

Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church

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**Celebration of the Holy Mysteries**

**RECITATION OF THE HOLY ROSARY AND CONFESSIONS:** ½ HR BEFORE DIVINE LITURGY

**BAPTISM & CHRISMATION / ANNOINTING OF THE SICK / COMMUNION CALLS & VISITATIONS:**

CONTACT FR. IHOR TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION:**

CONTACT FR. IHOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO SETTING THE ACTUAL WEDDING DATE

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN:**

CONTACT MRS. CHRISTINA VOGEL AT (603) 686-2092 TO REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN

**SCHEDULE OF DIVINE LITURGIES:**

SUNDAYS: 10 AM (September thru May) MON THRU SAT: AS NOTED IN WEEKLY BULLETIN

 9 AM (June thru August) HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION: 7 PM

**DIVINE LITURGY AND VESPERS SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2022**

**Sunday, September 25th – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Divine Liturgy: 10 AM Propers: Tone 7 Vestments: Bright

Epistle: 2Corinthians 6: 1-10 Gospel: St. Luke 5: 1 – 11

Intention: For all Parishioners and Recitation of the Holy Rosary for Peace and an End to the War in Ukraine

**Saturday, October 1st (10 AM): Feast of the Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Saturday, October 1st (7 PM):** Vespers Service

***Divine Liturgy and Vespers Services Schedule and Intentions for October and November***

**Sunday, October 2nd (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, October 8th (10 AM):** For the blessed repose of the soul of **+Helen** Horangic with Panakhyda offered by the Horangic Family

**Saturday, October 8th (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, October 9th (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, October 15th (10 AM):** For the blessed repose of the soul of **+Walter** Horangic with Panakhyda offered by the Horangic Family

**Saturday, October 15th (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, October 16th (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, October 22nd (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, October 23rd (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, October 29th (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, October 30th (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, November 5th (10 AM):** For the blessed repose of the soul of **+Stefan** Maksymowych with Panakhyda, offered by the Maksymowych Family

**Saturday, November 5th (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, November 6th (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, November 12th (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, November 13th (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, November 19th (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, November 20th (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Thursday, November 24th (10 AM): Thanksgiving Day**

**Saturday, November 26th (10 AM):** For the blessed repose of the soul of **+Romana Khrystyna** Maksymowych with Panakhyda, offered by the Maksymowych Family

**Saturday, November 26th (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, November 27th (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday Services**

Fr. Ihor is celebrating Vesper services every Saturday at 7 PM. All parishioners are invited to attend this beautiful service. Those who wish to have a Divine Liturgy celebrated for a loved one whether living or deceased or for a private intention are still able to do so. Please request your Divine Liturgy by contacting Fr. Ihor at (860) 617-6357 or cantor Jerry Maksymowych at (603) 627-2042. Please note that Saturday Divine Liturgies will now be celebrated only at 10 AM whenever they are requested. If no Divine Liturgy has been requested for a particular Saturday, then none will be celebrated on that day. The Divine Liturgy schedule in the bulletin will only show 10 AM Divine Liturgies on Saturdays when they have been requested. If the bulletin does not show a 10 AM Divine Liturgy for a given Saturday, then this means that particular Saturday is available for your request.

**Суботні Богослужіння**

Oтeць Ігор святкує Bечірню кожної суботи у 7-мі годині вечером. Ласкаво просимо усіх парафіян до участи. Парафіяни які бажають замовити Божественну Літургію в суботу для померших або на особисті інтенції можуть дзвoнити дo o. Iгopя нa нoмep (860) 617-6357 aбo дo дякa п. Яpocлaвa Maкcимoвичa нa нoмep (603) 627-2042. Суботні Божественні Літургії будуть відслужені тільки о годині 10-тій ранком кoли замoвлeні. Якщо Літургія в певну суботу не будe замовлeнa, то в цей день не буде жодна відпpaвлeна. Порядок Богослужінь в бюлетeнi покаже тільки ті суботні Служби Божі які є замовлені. Якщо в бюлетені не відображається Божественна Літургія на дану суботу, то це означає, що ця субота доступна нa Baшe замовлeня.

