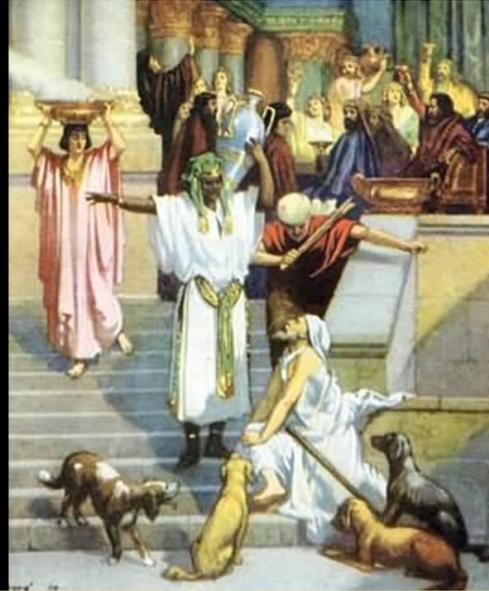


# Prayer & Reflection



THE  
RICH  
MAN  
AND  
LAZARUS

LUKE 16:19-31



Week beginning: **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September**

**Feast of St Theresa of Lisieux = 1<sup>st</sup> October (story of a Catholic saint)**

**Gospel – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time,**

**The Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus,**

**CST = Option for the Poor & Vulnerable**

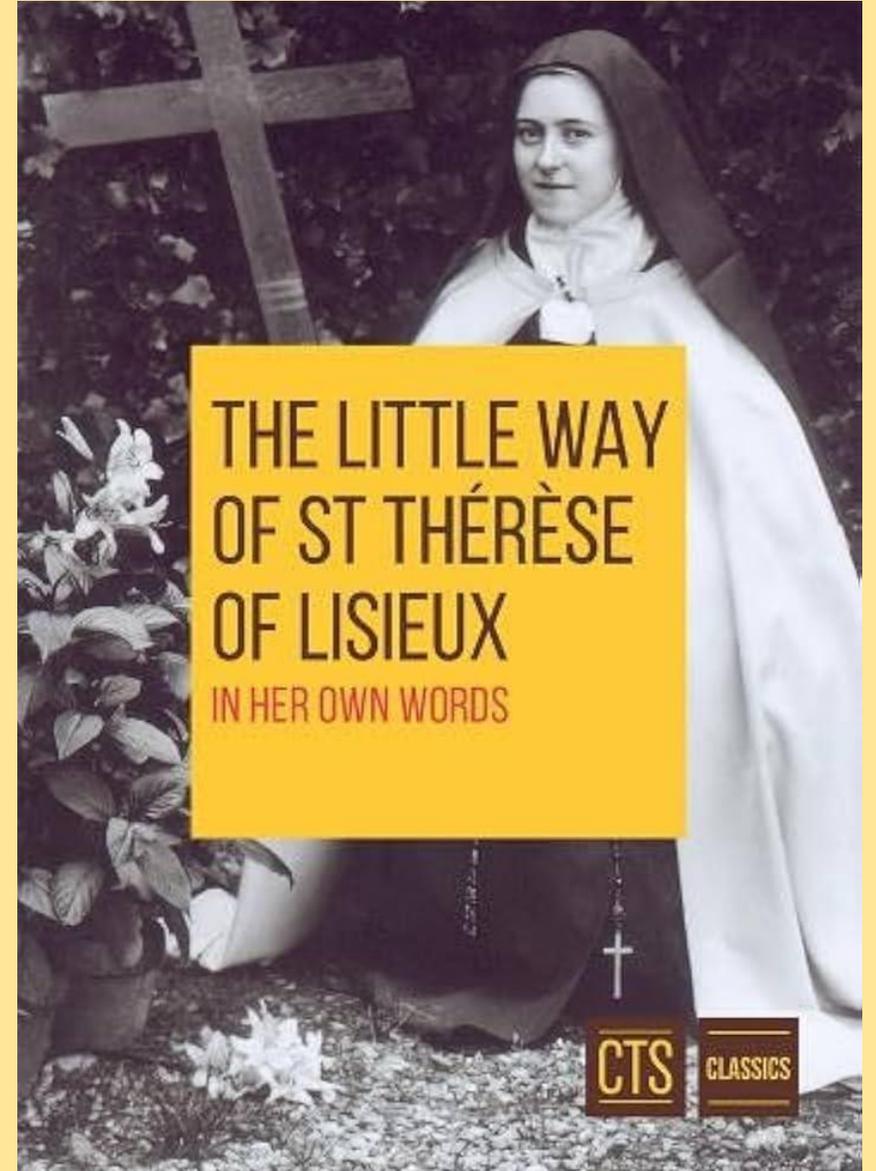
# Who Was St. Thérèse of Lisieux?

