

## **Catholic Church Bulletin Insert**

*Revealing Peace & Justice through Scripture from – “In the beginning...” (Gn 1:1) to “The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all. Amen!” (Rev 2:21)™*

September 26, 2010

The 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Amos 6: 1a, 4 – 7

1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6: 11 – 16

Luke 16: 19 – 31

The Gospel reading is the story of poor Lazarus begging at the rich man’s gate in Luke 16: 19 – 31. This is the perfect companion to last week’s gospel of The Unjust Steward (Lk 16: 1 – 13). Poor Lazarus would be happy with only the crumbs from the rich man’s table. Contrast this to the Unjust Steward who wisely distributes his master’s gifts by eliminating debt and so garner’s favor for his master.

In The Beatitudes (Matthew 5: 1– 10) Jesus might have had poor Lazarus in mind. The 1<sup>st</sup> Beatitude is “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God”. The blessed in spirit are so blessed because they acknowledge their radical dependence upon the Lord, with the awareness that living day-to-day is a gift from God. Let that thought sink in for a brief moment.

Jesus says that the Kingdom of God is worth the wait – to the 70% of the world’s population that lives in complete and total poverty and with no idea where their next meal is coming from. Like Lazarus and the poor in our neighborhood and around the world, we should strive to find our treasure not in earthly riches or success, but in God’s faithfulness and love. This is easier said than done.

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