



St. John's Parish
Roman Catholic Church

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AN ENSLAVED AND DISTRACTED HEART

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - AUGUST 3, 2025

Today's Gospel passage (cf. Lk 12:13-21) begins with the narrative of a man who stands up among the multitude and asks Jesus to settle a legal matter concerning a family inheritance. However, Jesus does not address the matter in his reply, but rather urges the people to eschew covetousness, that is, the greed of possession. In order to divert his listeners from this exhausting search for wealth, Jesus tells the parable of the foolish rich man who believes he is happy because he has had the good fortune to reap an exceptional harvest and he feels secure thanks to the goods he has accumulated. It would do you good to read it today; it is in the 12th Chapter of Saint Luke, verse 13. It is a beautiful parable that teaches us a great deal. The narrative comes to the fore in the contrast between what the rich man plans for himself and what God plans for him instead.

The rich man puts three considerations before his soul, that is, himself: the accumulated goods, the many years that these goods appear to ensure him, and thirdly tranquility and unrestrained enjoyment (cf v. 19). But the word that God addresses to him nullifies his plans. Instead of "many years", God points to the immediacy of "this night; tonight you will die". Instead of the "enjoyment of life", He presents him with "surrendering his life; you will render your life to God" with the ensuing judgment. Regarding the reality of the ample goods accumulated on which the rich man had based everything, it becomes shrouded in sarcasm by the question: "and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" (v. 20). Let us think about quarrels over inheritance, many family quarrels. And how many people; we all know some stories about many people, who turn up at the time of death: nephews, grandchildren come around to see: "what is my share?", and they cart everything away. It is within this contrast that the term "fool" — because he thinks about things that he believes to be concrete but that are fantasy — with which God addresses this man, is justified. He is foolish because in practice he has denied God, he has not taken Him into account.

The end of the parable as recounted by the Evangelist is uniquely effective: "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God" (v. 21). It is a warning which reveals the horizon towards which we are called to look. Material goods are necessary — they are goods! —, but they are a means to live honestly and in sharing with the neediest. Today, Jesus invites us to consider that wealth can enslave the heart and distract it from the true treasure which is in heaven. Saint Paul also reminds us of this in today's second reading. It says "seek the things that are above.... Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth" (Col 3:1-2).

It is understood that this does not mean estranging oneself from reality, but rather seeking the things that have true value: justice, solidarity, welcome, fraternity, peace, all things that make up the true dignity of mankind. It is a case of leading a life that is fulfilled not according to a worldly manner, but rather according to the style of the Gospel: to love God with all one's being, and love one's neighbour as Jesus loved him, that is, in service and in giving oneself. Covetousness of goods, the desire to have goods, does not satisfy the heart, but rather causes more hunger! Covetousness is like those tasty candies: you take one and say: "Ah! It is so good", and then you take another; and one follows the other. Such is covetousness: it never satisfies. Be careful! Love that is understood and lived in [the style of the Gospel] is the source of true happiness, whereas the exaggerated search for material goods and wealth is often a source of anxiety, adversity, abuse of power, war. Many wars begin from covetousness.

May the Virgin Mary help us not to be attracted by forms of security that fade, but rather to be credible witnesses of the eternal values of the Gospel, each day.

POPE FRANCIS — August 4, 2019

ENGLISH MASS SCHEDULE

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, August 2 **5:00 PM**
+Asdreed Apelian

Sunday, August 3 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, August 5 **11:00 AM**

Wednesday, August 6 **11:00 AM**
The Transfiguration of the Lord
+Ron & Pauline Craig

Thursday, August 7 **11:00 AM**

Friday, August 8 **11:00 AM**
St. Dominic

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, August 9 **5:00 PM**

Sunday, August 10 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

MISAS EN ESPAÑOL

XVIII Domingo Ordinario

Sabado 2 de Agosto **7:00 PM**
+Marvin Castillo Courtade

Domingo 3 de Agosto **11:00 AM & 1:00 PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Martes 5 de Agosto **12:00 PM**

Miercoles 6 de Agosto **12:00 PM**
La Transfiguración del Señor

Jueves 7 de Agosto **12:00 PM**

Viernes 8 de Agosto **12:00 PM**
Santo Domingo

XIX Domingo Ordinario

Sabado 9 de Agosto **7:00 PM**
+Teresa Morales Castro +Pedro Antonio Molina

Domingo 10 de Agosto **11:00 AM & 1:00 PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Summer advice from Pope Leo

The summer season can help us learn how to slow down and become more like Mary than Martha. Sometimes we too fail to choose the better part. We need to take time to rest and try to learn better the art of hospitality. The holiday industry wants to sell us all sorts of “experiences,” but perhaps not the ones we are really looking for. Every genuine encounter is free; it cannot be bought, whether it is an encounter with God, with others or with nature. We need only learn the art of hospitality, which includes both welcoming others and allowing ourselves to be welcomed. We have much to receive, not only to give. Abraham and Sarah, despite their advanced years, found themselves being parents after they welcomed the Lord himself in the three visitors. We too have so much life ahead of us, remaining to be welcomed and embraced. *Angelus, Sunday, July 20, 2025*

Consejo del Papa León para el Verano

El tiempo de verano puede ayudarnos a “bajar el ritmo” y a parecernos más a María que a Marta. A veces no nos permitimos los mejores momentos. Necesitamos gozar de tener un poco de descanso, con el deseo de aprender más sobre el arte de la hospitalidad. La industria de las vacaciones quiere vendernos todo tipo de experiencias, pero quizá no lo que buscamos. En efecto, todo encuentro verdadero no se puede comprar, es gratuito: sea el que se tiene con Dios, como el que se tiene con los demás, o incluso con la naturaleza. Se necesita solamente hacerse huésped: hacer espacio y también pedirlo; acoger y dejarse acoger. Tenemos mucho que recibir y no sólo que dar. Abraham y Sara, aunque eran ancianos, se encontraron fecundos cuando acogieron discretamente al Señor mismo en tres viajeros. También para nosotros, aún hay tanta vida por acoger. *Angelus, domingo 20 de julio, 2025*

Descubramos juntos lo que Dios nos pide

Los invitamos a responder este breve formulario para descubrir como servir mejor a los niños y familias de nuestra comunidad, explorando sus intereses, desafíos y realidades. Esta herramienta nos permitirá escuchar sus voces, discernir juntos y construir una comunidad más fuerte, cercana y enraizada en la fe. Esta encuesta la encontrarás:

En Facebook: está publicado en nuestra página principal

En Instagram: en el enlace de la biografía (Usuario: parroquiaguadalupekw)

Acceder a este enlace: <https://forms.gle/UVLS2PqgcrGde7JWA>

O a través del código QR que está a la derecha

