

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Our readings this Sunday encourage us to build up treasure for ourselves in God's Kingdom and not on earthly possessions. The theme is that denoted by the Greek word "*pleonexia*", which literally means "the desire to have more and more". It is usually translated "avarice" or "greed", both of which are accurate enough but do not quite catch the full nuance of the Greek.

St Luke's Gospel makes much of how wealth creates problems for discipleship. The problem lies not in wealth itself as in the desire to have more and more, which is exactly what is meant by *pleonexia*.



It is not riches that are the root of all evil. The Bible says the love of money is the root of all evil. The love of money forces our attention on something that is not relevant. It is not important and it brings about the misuse of the best things in ourselves. A preoccupation with money is a great distraction. Hoarding wealth when others are in need is not the way of the Kingdom of God

When we care for the needs of the poor, we are giving them what is theirs, not ours. We are not just performing works of mercy; we are paying a debt of justice. Life does not consist in possessions but in sharing what we possess with others. The goods of the earth have been given to everyone.

We pray that we, as the community of love of The Most Holy Trinity, Dockhead, build up treasure for ourselves in God's Kingdom and not on earthly possessions.

