This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We know and follow Christ's teachings when we are prudent and trustworthy stewards of God's gifts and provisions.

PROMISE:

"This is good and pleasing to God our savior, who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth." (1 Tim 2:3, 4).

WORD:

Am 8:4-7/ Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8/ 1 Tim 2:1-8/ Lk 16:1-13

ORDERS:

• Prepare a full account of your stewardship. (Lk 16:2b)

DIRECTIONS:

 Generously and joyfully share your time, treasure and talents for the benefit of others and to advance the kingdom of God.

Community Wews

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True Measure Of Success

REFLECTION:

Do you give priority to work for your spiritual salvation?

The 1st reading depicts how social injustice is committed by the disregard of human dignity in exchange for wealth and money. The prophet Amos said that God's concern is our salvation and should be our

primary concern too. In the 2nd reading, St. Paul counsels us that our prayers should be accompanied by a life of justice and respect for human dignity.

Jesus is a very practical man and His parables lead us to life stories that sometimes disturb us. The Gospel parable tells us, "And the master commended the dishonest steward for acting prudently. For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light." (Lk 16:8). The master's reaction of commending and praising the dishonest steward is confusing. The steward who is about to lose his job had devised a scheme to secure his



future. He lessened the goods or amount due to the master to earn a favor from the debtors, and by winning them as friends he might be able to save himself and secure his future needs, for he is not strong enough to work. Is Jesus telling us that the action of the steward is worth

emulating? Definitely not! The lesson that Jesus wants to convey is the quick and immediate action of the dishonest steward to save himself and his future. It is not the act of squandering and cheating that are being commended but by such prudence on the part of the steward to act promptly to save himself. This should be the kind of attitude when it comes to our spiritual salvation, to act prudently when our salvation is at stake.

If we are able to make plans for our future, make interventions and sacrifices for worldly goods, how much more should we make more sacrifices for our spiritual investments! We exert so much time and

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The Best Use Of Wealth

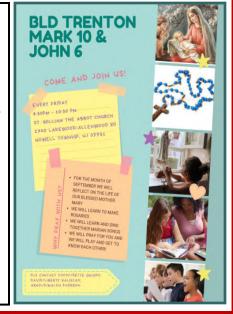
Telling the Parable of the dishonest but very crafty administrator, Christ teaches his disciples the best way to use money and material riches, that is, to share them with the poor, thus acquiring their friendship, with a view to the Kingdom of Heaven...

Money is not "dishonest" in itself, but more than anything else it can close man in a blind egocentrism. It therefore concerns a type of work of "conversion" of economic goods: instead of using them only for self-interest, it is also necessary to think of the needs of the poor, imitating Christ himself, who, as St Paul wrote: "though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich" (2 Cor 8: 9).

It seems paradoxical: Christ has not enriched us with his richness but with his poverty, with his love that brought him to give himself totally to us.

Here one could open up a vast and complex field of reflection on the theme of poverty and riches, also on a world scale, in which two logics of economics oppose each other: the logic of profit and that of the equal distribution of goods, which do not contradict each other if their relationship is well ordered.

~ Pope Benedict XVI Angelus Message, September 23, 2007



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The Lord's Provision

September 9, 2022

Tithe : \$ 2,580.00 Love Of : \$ 176.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's blessings

Birthday

Lalaine Academia 9/16 TJ San Miguel 9/19 Cesar Agustin 9/16 Arlene Roldan 9/19 Archie Arigorat 9/16 Jan Fune 9/20 Alan San Rafael 9/18 Det Quiapo 9/20 Bong Saria 9/19 Caryn Monta 9/21 Jessica Matthews 9/19 Cesar Angeles 9/22 Jaye Jacinto 9/22

Anniversary

Yoyoy & Det Quiapo 9/20 Louie and Lani Hombrebueno 9/21

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

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

A perfect religious exterior can serve to hide the mere satisfaction of one's own needs, the quest of personal prestige, the desire for a certain social status or to keep things under control, the thirst for power and privilege, the desire for recognition and so on... The Lord demands a different attitude. To follow him does not mean to become part of a court or a triumphal procession, or even to receive a lifetime insurance policy. On the contrary, it means "carrying one's cross": shouldering, like him, one's own burdens and those of others, making one's life a gift, not a possession, spending it in imitation of his own

~ Pope Francis

Last Week's Prophecies

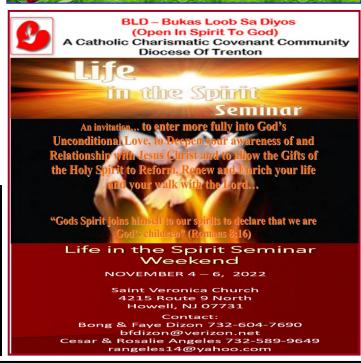
generous and merciful love for us. These are decisions

that engage the totality of our lives.



- There is no greater sin that I cannot forgive. I came to search for you and I will find you for I have loved you.
- Your heart is not made out of stone but is made out of love. Forgive and you will be forgiven.
- My child, there can be no healing unless there is first forgiveness.

Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might be rich.



Success - Cont'd from Page 1

effort to acquire wealth and personal needs, so we must also exert extra effort and exhaust all means for our spiritual wellness. The world equates success to fame, wealth, position and power. If the world defines prosperity as success, with Jesus it is righteousness. It is not what we see from the outside but what is in one's heart. Money and material possessions are good, but these can only become God's blessings if shared with others, with the mindset that everything comes from God and should be used for His honor and glory.

The letter of St. Paul to Timothy exhorts us, "First of all, I ask that

supplications, prayers, petitions and thanksgiving be offered to everyone, for kings and for all in authority, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life" (1 Tim 2:1). It gives a clear view on what intervention should be done to prepare us. Yes, it is through constant communication to our Father through prayer. And praying not only for our needs and sanctification but for the holiness and transformation of others as well. We are blessed to be part of the community where we are being nourished by God's word, through our weekly word sharing circles, and communing and being united with our Triune God through our weekly

worship. Our service to Jesus is the love of the Lord being extended and manifested through our love and care to our brothers and sisters in community and to the poor communities and outreaches. Are we not on the right track of pleasing our God and saving for our future, that through His grace we can attain salvation?

It is clear that God, our Father, is so concerned with His children; it is His desire for all of us to be saved. St. Paul gives us this assurance, "This is good and pleasing to God our savior, who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth," (1 Tim 2:3, 4).