

Diocese of Arua



Catholic Sunday Mass Readings for September 25 2022, Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C – Sunday Homily

1st Reading – Amos 6:1A, 4-7

Thus says the LORD the God of hosts:

^{1A} Woe to the complacent in Zion!

⁴ Lying upon beds of ivory, stretched comfortably on their couches, they eat lambs taken from the flock, and calves from the stall!

⁵ Improvising to the music of the harp, like David, they devise their own accompaniment.

⁶ They drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the best oils; yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph!

⁷ Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 146:7, 8-9, 9-10

R. (1b) Praise the Lord, my soul!

or:

R. Alleluia.

⁷ Blessed he who keeps faith forever,
secures justice for the oppressed,
gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets captives free.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

SUNDAY MASS READINGS

or:
R. Alleluia.

⁸ The LORD gives sight to the blind;
the LORD raises up those who were bowed down.
The LORD loves the just;
^{9A} the LORD protects strangers.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

or:
R. Alleluia.

^{9B} The fatherless and the widow he sustains,
but the way of the wicked he thwarts.
¹⁰ The LORD shall reign forever;
your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia.

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

or:
R. Alleluia.

2nd Reading – 1 Timothy 6:11-16

¹¹ But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness.

¹² Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses.

¹³ I charge you before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession,

¹⁴ to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ

¹⁵ that the blessed and only ruler will make manifest at the proper time, the King of kings and Lord of lords,

¹⁶ who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, and whom no human being has seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal power. Amen.

Alleluia – 2 Corinthians 8:9

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

⁹ Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – Luke 16:19-31

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day.

²⁰ And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,

²¹ 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.

²² When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried,

²³ and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side.

²⁴ 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.’

²⁵ 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.

²⁶ 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.’

²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, send him to my father’s house,

²⁸ for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.’

²⁹ But Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.’

³⁰ He said, ‘Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

³¹ 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.’”

Sunday Mass Readings Homily – September 25 2022, Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

The Riches of Lazarus – Luke 16:19-31

Jesus said to the Pharisees:

¹⁹ *“There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day.*

²⁰ *And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,*

²¹ *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.*

Luke 16:19-31

Catholic Readings For Today

Today’s Bible Verse of the Day Reflections

From one perspective, Lazarus was existing in a very undesirable state. He was poor, starving, and miserable. He was covered with sores that dogs would lick. This is very descriptive language used by Jesus and it’s helpful to do your best to imagine this miserable physical state that Lazarus was in.

The key to this story is that even though Lazarus was in a miserable physical condition, his soul was in the hands of God. We know that to be true, because we are told that when he died, he was “carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham” (Luke 16:22).

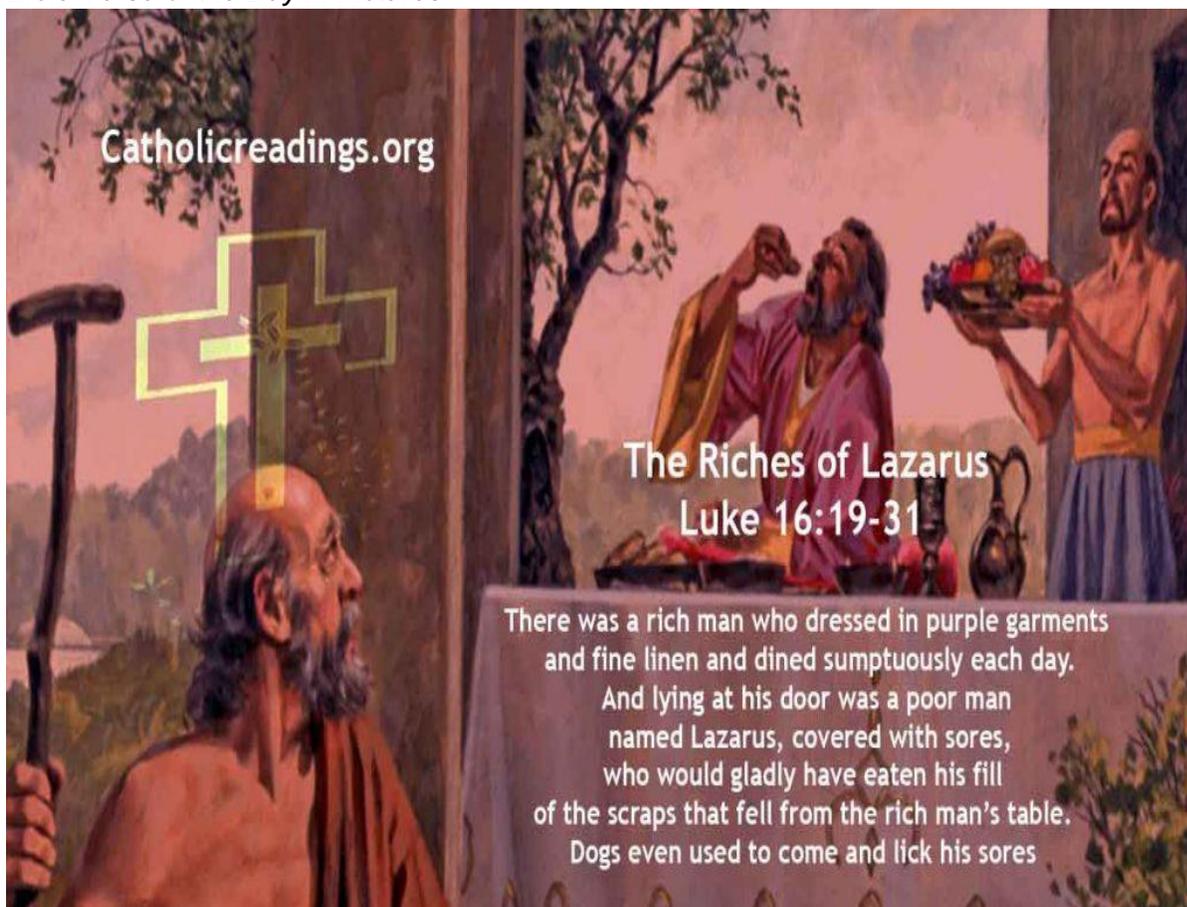
This story provides us all with an opportunity to look at what is most important in life. The rich man had all he wanted in this life but clearly lacked charity on account of the fact that he ignored the physical needs of Lazarus. For that reason, the rich man was spiritually impoverished, whereas Lazarus was spiritually prosperous.

When you can keep your eyes on what is most important in life, spiritual wealth, it will make the many other hardships you endure less burdensome. Perhaps you will never be in the same physical condition as Lazarus, but you may encounter other great pains and hardships in life. When this happens, the tendency may be to become fixated upon those sufferings and to take your eyes off your interior union with God.

Reflect, today, upon how you would deal with living like Lazarus. Reflect upon what your own “sores” are in life. They may be varied in type, degree and number from those of other people’s sufferings, but they will be encountered in your life. As you identify your suffering, turn your eyes from it to the presence of God in your soul, and allow His presence to fill you with the riches of His grace.

Prayer: Lord, I offer to You my suffering and pain, my misery and hurt. Help me to always keep my eyes on You and to seek satisfaction only in the riches of Heaven. Fill my heart, especially, with love of You and charity for others so that I will be truly rich in what matters most. Jesus, I trust in You. **Amen.**

SUNDAY MASS READINGS



The Riches of Lazarus
Luke 16:19-31

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

Riches of Lazarus – Luke 16:19-31 – Bible Verse of the Day