GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE 18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A Fool and His Money Are Never Parted.

There's an old saying that goes, "A fool and his money are soon parted." If Jesus were to re-write the saying it might read, "A fool and his money are never parted."

In today's gospel, a rich landowner pulls down his barns and builds bigger barns in which to store wealth for his future. "You fool!" God says, "this very night your life is being

demanded of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" Yes, it's another of those lessons that target the rich. That's all right then because none of us are particularly rich and so surely this lesson doesn't apply to us. Or does it?

We've all worried about money at some time or another. We worry about university fees, the cost of getting married and the cost of keeping a roof over our heads. We worry about paying our bills and providing for our children. We worry about providing for our old age and the cost of keeping Great Aunt Ethel in a nursing home. We even worry about the cost of dying. Today Jesus warns us that in worrying about money we allow money and material wealth to exert some kind of hold over us. Everything we own possesses a little part of us. If we have a house we are slave to a mortgage. If we own a car we are slaves to maintaining it. Once we have finally struggled our way towards a healthy bank balance we suddenly become afraid to spend it, let alone share it with the needy. Without knowing it, we can become penny pinching and greedy. We don't need to be particularly rich to become as foolish as the landowner in today's parable.

Today's gospel isn't a good excuse to rush out and blow the children' school uniform budget on a palette of beer in a 'let's live for today for tomorrow we die' mentality, but it is a good excuse for liberating ourselves from life's financial burdens and living for a better reason.

PARISH PRAYER - Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new consecration to your service; that your love might grow among us and your Kingdom come.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Useful links: Diocesan Website: http://www.rcdea.org.uk

Notre Dame High School, Norwich: Website http://www.ndhs.org.uk

PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST MARGARET MARY

[Reg. Charity 278742]

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31ST JULY 2016 - 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses - Page 118 of Parish Mass Book

Saturday 6.00 pm Donor's Int.

Sunday 9.00 am People of the Parish

11.00 am Manuel do Monte de Abreu

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray Mass

Entry 6pm – Angelus (said); Hymn 955 – O God, our help in ages past ...

Offertory Hymn 607 – Let all mortal flesh keep silence ... **Communion** *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*

Recessional 11am - Angelus (said); Hymn 934 - Dear Lord and Father of mankind ...

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 5.30pm, or on request / by appointment

Weekday Mass Times (18 th week in Ordinary Time) [Psalter Week 2]		
Mon.	10.00 am	Special Int. (Bussey) - St Alphonsus Liguori
Tues.	No Mass today	- Feria
	7.00 pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – in Emmaus Room
Weds.	10.00 am	Michael Murphy - Feria
Thurs.	10.00 am	Donor's Int St John Vianney
Fri.	10.00 am	Votive Mass for Peace
	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer
	6.15 pm	Evening Prayer (Vespers)
Sat.	No morning Mass	- The Transfiguration of the Lord
	6.00 pm	- 19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Parish Newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week. **Anniversaries this week:** Winifred Mary Fuller, Anthony Eskdale, Anna Taylor, Joanna Sokalska, Harrington Garrett, Jack Filby, Iris Reavey, Patrick Thomas Warden, Pope Paul VI and Peggy Pratt. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits – If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital (QEII), King's Lynn, and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call either St John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615) for visits to NNUH, or Fr Peter Rollings (01553 772220) for visits to QEII. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Sick List - Please pray for: Joan Blakiston, David Peek, Michael Reavey, Robert Nicol, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, Anna Thompkins, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Eileen Brockleby, Pat Howe, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd, Ellen Flood, Patrick Monaghan, Margaret Leggett, Diana Cater, Ken May and Muriel Harmer.

Money Matters – The collection last weekend was £468.26. Thank you all very much.

Diary Dates for this week -

- Tues. 2nd Aug Please note the change of time for the Queen of Peace Prayer Group on Tuesday this week, which will be meeting at <u>7.00pm</u> instead of the usual 7.30pm.
- Fri. 5th Aug SVP 'First Friday' Coffee Morning after Mass. All welcome.
- Saturday Club is on holiday until September.

A Votive Mass for Peace will take place here on Friday. In view of recent events in France and Germany, and the ongoing warfare in Syria and civil unrest in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and other places, it seems only right that we should pray for peace in the world.

Alive in Faith – At the moment (Wednesday 27th July) Alive in Faith has raised through donations and pledges the magnificent sum of £98,953.00; of this £41,714.00 will come back to Sacred Heart Parish. The Queen of Peace Prayer Group has taken up the Mission of Prayer for our Seminarians and for our Retired Priests. This is a truly generous gift to the Church in East Anglia. Thank you all so much for your generosity and for listening to me as I put the case before you. Your response is staggering.

Holiday Time – A welcome to our visitors from near and far. We are delighted that you have come to join with us for Mass this weekend. Please tell us where you have come from. It is always a wonderful sign of the fidelity of God's people that attending Mass is included as part of the holidays.

Diocesan Summer Camp 2016 – Calling all young people aged 8-14 years to come and join this year's summer camp from Friday, 26th – Monday, 29th August, for a weekend full of Faith, Food, Friends and a LOT of Fun! Venue: Eccles Hall School, Norfolk. Application forms are at the back of church – don't delay. More details from Lorraine.furmedge@gmail.com

Retreats 2016 - 'Retreats 2106' is now available with information and programmes for over 230 Christian retreat centres in the UK and beyond. There are courses, retreats with themes, individually guided retreats and just retreats for those looking for some peace. Order online at www.retreats.org.uk

The Green Traveller - Perhaps we have come to associate 'green holidays' with something very boring. Perhaps we have come to think that even putting a toe onto an airport tarmac is to sully the world with our carbon footprint, but 'The Green Traveller' is an excellent website with a multitude of eco friendly holidays which are amazing fun! Take a look at www.greentraveller.co.uk

Bite Size

"The most valuable things in life are not measured in monetary terms. The really important things are not houses and lands, stocks and bonds, automobiles and real estate, but friendships, trust, confidence, empathy, mercy, love and faith."

~ Bertrand Russell V. Delong

The Angelus

- V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
- R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary
- V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
- R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary.....
- V. And the Word was made Flesh.
- R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary
- V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
- R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel may, by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.