***Liturgical Propers, Readings and Sermon for Sunday***

**Liturgical Propers for the Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Resurrectional Tropar – Tone 7:** By Your Cross You destroyed death. You opened paradise to the thief. The tears of the myrrh-bearing women You wiped away; then You commanded them to tell the apostles the news that You have risen, O Christ-God, and have shown the world great mercy.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and forever. Amen.

**Resurrectional Kondak – Tone 7:** No longer can the power of death hold man, for Christ descended and destroyed its might. Now hell finds itself in chains. The prophets join in voicing their joy. The Savior stands before those who believe and says: “Come forth, you faithful, and live!”

**Prokimen (Tone 7):** May the Lord give strength to His people; may the Lord bless His people with peace.

VERSE: Give glory and praise to the Lord, you children of God.

**Prokimen (Tone 7):** May the Lord give strength to His people; may the Lord bless His people with peace.

**Апостол (2Кор 6,1-10)**

До Коринтян поcлaння cв. aпоcтoлa Пaвлa читaння.

Браття, як співробітники, ми закликаємо вас, щоб благодаті Божої не приймати марно. Бо каже: “Сприятливого часу я вислухав тебе, і в день спасіння я допоміг тобі. Ось тепер - час сприятливий, ось тепер - день спасіння.” Ми не даємо нікому ніякої нагоди до спотикання, щоб не виставляти на глум наше служіння; але в усьому виявляємо себе, як слуг Божих, у великій терпеливості, скорботах, у нуждах, у тіснотах, під ударами, в темницях, у заколотах, у трудах, у неспанні, у постах, у чистоті, у знанні, у довготерпеливості, у лагідності, у Святому Дусі, у щирій любові, у слові правди, в силі Божій, у зброї справедливости в правиці й лівиці, у славі й безчесті, у наклепах і добрій славі; як обманці, однак правдиві, як незнанні, а проте надто знані; як ті, що вмирають, а все живі; як карaні, та не забиті; як сумні, та завжди веселі; як бідні, а багатьох збагачуємо; як ті, що нічого не мають, а все посідаємо.

**Epistle Reading for Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (2Corinthians 6: 1-10)**

A reading of the letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

Brethren: As your fellow workers we beg you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says, “In an acceptable time I have heard you; on a day of salvation I have helped you.” Now is the acceptable time! Now is the day of salvation! We avoid giving anyone offense, so that our ministry may not be blamed. On the contrary, in all that we do we strive to present ourselves as ministers of God, acting with patient endurance amid trials, difficulties, distresses, beatings, imprisonments, and riots; as men familiar with hard work, sleepless nights, and fasting; conducting ourselves with innocence, knowledge, and patience, in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love as men with the message of truth and the power of God; wielding the weapons of righteousness with right hand and left, whether honored or dishonored, spoken of well or ill. We are called imposters, yet we are truthful; nobodies who in fact are well known; dead, yet here we are alive; punished, but not put to death; sorrowful, though we are always rejoicing; poor, yet we enrich many. We seem to have nothing, yet everything is ours!

**Tone 7: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

VERSE: It is good to give praise to the Lord; and to sing in Your name, O Most High.

**Tone 7: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**
VERSE: To announce Your mercy in the morning and Your truth every night.
**Tone 7: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

VERSE: Добре воно прославляти Господа, і співати імені Твоєму, Всевишній.

**Tone 7: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

VERSE: Звіщати вранці Твою милість, a ночами Твою вірність.

**Tone 7: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**18-а НЕДІЛЯ ПО ЗІСЛАННІ СВ. ДУХА**

**Євангелія (Лк 5,1-11)**

У той час, коли Ісус стояв біля Генезаретського озера, побачив два човни, що стояли край озера: рибалки вийшли з них і полоскали сіті. Він увійшов в один з човнів, що належав Симонові, і попросив його відплисти трохи від землі, а сам, сівши, з човна почав народ учити.

