

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time – C

- In St. Paul's letter to the COL it says
 - "If you were raised up 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".
He Says:
 - IF you're raised up with Christ – focus on what's above – heavenly things
NOT on earthly things -
 - That is what is going on in today's Gospel
 - The rich fool is focused on the value of his earthly possessions
 - HIS things, HIS money, HIS inheritance, HIS STUFF
 - That is **not** our priority
 - When I was young we used to play treasure hunter
 - One kid would hide a bag of marbles and make a map (X marked spot)
 - We had to try to follow his map to see who could find it first
 - The quest was the real treasure – that was the fun of it
 - *A boring summer day became alive – WE were on a quest*
 - St. Paul sends us out on an adult quest for treasure greater than gold
 - He urges us to seek what is above – heaven!
 - At Baptism we've already been 'raised up' with Christ
 - We are still on the way, being raised up to where He is –
 - Seated at the right hand of God
 - The time between baptism and death is the time of our quest
 - We have a copy of the map – Scripture
 - We have a compass – our conscience
 - We have food for the journey – Eucharist
 - But beware – one of the dangers in our quest
 - Familiarity with these dulls the adventure in using them
 - USE THEM
 - Pray
 - Read Scripture
 - Inform your conscience with truth
 - Partake in Eucharist
 - Then live the Quest – seek what is above
 - Christianity has been accused of offering 'pie in the sky when we die'
But not much before that
 - The truth is that our treasure does not lie only in the future
 - St Paul says to think of what is above
 - But we discover it all around us as we go –
 - Always accompanied by the Christ we seek
 - The saints invite us to keep our eyes open as we travel
 - St. Catherine of Siena said:
 - All the way to heaven is heaven