

September 28th 26th 2025 Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year C - Luke 16:19-31

¹⁶⁻¹⁹There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: ²⁰And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, ²¹And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. ²²And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; ²³And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. ²⁵But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. ²⁶And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. ²⁷Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: ²⁸For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. ²⁹Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. ³⁰And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. ³¹And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

➤ **Read and re-read** – out loud and slowly the Gospel.

➤ **Meditate** - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.

➤ **Pray** - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition.

➤ **Action** – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).

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In this week's gospel we read about the rich man and Lazarus. The rich man dressed in fine linen and royal purple, the dye which was obtained from exotic shellfish and was available only to the very wealthy. The colour was a status symbol. He was rich in privilege and wealth. Lazarus came each day to eat the crumbs which the rich man provided. The rich man was not punished because he was rich but because he failed to notice him or call him by his name.

How do we spend our money and time which are God given gifts to be used for the good of all? Are we so pre-occupied with our goods that we fail to notice those less well off?

Prayer:

Lord thank you for the people you send us who recognise our loneliness and feelings of being ignored and rejected who bring us to a new place where we feel safe and cherished.

Forgive us Lord for the times that we failed to notice those crying out for our help and in a quiet way often give us hints of how they feel..

Help us Lord to bring the right values to our children and all those around us teaching them that it is not always fine linen and feasting magnificently that are important but being kind and compassionate to those less well off.