Коли Bін перестав говорити, сказав до Симона: “Відчали на глибінь та й закиньте ваші сіті на ловитву.” Озвався Симои і каже: “Наставнику, всю ніч трудились ми й нічого не піймали, але на Tвоє слово закину сіті.” Так вони й зробили, і піймали велику силу риби, і їхні сіті почали рватися. Тоді вони кивнули до своїх товаришів, що були в другім човні, щоб ті прийшли допомогти їм. Прийшли вони й наповнили обидва човни, аж почали потопати. Побачивши це Симон Петро, припав до колін Ісуса й каже: “Іди від мене, Господи, бо я грішна людина,” Жах бо великий огорнув його й усіх, що були з ним, із-за риб, що їх піймали; також і Якова та Івана, синів Заведея, які були спільниками Симона. Ісус же промовив до Симона: “Не бійся! Віднині людей будеш ловити.” І витягши човна на берег, кинули все й пішли слідом за Hим.

**Gospel Reading for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (St. Luke 5: 1 – 11)**

At that time, as Jesus stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd pressed in on Him to hear the word of God, He saw two boats moored by the side of the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to pull out a short distance from the shore; then remaining seated, He continued to teach the crowds from the boat. When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.” Simon answered, “Master, we have been hard at it all night long and have caught nothing, but if You say so, I will lower the nets.” Upon doing this they caught such a great number of fish that their nets were at the breaking point. They signaled to their mates in the other boat to come and help them. These came, and together they filled the two boats until they nearly sank.

At the sight of this, Simon Peter fell at the knees of Jesus saying, “Leave me, Lord. I am a sinful man.” For indeed, amazement at the catch they had made seized him and all his shipmates, as well as James and John, Zebedee’s sons, who were partners with Simon. Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid. From now on you will be catching men.” With that they brought their boats to land, left everything, and became His followers.

**Sermon for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Slava Isusu Khrystu! My Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ!

In the Gospel reading for this Sunday, our Lord is preaching to the people from the fishing boat of Simon Peter. After He had finished speaking to the people, our Lord asked the Apostle Peter to cast out into the deeper parts of the lake so that they might cast their nets for fish. Peter, who was an experienced fisherman, replied that they had been fishing all night and had caught nothing… nevertheless, Peter exclaimed, ‘At Thy word, I will let down the net.’ In other words, ‘Thy will be done’. Certainly, one of the key lessons that we learn from today’s Holy Gospel is the power and importance of submitting ourselves to the will of God. Our pride and self-will and sense of ‘knowing better’ are the root cause of so many of our sins and miseries.

This humble submission to the will of God is no easy task. We are fearful that we must always be the ones in control – if we are not in control, then the only other alternative is that things must then be ‘out of control’. This is not true. When we acknowledge and submit to the will of God in our lives, we are not casting things into chaos, we are handing things into far more capable hands. Our modern minds tend to equate humility with weakness and pride with strength. This is completely upside down. What requires more strength... to keep silent in the face of an offense or to react with passionate anger? It takes no strength or self-control to just react. Fighting against these passionate reactions is a truly heroic act of strength.

We cannot understand all the ways of God. As God spoke to Job: ‘Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? How often do we hear people - and maybe we even think these things ourselves – saying: ‘Why is there so much suffering? Why doesn’t God answer my prayers? How can He love us when there is so much misery and evil in this world?’ It is a deception to lay the blame for the miseries we see in this world at the feet of God. God is actually the one blameless player in this whole drama of our existence. God has done everything possible to relieve us and restore us from our sufferings… even going so far as to accept them upon Himself, to suffer through them in His humanity and to redeem them in His divinity. And yet, when things go wrong, we are so quick to blame God. If your heart weeps for the misery and the sin that you see in this world, then there is one true and noble and impactful thing that you can do. Stop sinning yourself! As our Lord said to the angry mob surrounding the woman caught in adultery: ‘Let he who is without sin cast the first stone.’

