

OITC Sunday Lectio

18th Sunday of the Year

3.8.25

Life as Futile and Foolish

Or

Rich in what matters to God

Questions posed by today's readings:

1. Where is my *treasure* – and so my heart?

Security, safety?

Possessions – money, property, nice things...?

Status, reputation, popularity?

'Autonomy', power, control?

2. In what – or whose – *time* do I live?



3. When will I recognize – and maybe change – my answers?

At death? (Surely!)

In crucial moments (*Kairos*)?

Consistently, as an abiding disposition?

Reading 1 [Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23](#)

Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth,
vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!

Here is one who has laboured with wisdom and
knowledge and skill,
and yet to another who has not laboured over it,
he must leave property.

This also is vanity and a great misfortune.

For what profit comes to man from all the toil and
anxiety of heart

with which he has laboured under the sun?

All his days sorrow and grief are his occupation;
even at night his mind is not at rest.

This also is vanity.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm [Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17](#)

R. (1) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

You turn man back to dust,

saying, "Return, O children of men."

For a thousand years in your sight are as yesterday, now that it is past,
or as a watch of the night.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

You make an end of them in their sleep;

the next morning they are like the changing grass,

Which at dawn springs up anew, but by evening wilts and fades.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Teach us to number our days aright,

that we may gain wisdom of heart.

Return, O LORD! How long?

Have pity on your servants!

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,

that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days.

And may the gracious care of the LORD our God be ours;

prosper the work of our hands for us!

Prosper the work of our hands!

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.



Laudate Dominum (psalm 117) set to music by Mozart

<i>Latin text</i>	<i>English translation</i>
Laudate Dominum omnes gentes; laudate eum, omnes populi.	O praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise him, all ye peoples.
Quoniam confirmata est super nos misericordia ejus, et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.	For his loving kindness has been bestowed upon us, and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.	Glory be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.	As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

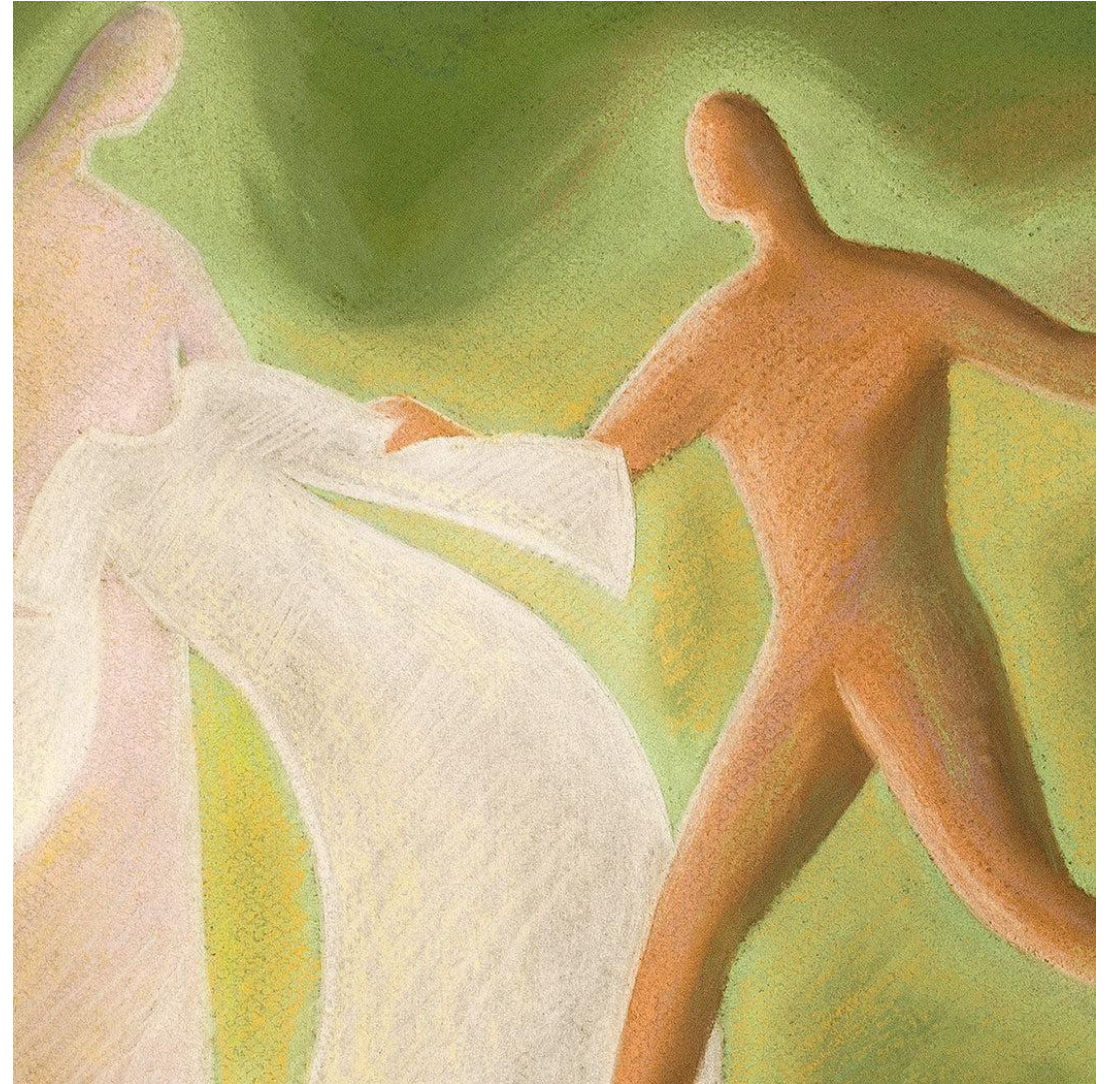
Reading 2

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Brothers and sisters:

If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.
Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.
For you have died,
and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
When Christ your life appears,
then you too will appear with him in glory.

Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly:
immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire,
and the greed that is idolatry.
Stop lying to one another,
since you have taken off the old self with its practices
and have put on the new self,
which is being renewed, for knowledge,
in the image of its creator.
Here there is not Greek and Jew,
circumcision and uncircumcision,
barbarian, Scythian, slave, free;
but Christ is all and in all. **The word of the Lord**





Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

The Lord hath promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.



Gospel [Luke 12:13-21](#)

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus,

“Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me.”

He replied to him,

“Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?”

Then he said to the crowd,

“Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.”

Then he told them a parable.

“There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest.

He asked himself, ‘What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?’

And he said, ‘This is what I shall do:

I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones.

There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, “Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!”

But God said to him,

‘You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?’

Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.”

The Gospel of the Lord



Lectio
& sharing

Prayers

Prayer for the Road Ahead:

Lord, help us to be wise – to let go into your
wisdom of heart
To let go of our old self – and all that it vainly
and foolishly clings to

Prosper the work of our hands for us!

Help us to become rich in what matters to
you

Help us to know and live a life hidden with
Christ in God



May He support us all the day long, till the shades lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done! Then in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last
– John Henry Newman