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October is the Feast Day of St Thérèse of Lisieux .
- In our school reception area we have a statue of St. Thérèse.
- **St. Thérèse**, also known as the “Little Flower,” was a French Carmelite nun born in 1873. She entered the convent at 15 and lived a hidden life of prayer and simplicity.
- Her deep love for God and others made her one of the most beloved saints in the Catholic Church.



# Her Spiritual Path – The Little Way

- Thérèse taught that holiness is found in small, everyday acts done with great love.
- Her “Little Way” emphasizes humility, trust in God, and doing ordinary things with extraordinary love.
- This message resonates with people of all backgrounds, showing that anyone can live a meaningful spiritual life.



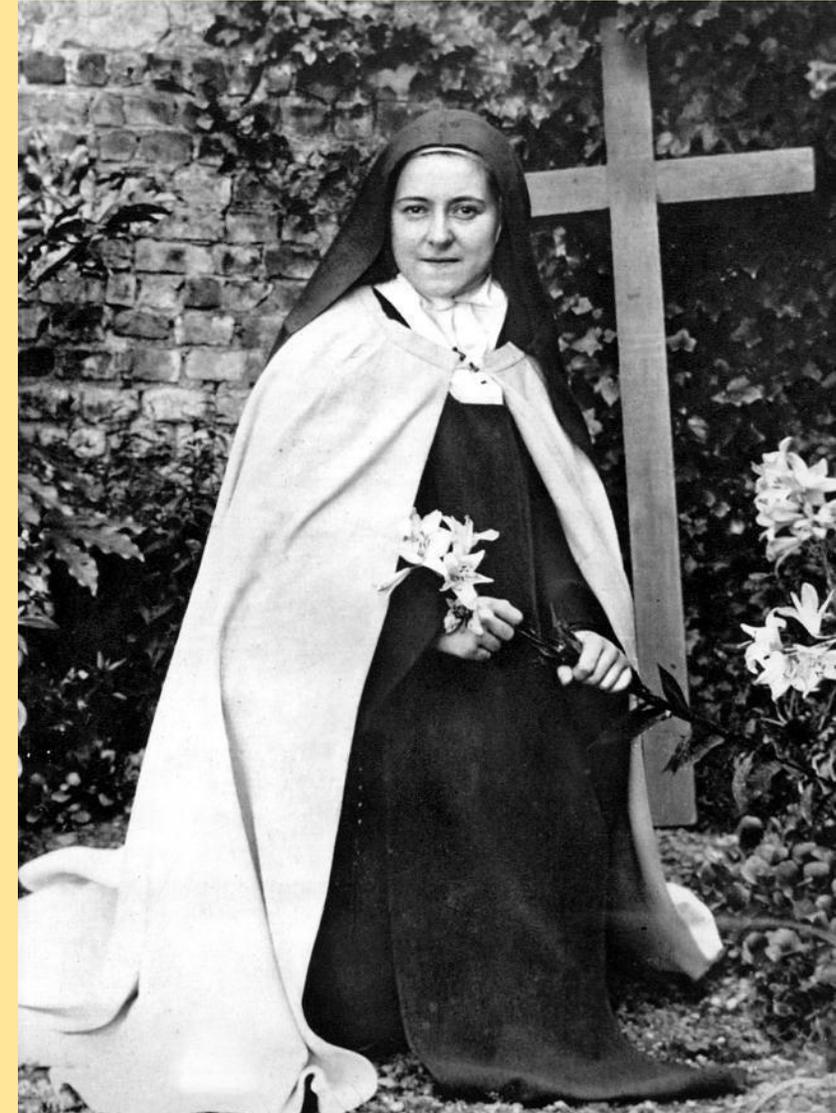
# Her Legacy and Writings

- Thérèse's autobiography, *Story of a Soul*, has inspired millions with its honesty, faith, and simplicity.
- Thérèse's message of love and trust continues to touch hearts worldwide.
- Thérèse's was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1997, recognising her profound spiritual insight despite her short life.
- Thérèse' died of tuberculosis in 1897, aged only 24.



# Why She Matters Today

- St. Thérèse's life reminds us that greatness lies in love, not status.
- Her message is universal: kindness, humility, and faith can transform the world.
- Whether Catholic or not, the example of St. Thérèse encourages us to live with kindness, compassion and purpose, making a difference through small, loving actions.



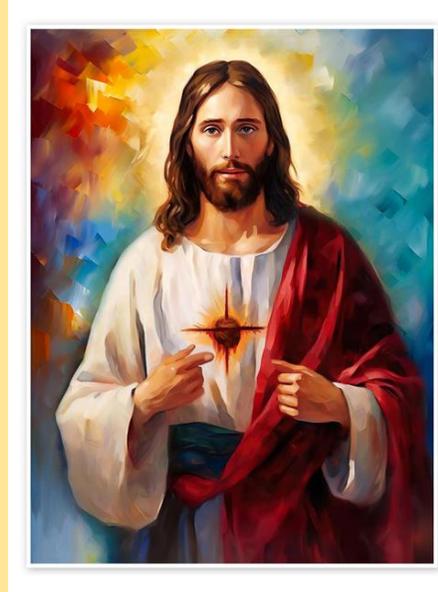