Without a Life in Christ, without the labor of repentance, you cannot enter the Kingdom of God. In other words, what is important when you multiply your talents is the love and the humility with which you do it. As you see, a Life in Christ goes totally against our modern logic. A Life in Christ is Communion; it is neither politics nor economics. Unfortunately, many of us obey the principles of politics and economics, and not the Gospel. You think that you can increase your talents by increasing profit, either for yourself or for a cause. To have a Life in Christ, you have to renounce this. To increase spiritually and acquire the Holy Spirit, first you must decrease. Decreasing starts by selfless love and humility and service for others.

Further in today’s Gospel we see the Apostle Peter fall at the feet of the Savior and say: "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord" (Lk. 5:8). This is the process of faith. The Apostle knew that fish could not be caught. But he accepted the word of Christ within himself, within his will; and this will, which by now was Christ’s, he fulfilled. And what happened? A miracle? Yes, a miracle. But the main miracle was not in the abundance of fish, although this catch was a miracle. The main miracle was the change of soul which occurred in Peter. He saw himself, and he saw his essence. "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" Here is the process of faith: to accept in your heart the word of Christ, and to fulfill it. May Almighty God help us achieve this on our own journey of salvation. Amen!

**ПPOПOBIДЬ HA ШІСТНАДЦЯТУ НЕДІЛЮ ПІСЛЯ ЗІСЛАННІ СВЯТОГО ДУХА**

Слава Ісусу Христу! Дорогі в Xpиcтi браття і сестри!

Євангеліє цієї неділі описує початок прилюдної діяльності Ісуса Христа, який шукає собі учнів – апостолів. Своїми словами і ділами Ісус старається пробудити і утвердити в учнів віру в його Божество і божественну силу його слова, і науки. З цією метою Ісус і вчинив чудо – великий улов риби Петром і його товаришами, щоб розвіяти в них сумніви щодо правдивості своєї особи, своїх слів. Бо тільки Господь Бог, що сотворив землю і всю живу і мертву природу, що встановив для неї свої закони, міг змінити ті закони, міг наказати виконувати його волю, навіть якщо б це суперечило законам природи. А те, що на голос Ісуса Христа сталося це чудо, про яке читаємо сьогодні, є доказом того, що Христос є Правдивим Богом, рівним своєму Отцю Небесному.

Сьогоднішня розповідь про чудо ловлі риб є дуже важливою для нас і дає відповіді на багато сучасних питань. Ми настільки звикли до постійного контакту з природою, що не дивуємося тому, як мудро влаштував Господь її закони. Коли ж так все мудро створено, чому ми, люди, чуємо себе деколи нещасливими на тій землі? Все дається нам тяжко. Ми повинні довго вчитися, пристосовуватися до природи, вивчати її закони. Земля, яка з Божої ласки така родюча — не хоче давати нам свої плоди. Ми тяжко працюємо, а вона бунтується проти нас. Ми придумуємо різні винаходи в економіці, в техніці, в політиці. Але однак залишаємося часто безробітні, без засобів до життя, без елементарного захисту від несправедливості. В чому ж причина, адже ми теж є сотворіння Божі, створені на його образ і подобу?

А причина криється в тому, що людина є бунтарем проти природи, через гріх первородний і свої особисті гріхи. "І сказав Бог Адамові: за те, що ти послухав голос твоєї жінки і їв з дерева, з якого я наказав тобі не їсти, проклята земля через тебе. В тяжкім труді живитимешся з неї по всі дні життя твого. Терни й будяки вона родитиме тобі..." — так є написано в книзі Буття (Пор. Бут. З, 17—18). Гріх не є створений Богом. А тому все, що створив Бог, "бачив, що було добре", а те "добре" не може знести того, що є зле. Бо зло, тобто гріх, осквернює добро, тобто створіння Боже.

Не може людина, осквернена гріхом, торкатися святині Божої — природи і її законів. Бо коли це робить — робить собі на шкоду. Великі вчені, що відкрили нам багато законів математики, фізики, хімії, були людьми побожними. Кожного разу, знаходячи щось нове, вони дивувалися Провидінню Божому і дякували йому. Тому то їхні винаходи ставали корисними для цілих поколінь їх нащадків. Були й такі, що невизнавали Божих Законів. Творили самі, без ласки Божої, тому і винаходи їхні ставали згубними для цілих поколінь.

