

August 4-5, 2007
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23 Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:12-21

If you see a discarded ladder by the side of the road, would you pull over to fetch it? In your closet, are there any items that no longer fit...but you keep them anyway in hopes of perhaps one day returning to that size? Any bizarre bottles of 'sauce' or infused sugars sitting in your pantry that you received in a Christmas gift-basket many years ago? How about CDs to which you have not listened in over two, three or four years? The temptation to GET and to HOLD ON is strong within our culture. We accumulate things, our garages are frequently filled with many things other than our cars. While some people may be afflicted with a disease to obsessively possess, most of us simply accumulate items with the thought of 'someday' needing them...combined with not wanting to part with something for which hard-earned money was spent. This weekend's Scripture selections remind us that all things of value do not share an equal priority and cautions us to see and value things with more than just our wallets or eyes. Indeed, the Gospel of Luke is hard-hitting, 'this very night your life will be demanded of you; and all the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Ouch. Yes, new yard furniture is lovely....but the friends who will enjoy the furniture with you are far more important. Yes, the new car or home is grand....but it's nice having the resources to pay for emergency legal fees or emergency surgery. All the possessions in the world, the finest diamonds, gold and precious commodities, don't really impress a God who created Yosemite and the Grand Canyon. There is a sage old saying, 'You can't take it with you.' So, when we die and stand in the presence of God, what will we have to show for our lives? If we don't have our possessions, our accumulations, our accomplishments, our degrees or trappings of prestige/success....what will we have? When all is stripped away, what will remain?

August arrives, the traditional 'Dog-Days' of Summer when the days are languid and September is on the horizon. Thank you for joining with our Corpus Christi Community and sharing this weekend with us. We welcome representatives of Beta Foster Care to our midst this weekend as they share their stories of Foster Families. For those of you interested in learning more information about becoming a Foster Family, you are invited to a FREE picnic THIS AFTERNOON (Sunday) at 4:30 on our lawn at which the Beta Foster Care Reps will share more extensively. The Bulletin also contains info on other upcoming parish happenings, of special note will be our 'Summer Sunday Social on the Lawn' which will occur on Sunday, August 26th....the reservation forms are in today's Bulletin! As you head off to a picnic at the beach, a day by the pool or perhaps coming back for the Beta Foster Care program here...remember, you are loved. FKB