

SUNDAY, September 26, 2021
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Prayer for the Morning

Jesus Christ alone is our treasure: let us give thanks and praise!

Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!

Hymn **Meter: 76 76 D**

No weight of gold or silver
Can measure human worth;
No soul secures its ransom
With all the wealth of earth;
No sinners find their freedom
But by the gift unpriced,
The Lamb of God unblemished,
The precious blood of Christ.
In Christ the past is over,
A new world now begins.
With him we rise to freedom
Who saves us from our sins.
We live by faith in Jesus
To make his glory known:
Behold, the Man of sorrows,
The Lamb upon his throne!

Psalm **49:6-13, 17-18, 21**

Your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. (Jas 5:3)

Apparently we human beings have long been tempted to imagine that wealth will buy us all we want, even some form of immortality. In fact, the only wealth that buys life everlasting is the saving love of Jesus Christ, which we receive with gratitude today in the Eucharist.

Why should I fear in evil days
the malice of the foes who surround me,
men who trust in their wealth,
and boast of the vastness of their riches?
For no man can buy his own ransom,
or pay a price to God for his life.
The ransom of his soul is beyond him.
He cannot buy life without end,
nor avoid coming to the grave.
He knows that wise men and fools must both
perish and leave their wealth to others.
Their graves are their homes for ever,

their dwelling place from age to age,
though their names spread wide through the land.
In his riches, man lacks wisdom:
he is like the beasts that are destroyed.
Then do not fear when a man grows rich,
when the glory of his house increases.
He takes nothing with him when he dies,
his glory does not follow him below.
In his riches, man lacks wisdom:
he is like the beasts that are destroyed.
Glory to the Father....

Word of God **1 Peter 1:17-19**

Now if you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb.

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. (Mt 6:19)

Canticle of Zechariah

Store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. (Mt 6:20)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on

those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father...

Intercessions

Life in Christ is true wealth. In our need, we cry out:

R/Lord, hear our prayer!

You became poor that we might become rich:

– teach us to store up true treasure in heaven. **R/**

You emptied yourself to fill our emptiness:

– grant us a receptive and grateful heart. **R/**

You died to give us life:

– grant us the grace to live in and for you. **R/**

Personal intentions

Our Father....

O God, the source of all our good, deliver us from the deception of false gold that glitters but does not give life. Empty us of our self-seeking, that we may be filled with Christ and live lives of self-giving in him, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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Reading 1

Numbers 11:25-29

The Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. Taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, the Lord bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied.

Now two men, one named Eldad and the other Medad, were not in the gathering but had been left in the camp. They too had been on the list, but had not gone out to the tent; yet the spirit came to rest on them also, and they prophesied in the camp. So, when a young man quickly told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp,” Joshua, son of Nun, who from his youth had been Moses’ aide, said, “Moses, my lord, stop them.” But Moses answered him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the Lord were prophets! Would that the Lord might bestow his spirit on them all!

Reading 2

James 5:1-6

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will

be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter. You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous one; he offers you no resistance.

Gospel

Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

At that time, John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us.” Jesus replied, “Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us. Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.

“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna, where ‘their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.’”

Men of St. Joseph Prayer

St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God’s commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God’s will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family’s salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!

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