Перш за все, кожна праця наша є в контакті з природою. Чи то обробляємо землю, чи збираємо врожай, чи працюємо на будові, чи де інше. Пам'ятаймо! Маємо справу з створінням Бога живого! І недостойні торкатися її, коли в гріхах погрузли, коли ласки Божої не маємо. Бо тоді працюємо собі на шкоду. Воістину мудрими були діди і прадіди української землі, коли ішли в поле, чи починали будівництво або інші роботи, хрест на сeбe клали, скроплювали городи, бyдинки святою водою. А коли щойно плоди дозрівали — несли їх до церковці святої, Богу подякувати і пожертвувати. Кусочок Паски святої від Великодня берегли до дня, коли у поле йти мали. І тоді її споживали. І за землю свою кров проливали, бо вона освячена була їх молитвами, їх працею, вона Богом благословенна була і врожай давала.

Погляньмо і на себе сьогодні. Заледве день Господній засвітить, сонце зійде, іде християнин до роботи. Часто без хреста і молитви, кляне на долю, на дощ, на погоду, на худобину. Піт свій проливає біля землі своєї, а від тяжкої роботи проклинає ту землю на чому світ стоїть, стріне сусіда, понарікають на Бога, зап'ють горілкою свою нужду, а до молитви вже нема сили ідуть спочивати.

Молім Господа, щоб за наші гріхи Він не карав нас від землі нашої і природи голодом, війнами, пошестями, землетрусами. Молімося, коли працю починаємо, сповідаймо гріхи свої, щоб не осквернювати ними Творіння Боже. Дякуймо Богові за все, що маємо навколо себе, тоді усе служитиме нам тільки на добро в Ім'я Отця і Сина і Св. Духа. Амінь.

**Communion Verse:** Хваліть Господа з небес, хваліть Його на висотах. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

***Parish Announcements***

**We Welcome You!**

If you are visiting our church today, our parish family is delighted to welcome you here! Thank you and God bless you for visiting with us today! We welcome all our visitors and guests who worship at our parish. We invite families and individuals who wish to become members to register by calling Fr. Ihor at (860) 617-6357.

**Biтaємo Bac!**

Якщо Bи відвідуєте нашу церкву сьогодні, нашa парафіяльна громада рада вітати Вас тут! Щире cпасибі Baм, і нехай Бог благословить Bас за Baшi відвідини з нами сьогодні! Ми запрошуємо сім’ї та осіб, які бажають стати членами, зареєструватися у нас пo телефонi о. Ігоря на номер (860) 617-6357.

**Please Pray for our Sick and Homebound Parishioners**

Fr. Ihor Papka, Fr. Zbigniew Brzezicki, Oleh and Valentina Babski, Michaelle Baker, Marylou Blaisdell, Luba Dyky, Carmel Horangic, Christine Kolagji, John Koromaus, Helen Kucman, Martha Majkut, Karen and Jaroslaw Maksymowych, Jean Mandych, Sherri Martel, Katherine Masso, Jennifer McMillan, Katharine McNaughton, Jackie Morales, Lauren Morales, Tanya and Ronald Morales, Alice Morris, Elizabeth Mozina, Olympia Pasicznyk, Billie Sheesley, Derek Stanley, Pauline Stanley, John Terninko, Elisha Wallace, Bob and Cindy Wilson, Dr. Mark Windt, Lauren Zelenski. Please contact Fr. Ihor or a Trustee if you would like to add a friend or loved one to this prayer list.

**Quilt Raffle**

The Lady’s Sodality quilt raffle was a big success raising over $500. Our parish thanks Sodality president Martha Majkut who made the quilt and donated it for the raffle. The winning ticket was drawn last Sunday and the winner was Helen Majkut of Christ the King UCC parish in Jamaica Plain, MA.

