

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

(Amos 8:4–7; 1 Timothy 2:1–8; Luke 16:1–13)

Translation from Father Jean-Paul Savi - 18 September 2022

by Father Charles Fillion

21 September 2025

Brothers and sisters, this Sunday's readings invite us to examine our conscience and discern how we live with others. The first reading recounts the prophet Amos' protest against social structures based on injustice and the exploitation of the poor. Indeed, during the reign of Jeroboam II, Samaria was experiencing a period of economic prosperity. Logically, this situation should have led to improve the situation of the population.

But that was not the case. People continued to live in poverty and wealth was held only by a privileged class. Worse still, the enrichment of some came at the expense of the impoverishment of others. Is the society of the prophet Amos, where injustice prevailed and the weak were exploited by the strong, a society in which the joy and happiness of some only led to the misery of others, any different from our own today?

The words of the prophet Amos challenge us and invite us to examine our conscience about how we acquire our wealth. Even today, our societies need prophets like Amos to build a more just and fraternal world. But we still need to listen to them. I can say that Development & Peace can be considered as a prophet like Amos. Right here in our own province, we have organizations that, in their own way, are building a more just and fraternal world. Flavie Laurent, Saint Vincent de Paul, the Knights of Columbus, etc.

In the second reading, St. Paul asks us to pray for everyone. But when faced with certain deplorable situations in our societies and countries, it can be difficult to feel the urge to pray for our political leaders or for those who are in high positions. However, we are invited not to let anger or disputes influence the impulse of our prayer. We therefore have a duty to pray for our politicians at all levels so that the Lord may touch their hearts and their actions and policies may promote a more quiet and peaceful life in all dignity.

In today's Gospel, Jesus invites us to discern when it comes to deceitful money. While it is true that money can contribute to our happiness, it can also become an idol. That is why Jesus warns us against deceitful wealth, because it can make us believe that all our happiness depends on it, and that it belongs to us alone. However, when we die, our wealth and glory do not go down with us. Through this parable, Christ is not asking us to despise money. Rather, he invites us not to be too attached to it and to use it as a means and not as an end. For we are only stewards.

The manager threatened with dismissal was dishonest with his master's property. However, what is highlighted here is his ability to quickly find a solution to secure his future. The story of this dishonest manager challenges us. We are often very ingenious at finding dishonest ways to make money or get ourselves out of trouble. But we do very little to promote peace and love. We devote more time to things that destroy and divide than to things that builds and restores our relationships. Our thoughts focus more on ways to exploit others than to help them grow.

What would our world be like if we became more skilled at finding solutions of peace, love, and reconciliation?

On this Sunday, may the Lord grant us the grace to become more skilled at finding solutions for a more compassionate, just, and "lead a quiet and peaceful life".