the Good Friday Agreement in 1998 after decades of sectarian violence. In 2007, Mr. Feeney was invited to join leaders of the United States, Britain, and Ireland at the birth of a power-sharing government in Belfast.

Mr. Feeney's was a life of remarkable contrasts. Raised in New Jersey by Roman Catholic working-class parents who struggled during the Depression, he served in the Air Force, studied hotel management in college and got into the duty-free shopping business by selling liquor, cigarettes, and perfume to homeward-bound American servicemen in Europe in the 1950s. By age 50, he had palatial homes in New York, London, Paris, Honolulu, San Francisco and Aspen, Colo., and on the French Riviera.

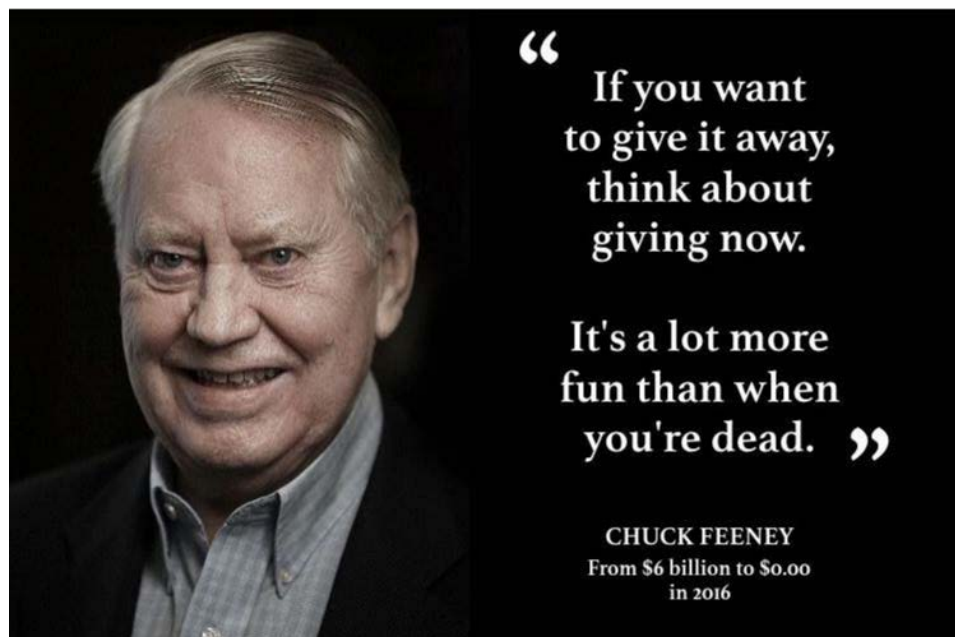
But he was troubled by an opulent life of black-tie dinners, grand yachts, and values far from those of his family and friends in New Jersey.

"He was beginning to have doubts about his right to have so much money," Conor O'Clery wrote in his biography of Mr. Feeney. "When asked many years later if he was rich at this point in his life, he replied: 'How much is rich? I just reached the conclusion with myself that money, buying boats and all the trimmings didn't appeal to me.'"

Mr. Feeney reversed his extravagant lifestyle, quit wealthy social groups, and began flying economy class and buying his clothing off the rack. He sold his limousines and took subways or cabs. “All Feeney’s instincts, instilled in him by the example of his parents, by the sharing culture of his blue-collar upbringing in New Jersey, by his desire not to distance himself from his boyhood neighbors and friends, and by his own innate kindness and concern for others, undoubtedly shaped his decision,” Mr. O’Clery wrote.

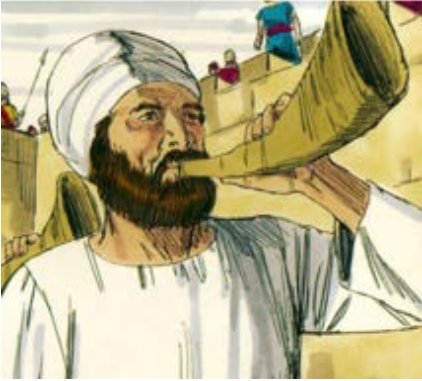
In his last decades Mr. Feeney did not own a home or a car, wore a \$10 wristwatch, took buses, and flew coach. He and his wife lived in a two-bedroom rented apartment.

Forbes said that no one of such riches had ever given away a fortune so completely while still alive. But as Mr. Feeney said, “I cannot think of a more personally rewarding and appropriate use of wealth than to give while one is living, to personally devote oneself to meaningful efforts to improve the human condition.”



## Answers to Jeopardy for Catholics

Answer to Question Number 1: What is Jericho?



Answer to Question Number 2: What is Damascus?



Answer to Question Number 3: What is The Valley of Elah?

