**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 04 – XXXI WEEK O.T. [C]**

**And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently. "For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.**

**Every man, since the moment in which he is conceived until the last instant of his life is constituted administrator of the properties of God. The first possession that the Lord has given is his own life. It must be administered with every wisdom and knowledge in the Holy Spirit. Certainly, those who hand their own life to vice, to the transgression of the Commandments, to the disobedience, both to the natural and revealed Law do not administer it with wisdom and knowledge. The proof that they do not administer their own life well is their history that do not walk toward light on the way of light, but moves forward the eternal darkness on the way of darkness. Here is the warning of the Apostle Paul against the wicked administrators of their life: “Do you not know that the unjust will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators nor idolaters nor adulterers nor boy prostitutes nor practicing homosexuals nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God. That is what some of you used to be; but now you have had yourselves washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.” (1Cor 6,9-11). Whoever abandons himself to vice and to sin is a wicked administrator of his life.**

**Every man is a gift of God for every other man. Everyone must take care of every other man in the same way as Christ Jesus has taken care of everyone. He has given his life for everyone. He has given it for the redemption and the eternal salvation of the entire humanity. No man might be excluded from grace, from truth, from light, from resurrection, from eternal life from the Holy Spirit, from the Father that Christ Jesus has deserved as gift for every man. Taking care of man, gift of God for us, means to bring, offer, give these divine and eternal gifts to everyone. Not giving these divine and eternal gits means for us not to take care of the gift that God has given to us. Let us reiterate it: every other gift is gift of God for us. Certainly, one does not take care of this gift when one kills him in the womb of the mother, when one does not raise him in a true family. One does not even take care of him when one abandons him to misery, to poorness, to loneliness, and neither when one takes him in the factories of death to take away his life in a legal way. The sins against man, most pure gift of the Creator to every other man are incalculable. For every commandment one transgresses, for every Word of the Gospel that one does not observe, one sins against man. We are terrible administrators of this wonderful gift that the Lord has given to us. Here two examples provided by Jesus that reveal if we take care of man, of every man, or we lose interest of him, minding, each of us, his own interests: "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on (your) right cheek, turn the other one to him as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand him your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go with him for two miles. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same? So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Mt 5,38-48). One takes care of every man, also loving him with the gift of our material properties, gift of God to us.**

**Let us read the text of Lk 16,1-8**

**Then he also said to his disciples, "A rich man had a steward who was reported to him for squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another he said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently. "For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.**

**Why is this man commended by his Master? Because he provides himself a future of good with properties that are not his own. He knows how to do not to live in the greatest poorness tomorrow. Why, then, we, children of light, do not administer the properties that are not ours, for they are the Lord’s, to provide for ourselves an eternal future of endless good? Here is our foolishness. We use the gifts of God for a present future that lasts a moment, instead of using them for an eternal future that will never fail. This is our great foolishness and ignorance. May the Mother of God come and make us wise administrators of the properties of God.**