



Liturgy Cycle C

Eighteenth Sunday Of The Year

How Much Is Enough?

Introduction

Possessions exercise a big hold over the human heart. But when we are preoccupied with material possessions we forget the more important things in life. Jesus said our main concern should be to 'make ourselves rich in the sight of God.' Let us examine ourselves briefly on our attitude to possessions.

First Reading (Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23)

The writer points out that the things that are supposed to satisfy human beings do not satisfy them. Look at all the toil and effort a person puts into acquiring wealth. To what purpose? - To leave it to his heir.

Second Reading (Col 3:1-5, 9-11)

One consequence of death and resurrection with Christ (through Baptism) is that the Christian's true home is now in heaven. Therefore, he must seek the things that are above by leading a good life in this world.

Gospel (Luke 12:13-21)

This contains a warning against greed. We are urged to make ourselves rich, not in the goods of this world, but in the sight of God.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Often in life we don't know what we want or what is truly important. Let us, therefore, pray for the gift of wisdom that we may get our priorities in tune with those of the Gospel.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For the followers of Christ; that they may not judge success in life by the amount of money they earn or the amount of possessions they manage to acquire. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For our political leaders: that they may work untiringly to ensure a fair distribution of the wealth of the country. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.



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For the poor and the dispossessed: that they may experience the closeness of Christ to them in their poverty. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That we may realise that the most valuable things in life are things which no amount of money can buy - things such as health, friendships, peace of mind, and goodness of heart. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

Communion Reflection

Elvis Presley owned eight cars, six motorbikes, two planes, and a vast mansion as a home. In that mansion he had sixteenth TV sets. He had several bank accounts, one of which contained a million dollars. Yet he died at forty-two of drug abuse, a sad and pathetic figure. What did it profit him?

'People.' said the Little Prince. 'rush about in express trains, but they do not know what they are looking for. They raise five thousand roses in the same garden, and they still do not find what they are looking for. Yet what they are looking for could be found in a single rose.'

Lord Jesus, teach us wisdom of heart. Help us to live lives that are worthy of sons and daughters of the heavenly Father, and thus we will make ourselves rich in his sight,