

Jesus teaches us not to be greedy



In today's Gospel reading, a man tells Jesus that his brother is being unfair to him. But Jesus knows that the man is just being greedy, so He tells him the parable of the rich farmer. One year he had such a good harvest that he couldn't fit it all into his barns. He tore down his old barns and built new ones, so that he could store his food for many years. But just when he thought he would be able to rest and enjoy his food, God told him that he would die.



This parable is a warning against being greedy. Jesus is not saying that we should not save some food or that we shouldn't save our money. He is just telling us to remember that we are going to die one day, and then everything we saved is going to be useless for us. He wants us to use the things we have wisely, but not be too attached to them.



Think of something that is really special to you. How would you feel if you lost it or it was taken away? Do your feelings show that you care too much about things? Try to think of your belongings in such a way that if you lost them you wouldn't be too upset. After all, none of your stuff is going to matter to you when you die!



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St. Dominic, Priest - Feast Day August 8th

St. Dominic was born around 1170, in Old Castile, Spain, and began his university studies in 1184. He stood out among his peers, and great things were expected of him. He trained for the priesthood, and when he was about thirty, Dominic accompanied his bishop on several diplomatic missions in northern Europe. In the course of these travels he became aware of the religious ideas of the Albigensians, a movement in southern France which was spreading throughout Europe. They regarded all matter as evil and the creator of the material world as a devil. Hence the doctrine of the Incarnation was denied, and the Old Testament and the Sacrament rejected.

The Pope had sent legates to combat this heresy, but with their sumptuous clothes, fine horses and numerous attendants, they only managed to reinforce the Albigensians' beliefs. The Church commissioned Dominic to be part of the preaching crusade against the movement, and he saw that the only way to preach orthodox doctrine effectively was to be as poor as the people and to be thoroughly knowledgeable in Christian theology. Together with three Cistercians, Dominic began itinerant preaching according to the gospel ideal. He and his fellow preachers gradually became a community, and in 1215 he founded a religious house at Toulouse, the beginning of the Order of Preachers, (now also called Dominican after their founder) with the mission to disseminate true doctrine and combat heresy, especially by means of preaching.

While the heresies Dominic had to combat were different to those we face, it has never been more important today to live and spread the true Gospel of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Dominic died on August 6, 1221. Pope Gregory IX canonized him on July 13, 1234. He is the patron saint of astronomers and the innocent who are falsely accused of crimes.

(excerpt: aquinasandmore.com)  
(excerpt: americancatholic.org)  
(excerpt: encyclopedia.com)



The Fool's Vanity.

Trust in God as the Rock of our salvation, as the Lord who made us His chosen people, as our shepherd and guide. This should be the mark of our following of Jesus.

Like the Israelites we recall in this week's Psalm, we have made an exodus, passing through the waters of Baptism, freeing us from our bondage to sin. We too are on a pilgrimage to a promised homeland, the Lord in our midst, feeding us heavenly bread, giving us living waters to drink .

We must take care to guard against the folly that befell the Israelites, that led them to quarrel and test God's goodness at Meribah and Massah. We can harden our hearts in ways more subtle but no less ruinous. We can put our trust in possessions, squabble over earthly inheritances, fool ourselves that what we have we deserve, store up treasures and think they'll afford us security and rest. All this is "vanity of vanities," a false and deadly way of living, as the First Reading tells us. This is the greed that Jesus warns against in the Gospel.

The rich man's anxiety and toil expose his lack of faith in God's care and provision. That's why Paul calls greed "idolatry" in the Epistle. Mistaking having for being, possession for existence, we forget that God is the giver of all that we have, we exalt the things we can make or buy over our Maker. Jesus calls the rich man a "fool", a word used in the Old Testament for someone who rebels against God or has forgotten Him.

We should treasure most the new life we have been given in Christ and seek what is above, the promised inheritance of heaven. We have to see all things in the light of eternity, mindful that He who gives us the breath of life could at any moment - this night even - demand it back from us.

(excerpt: stpaulcenter.com)

St. Joseph the Worker Parish  
Gros Islet, Grande Riviere & Monchy

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday  
9.00 - 10.00 a.m.  
&  
by appointment

Parish Priest: Fr. Athanase Joseph  
Assistant Parish Priest: Msgr. Michel Francis  
Deacons: Rev. Anthony Louis, Rev. David Popo  
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SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading  
Eccl.1:2;2:21-23  
Second Reading  
Col.3:1-5,9-11  
Gospel  
Lk.12:13-21

MASS TIMES

Gros Islet  
Morning Prayers:  
Mon -Fri  
5:45 a.m.  
✙  
MONDAY  
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.  
✙  
TUESDAY  
6:00 a.m.  
✙  
WEDNESDAY  
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.  
G/Riviere: 6:00 p.m.  
✙  
THURSDAY  
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.  
✙  
FRIDAY  
6:00 a.m./12:30 p.m.  
✙  
SATURDAY  
6:30 a.m./6:00 p. m.  
✙  
SUNDAY  
Gros Islet/G. Riviere  
7:30 a.m.  
Gros Islet/Monchy  
10:00 a.m.  
✙  
HOLIDAY  
Variable