# PRAYER – to follow the little way of St. Thérèse of Lisieux

*O gentle St. Thérèse,  
Teach us your Little Way—  
To love with simplicity,  
To trust without fear,  
To serve in hidden moments,  
And to find God in all things.*

*Remind us that greatness lies in love  
and not status.*

*May your example guide our hearts  
To live with joy, humility, and grace.  
Amen.*

St John the Apostle & Evangelist – pray for us. Amen.



**inspirati a christo  
which means Inspired  
by Christ**

# 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

LUKE 16:19-31



# THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL READING – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

## A reading from the Gospel according to Luke 16: 19-31

Jesus said to the Pharisees: “There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man’s table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores.

When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.

The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side.

And he cried out, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.’

Abraham replied, ‘My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.

Moreover, **between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.**’

He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.’

But Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.’

He said, ‘Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

Then Abraham said, ‘If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.’



**Reader = the Gospel of the Lord.**

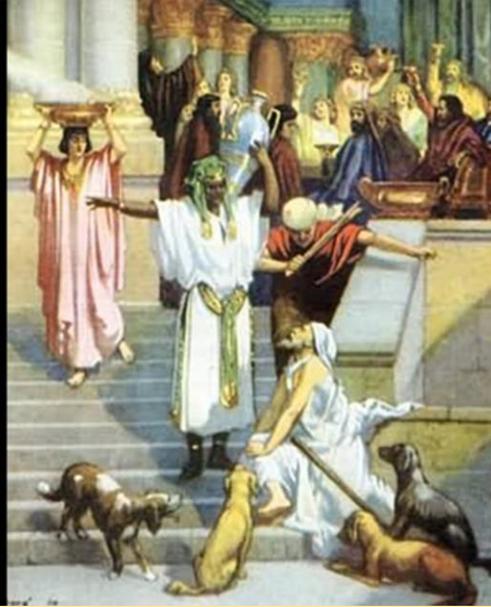
**RESPONSE = Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

