

Gospel Reflection

In the time of the prophet Amos, a few people enjoyed a superabundance of material goods. But it wasn't the wealth itself that the prophet saw as problematic. Amos preached against the complacency that deafened the wealthy to the cries of the poor and prevented them from alleviating their suffering. Even worse, complacency blinded them to the ways in which their own habits of doing business, buying, and consuming goods contributed to the oppression of the needy on their doorsteps.

In our own time, too, the wealthiest nations consume a huge share of the world's natural resources, while millions of people cannot obtain basic necessities. On a global scale, it seems that as the rich get richer the poor get poorer. The high standard of living in one country, region, or social class almost always seems to come at the expense of extreme poverty in other countries, regions, or social classes.

Those of us who live in comfort can't afford to be complacent about the chasm between the rich and the poor. It was bad enough that the people of Amos' time were deaf to the cries of the oppressed. We Christians have the added benefit of hearing the message from someone who rose from the dead. Today's scriptures warn us to listen and repent. If we don't ease Lazarus' torment now, we must be prepared to suffer the consequences.

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KEEPING FAITH FIRST FAMILY FUN

Luke 16:19-31

P V D F L G F T D D J A Y
I C I L G A O T E S H B S
T G P N R R Z T R X X R U
Y N C O M O R A K R D A O
Z G E E O O W Y R F L H U
E J N N F R J R Q U M A T
R T X M I A V O E B S M P
T K O U O L Q P X H I F M
G C G A R M E N T S T O U
N Q T D A R K Z G C S E S
I B N I M T P V O O F W N
Y C H A S M G O B G J E J
L E W B G E L P R U P Q L

Find these words from the Gospel passage.

ABRAHAM	BOSOM	CHASM
COMFORTED	COOL	GARMENTS
LAZARUS	LINEN	LYING
NETHERWORLD	PITY	POOR
PURPLE	SUMPTUOUS	TORMENT

Disciple's Reflection & Questions of the Week

*Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9/30/07*

*Luke 16:19-31
Faith-Sharing
Questions of the Week*



Our Lady of the Assumption

435 Berkeley Ave.
Claremont, CA
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Call to Prayer

We begin by calling upon God:

**In the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the
Holy Spirit, Amen.**

We then pause for a moment to listen with our hearts to this week's Gospel passage...

The Word of God: *Luke 16:19-31*

The Gospel according to Luke:

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores.

"When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.

"The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side.

"And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.'

"Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good

during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.'

"He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.'

"But Abraham replied, 'They had Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.'

"He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

"Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"

The Gospel of the Lord



Father Abraham, have pity on me

Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week

- Who are the poor lying at my door?
- What is one thing that I could do to 'live more simply, so others may simply live?'

Closing Prayer

Father,

You show your almighty power in your mercy and forgiveness. Continue to fill us with your gifts of love. Help us to hurry towards the eternal life you promise.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time