

Sunday, July 31, 2022
The 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 1) Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23
- 2) Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11
- 3) Luke 12:13-21

FOCUS: We are to seek the things that are eternal.

Today's Scriptures draw our attention away from the passing things of this world and toward the things of heaven. We gather on this, the Lord's Day, to turn our hearts and minds toward Christ as we celebrate his loving presence in our midst and the hope of life eternal.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading from Ecclesiastes, we hear, *Vanity of vanities ... all things are vanity!* Paul encourages the Colossians to think on the things of heaven and the possibility of new life in Christ for all. In the Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about a rich man who stores up all his bountiful harvest in ever larger barns.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With hearts turned to the Lord, we present our prayers and needs with confidence.

- 1) For Pope Francis and all Church leaders, may the Spirit continue to guide and inspire them and keep them faithful to Christ and his Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For leaders of all nations and peoples, may they be guided by the Almighty in the just use of power, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are persecuted for their faith in Christ, may God's Holy Spirit uphold and strengthen them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the sick of this faith community, may Jesus, the Divine Physician, restore them to the fullness of life and health and liberate them from all afflictions, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they receive the reward of a life well spent and come to share in the fullness of Christ's glory, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty God, you listen with love to the cry of your people. Hear the prayers we ask today, through