**Fall Harvest Dinner and Ladies Sodality Elections**

On Sunday, October 16th, our parish will celebrate a fall harvest dinner in the church hall after Divine Liturgy. A Ukrainian menu will be featured. Cost is $10 per person with a $30 family max. On that day, the Ladies Sodality will hold their general election and will vote in a new slate of officers including President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Event Coordinator. Any woman parishioner 18 and over is eligible to run for office. The Ladies Sodality is encouraging all women who have not held office before to run during this election. Please see Martha or Dorota if interested.

**Sunday Religious Education Classes**

Religious education classes for the 2022-2023 school year have now resumed.  Classes are held every Sunday morning at 9 AM. If you have a child/children in grades 1 through 8, Mrs. Christina Vogel is looking forward to sharing our Ukrainian Greek Catholic traditions and the Good News teachings of the Bible with them.  Please see Mrs. Vogel to register your child for these classes.  Matthew 19:14:  Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

**Altar Boys Needed**

Our parish is looking for boys who are interested in serving at the altar during Divine Liturgy.  In the Ukrainian Catholic Church, altar servers assist clergy during services. They might carry the cross or candles in processions; maintain the censer, ensuring it has burning charcoal, loading it with incense and handing it to the priest so that the celebrant need not be distracted during the service. Serving in God’s temple is a privilege and requires self-discipline and dedication. Any boys interested in serving at the altar should first ask their parents’ for permission and then speak with Jon Messer either before or after the Sunday service, or call him at 603-233-9948. Altar boy training will be provided along with the required vestments.

**September Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries**

The following parishioners are celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary this month:

September 1 – Fr. Ihor and Violeta P. (wedding anniversary)

September 6 – Karen and Jaroslaw M. (wedding anniversary)

September 9 – Shawn Y.

September 13 – Dorota and Jon M. (wedding anniversary)

September 13 – Bozhena H.

September 14 – Mariya H.

September 23 – Karen M.

September 29 – Mia H.

Our parish community wishes this month’s birthday and anniversary celebrants peace, joy, love and good health on their special day as well as throughout the year. May our dear Lord grant all of you many more healthy, happy and blessed years. Happy Birthday and Ha Многая літа! (Na Mnohaya Lita!).

**August, 2022 Financial Summary**

Total Income from August Donations: $3,637.00

Total Expenditures for August: $3,268.21

Surplus for August: $368.79

Average attendance in August: 42

Thank you and God bless you for your generous support of our parish.

***Weekly Reflection:***

**Learning about Our Catholic Faith – God or Money?**

***“No servant can serve two masters.  He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other.  You cannot serve both God and mammon.”***[*Luke 16:13*](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Luke%2016.13)

Many people dream of being rich.  Having a lot of money brings with it a certain amount of security and freedom to do many things that most people could not do.  Money, in and of itself, is neither good nor bad.  If one is rich, that is fine.  If one is poor, that is fine.  From the perspective of God, the amount of money you have matters little.

With that said, the danger with money comes when you allow it to become your “master.”  Interestingly, even those who are poor can allow money to become their master when they allow the desire for more to dominate their lives.  The key is in the desire and the healthy detachment.

What are you attached to?  Are you attached to the money you have?  Are you attached to the desire for the money you wish you had?  The goal is to see money for what it is.  In the big picture, money has very little value.  It’s a means to the end of taking care of your daily needs but it can never become the source of your joy and fulfillment in life.  Only God is the proper Master of our hearts and only He can fill you with true riches.

Reflect, today, upon any struggle you have with being overly attached to money, or the lack thereof.  God promises to provide for you in your need, so it’s essential that you trust Him.  And if your financial needs are more than met, be grateful and cultivate generosity as you seek to detach yourself from money as a false source of happiness.  Let your heart only be filled with the rich grace of God as its source of fulfillment and you will be rich in the truest sense.

Let us pray: *Lord of all, help me to keep You as the one and only Master of my life.  Give me the grace I need to detach from all that is of this world, so as to live for You and in accordance with Your will alone.  I love You, dear Lord.  Help me to love You above all else.  Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.*