



The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner
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28th Sunday in Ordinary Time — October 10, 2021 Year B



Today's readings remind us that we do not possess anything in our life that we refuse to surrender to the Lord. But, in reality our "possessions" often possess us, and we become their prisoners. What we really do is give our "things" top priority in our lives. Thus, we violate the First Great Commandment, which demands that we give absolute and unconditional priority to God. The first reading advises us to use the God-given virtue of prudence and to seek true wisdom rather than to seek vanishing realities like riches or political and social influence. Solomon chose Wisdom before everything else. But when he accepted Wisdom, he received everything else along with her. Since Jesus is Wisdom Incarnate, when we put following Jesus ahead of everything else, we receive everything else along with Jesus. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 90), we beg God to teach us how to make

proper judgments and choices in our lives that we may live with Him

forever. The second reading warns us that we are *accountable before God* as to how we use our blessings and that the "living and effective word of God" must be our guide in evaluating our use of God's blessings. Today's Gospel selection (Mk 10: 17-30), gives us Jesus' teaching on the dangers of attachment to riches and the rewards awaiting those who put Jesus and the Good News before their earthly ambitions. Here we find three sections: a narrative about Jesus' encounter with a rich man, Jesus' sayings about wealth as a possible obstacle to discipleship, and Jesus' promised reward for those who share material possessions with the needy. In today's Gospel, a rich man encounters Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God, and Jesus reminds the rich man of the commandments that deal with our relationships with other people, challenging him to sell what he has and to give the money to the poor. Jesus' challenge exposes two missing pieces in the rich man's life: a sense of compassion for the poor and a willingness to share his blessings with the needy. Jesus shocks the disciples with this challenge to the Jewish belief that material wealth and prosperity are signs of God's blessings, while poverty and difficulties signal His displeasure. Instead, Jesus declares that true religion consists in sharing one's blessings with others rather than hoarding them and/or getting inordinately attached to them. Jesus' teaching exposes the shallowness of our own easy assumptions about wealth and raises questions about the real basis of our security and hopes. (*frtonyhomilies*)

XXVIII DOMENICA DEL TEMPO ORDINARIO (ANNO B)

Quest' la vita eterna, che desiderava fosse come una assicurazione a lunga scadenza, come quella che si ottiene da una grande ricchezza. Gesù aveva già annunciato che per salvare la propria vita bisognava essere disposti a perderla, cioè che per seguirlo occorreva rinnegare se stessi e portare la propria croce (Mc 8,34-35).

L'uomo era sincero e si guadagnò uno sguardo pieno d'amore da parte di Gesù: "Una sola cosa ti manca, decisiva per te. Rinuncia a possedere, investi nel tesoro del cielo, e il tuo cuore sarà libero e potrai seguirmi". Ma né lo sguardo né le parole di Gesù ebbero effetto. Quest'uomo, rattristato, certo, ha tuttavia preferito ritornare alla sicurezza che gli procurava la propria ricchezza. Non ha potuto o voluto capire che gli veniva offerto un bene incomparabilmente più prezioso e duraturo: l'amore di Cristo che comunica la pienezza di Dio (Ef 3,18-19). Paolo lo aveva capito bene quando scrisse: "Tutto ormai io reputo spazzatura, al fine di guadagnare Cristo... si tratta di conoscerlo e di provare la potenza della sua risurrezione..." (Fil 3,8-10). L'uomo sembrava avere tutto. Egli era ricco e, in più, obbediva ai comandamenti divini. Si è rivolto a Gesù perché voleva anche. (lachiensa.it)

The sick in our parish: Teresa & Con Lamonaca, Nola, John Markis, Kathy Romanow, Elda Taranto, Panfilo Ambrosini, Carmela Renda, Lorraine, Patricia, David, Vanessa Borg, Peta Wright, Herrmann Family, Adam, Helen Rakuscek, Angelina Butera, Antonina Paulus, Bob Brown, Rina Carfi, Angela Barto, Patrick Brennan, Maria Saracino.

Recently deceased: Angelina Butera, Mario Tumolero, Concetta Sciola, Pasqualina Torchia, Domenico Demaria, Aurora and Christine Tuazon

We pray for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Maria Lamonaca, Camillo Lamonaca, Charlie Debono, Jarrod Debono, Concetta Portelli, Alberto Galdo, Leandro Galdo, Antonio Esmaguel

We especially pray for all the deceased whose names are on the Church pews & the Resurrection Chapel.

Rosters for weekend masses

Lectors:

Saturday 5.30 pm : J. Butera

Sunday 10.30 am : C. Di Giulio

Mass times

Weekday:

Tuesday-Friday 9.30 am

Novena mass: Wednesday 7.00 pm

Weekend:

Saturday Vigil mass 5.30 pm

Sunday 10.30 (English/Italian mass)

Plenary Council 2021

Over three years ago the decision was announced to hold a Plenary Council and the People of God began preparing for this historic moment by listening to God and by listening to one another's stories of faith. After this time of listening and journeying the Catholic Church of Australia will gather for the first assembly of the Plenary Council from 3-10th October 2021.

The Plenary Council website will provide daily livestreams of parts of the opening Plenary sessions and Masses (including the Opening Mass on Sunday 3rd October).

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/assembly-1/>

Plenary Council Masses and daily morning prayer booklets for full participation are available here: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/prayer/>

St. Matthew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

The electronic version of the Parish bulletin is available on the Parish website @ <http://stmatthewsparish.org.au/>