



This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We are empowered to build God's kingdom as we guard against greed and worldly attachments.

PROMISE:

"When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory."

(Col 3:4)

WORD:

Ecc 1:2, 2:21-23/ Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17/
Col 3:1-5, 9-11/ Lk 12:13-21

ORDERS:

- *Seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.* (Col 3:1-2)
- *Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions.* (Lk 12:15)
- *Put to death, then, the parts of you that are not earthly.* (Col 3:5)

DIRECTIONS:

- Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in everything you do, say, and think of.
- Set our heart on one true treasure which is desiring and loving God alone and above all else.
- Be good stewards of time, talent and treasure that God gives us, sharing them generously to others for God's glory.
- Let Christ' examples manifest in you through good deeds, prayers and mission works.
- Soak yourselves in prayers and meditate on the Word of God to fight all temptations of sin and greed.

Do Not Be A Fool

REFLECTION:

In our Gospel (Lk 12:13-21), we heard Jesus talk about the parable of the rich fool. In this parable, a rich man's land has yielded more crops than expected. But his goal was to find a storage for his abundant harvest instead of sharing the extra food to other people in need. So, he planned on tearing down his smaller barn and build a larger one so that he can store all his crops. He thought that once he does that, he will be set for a life of eating, drinking and being merry. But God responded to the rich man and said *"You fool, this very night your life will be demanded of you"*.



In our society, especially here in the USA, we work hard so that we can possess material attachments or wealth. Remember our 401K, I believe it's now called 101k, we save and accumulate more money or wealth so that when we retire, we can *"relax, eat, drink and be merry"*. Here in the good old USA, isn't this how we live to be good, productive people? Don't we live in a culture where

the goal is to be financially independent and be able to provide for our family, food on our table, college funds for our children, retirement money for when we retire? Isn't this what we are supposed to be doing? Why is having money or wealth a bad thing? Money pays for our food, pays for the maintenance of this church, pays for the heat and everything else.

So what is the problem?... Material things are not bad, what is bad is when these material things take over our lives, when we become slaves to our houses, our cars, recognition, attention, even our youth. Brothers and sisters, Jesus did not condemn wealth or having money or possessions or relaxing, eating, drinking and being merry. In fact, there are references in the Gospel that Jesus also ate, drank and relaxed with his disciples. He is warning us that if we were to think that happiness will come from material things, then we are surely missing the point.

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Aging



Aging is not a condemnation, but a blessing! For this reason, we ought to take care of ourselves and remain active in our later years. This is also true from a spiritual standpoint: we ought to cultivate our interior life through the assiduous reading of the word of God, daily prayer, reception of the sacraments and participation in the liturgy. In addition to our relationship with God, we should also cultivate our relationships with others: first of all by showing affectionate concern for our families, our children and grandchildren, but also for the poor and those who suffer, by drawing near to them with practical assistance and our prayers. These things will help us not to feel like mere bystanders, sitting on our porches or looking out from our windows, as life goes on all around us. Instead, we should learn to discern everywhere the presence of the Lord.

~ Pope Francis

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BLD Trenton Foundation, Inc.
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The Lord's Provision

July 22, 2022

Tithe : \$360.00
Love Offer : \$272.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Jojo Cac	7/29	Grace Antona	8/2
Domenick Palumbo	7/30	Krisnan DelaCruz	8/2
Inday Jalamana	8/1	Dritz Mance	8/3
Art Butulan	8/1	Gina Ramos	8/3
Eric Mance	8/4		

Anniversary

Herman & Letty Butay 8/1

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Mama Mary's visit - Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407
For Prayer Service - Bert & Cora Velez 732-688-1541



Tending the Flock

Greed vs. Love

Greed wants to divide, just as love desires to gather. What is the significance of 'guard against all greed,' unless it is 'fill yourselves with love?' We, possessing love for our portion, inconvenience the Lord because of our brother just as that man did against his brother, but we do not use the same plea. He said, 'Master, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' We say, 'Master, tell my brother that he may have my inheritance.'

~ Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD)

Last Week's Prophecies



- *My child, I am pleased when you intercede for your brothers and sisters for this reveals your compassionate hearts."*
- *Rejoice, my children! Do not let your hearts be troubled...I am in your midst listening and embracing you. Continue praying, pray unceasingly.*
- *Thank you for coming. It's not only you that asks. I am always asking you. It's not only you who searched.*

I have called and searched for you. It's not only you who knocks. I am always knocking at your hearts. Thank you for answering my calls for praising and worshipping My Father and Me.

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He called the rich farmer a fool not because he is wealthy or he saves for the future. He called him a fool because he appeared to live only for himself. He called him a fool because he believed that he could secure his life with his abundant possessions. Jesus described him as a fool because he based his life on the foundation of two lies: that more makes you happier, and that enough gives you security.

When the rich man saved his crops, he only wanted to save it for himself and nobody else. He never

even thought about sharing his yield to his workers. He did not even express any gratitude to God for his abundant blessings or even thanked his workers. It was all, me, myself and I.

Jesus calls us to something else. When He came to our lives, He lived a very poor life, poor in terms of possessions and wealth. He spent His life serving us and eventually dying for us. And for this, He invites us to his life, a life of giving, a life of loving and serving others. He wants us to put our trust and faith in Him

because if we do that, we will reap the benefits in heaven. Material attachments or things are temporary as we all know that we cannot bring them to our grave. But there is one thing that we can take all along and that is love; our love for God and one another. Let us share our wealth to those people in need. Let us be generous in sharing with others our time, talents and treasure for God's glory. This is what our Lord Jesus wants us to do, to follow His lead.