# Explanation of this week's Gospel reading



## THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

LUKE 16:19-31



In the gospel this week, Jesus narrated a parable contrasting a rich man's luxurious life with Lazarus, a destitute (poor) man. After death, Lazarus found comfort with Abraham, while the rich man suffered. The rich man's plea for relief and a warning for his brothers was denied. There are TWO key messages:

- 1. Eternal Consequences:** This parable about Lazarus and the rich man illustrates that our actions have consequences beyond this life. It teaches us that how we treat others, especially those in need, influences our eternal destiny.
- 2. The Role of Scripture:** The rich man learns that Moses and the prophets' teachings are enough to guide us to live rightly. This emphasizes the importance of paying attention to Scripture as a guide for our lives.

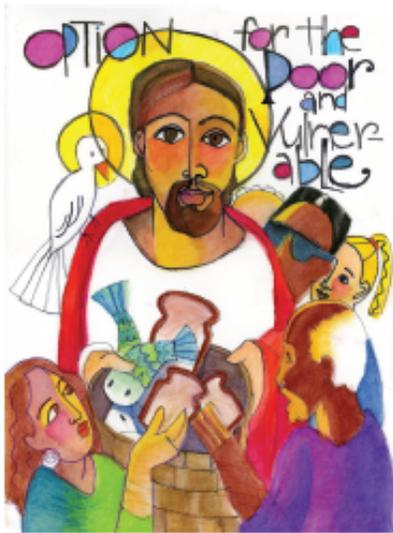
## REFLECTION TASK

The gospel reading this week reminds us not to just live for today, but to think about life after death, and going to Heaven. Reflect on the Word of the Week (next slide) and think about how the key message of this parable.

Remember our school mission is: Be Inspired by Christ, Service to Others, and Excellence for All.

Always seek to treat other people with generosity and kindness. Catholic Social Teaching guides us to do all we can to support the poor and vulnerable in our society.

Follow the example of Jesus, Mary and the saints who are in heaven. Pray for their guidance.



### **OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE**

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

# WORD OF THE WEEK

But he said to him,  
'If they do not listen to  
Moses and the Prophets



they will not  
be persuaded even  
if someone rises  
from the dead'.

Luke 16:31



# PRAYER – to follow the teachings of the parable

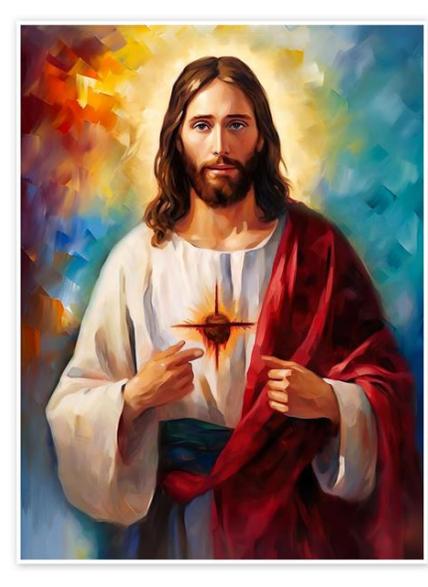
Merciful God, we come before you humbled by the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus. We recognize that we are not worthy of your grace, yet you offer it to us freely. Open our eyes to the needs of those around us, especially those who suffer in poverty and pain. Help us to see them as you see them, with compassion and love.

Like Lazarus, we are often overlooked and forgotten. Give us the strength to persevere through hardship and to trust in your promise of eternal life. Like the rich man, we are often blinded by our own comfort and possessions. Strip away the barriers that protect us from the pain of others and fill us with a generous heart, willing to share what we have with those in need.

We pray for the courage to live out the Gospel message of love and service, especially towards the poor and marginalised. May we be your instruments of mercy and compassion in the world.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**St John the Apostle & Evangelist – pray for us. Amen.**



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which means Inspired  
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