

**St. Hilary**  
**Men's Group**  
**12.10.2011**

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**Where Your Treasure Is.....**  
**Priorities and the Storing of Treasure**

As we find ourselves in the Advent Season, we need to think about how we might better ourselves more deliberately to use the blessings God has given to us; so that we might be a better blessing for Him to others. The focus on the true sources of temptations in our lives and the many manifestations in today's modern world all emanate from the same source.



It is by the path of love, which is charity, that God draws near to man, and man to God. But where charity is not found, God cannot dwell. If, then, we possess charity, we possess God, for "God is Charity" (1John 4:8)

**St. Albert the Great – November 15**

St. Albert the Great tells us that God draws near to him who possess love in their lives. Love is manifested in thoughts, words and deeds of Charity. God is always with us, we cannot hide from Him and He knows our every thought, our every desire, our every word and our every deed. Yet somehow God has unconditional forgiveness for us and accepts us as we are.

What happens to our lives when we make a shift in our attitude and effectively funnel our energy, talents and blessings to works of Charity and Love? More so, what are the consequences in our lives when we focus on the works of God rather than those of ourselves? Is it possible that God may dwell within us as St. Albert speaks of?

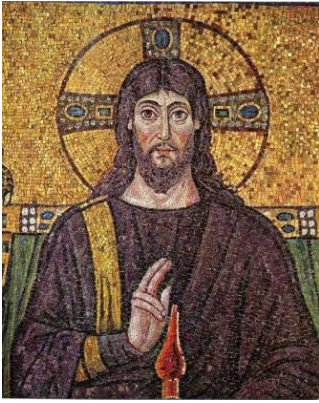
Let us listen attentively to the wisdom found in Holy Scripture and our Catechism to help us bless those in our lives.

**Matthew 6:19-21; 24-28; 31-34**

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

No one can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth and riches.

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?



Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they?

Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life? Why are you anxious about clothes? Learn from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work or spin.

So do not worry and say, 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself.

The Word of the Lord

## Catechism

### 1912

The common good is always oriented towards the progress of persons: "The order of things must be subordinate to the order of persons, and not the other way around." This order is founded on truth, built up in justice, and animated by love.

### 2545

All Christ's faithful are to "direct their affections rightly, lest they be hindered in their pursuit of perfect charity by the use of worldly things and by an adherence to riches which is contrary to the spirit of poverty as expressed by the Gospels."

We all have Time, Talent and Treasure that we can share to help bring about the Will of God in our lives and those we touch. May you allow this to be a priority in your life.

May God Bless You.

St. Hilary Men's Group.

### 2547

The Lord grieves over the rich, because they find their consolation in the abundance of goods. "Let the proud seek and love earthly kingdoms, but blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. "Abandonment to the providence of the Father in heaven frees us from anxiety about tomorrow. Trust in God is a preparation for the blessedness of the poor. They shall see God.

## Modern Comment

Mike and Doris story. Pg. 64





**Questions to Focus on:**

1. How does your attitude about "wealth" affect your ability to balance your time and energy between spiritual life, family and your job?

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2. How do you think a Christian Man should go about setting priorities?

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3. How would you describe your eternal life investment portfolio with respect to how you spend free time, how you spend money, and where your thoughts are? What can we do as members of the Christian Community to embrace the activities that bring to life Jesus Christ?

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**Mark Your Calendar**

<b>12/17/2011</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>1/14/2012</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>
<b>1/28/2012</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>2/11/2012</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>
<b>2/18/2012</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>2/25/2012</b>	<b>CMFNEO Conference</b>	<b>St Joseph's/Villa Angela High School</b>
<b>3/10/2012</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>

2012 Cleveland Diocese Men's Conference will be Sat. Feb. 25 at St Joseph's/Villa Angela High School.



**Questions / Searching: Contact one of the men below**

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- **Saints are holy people and regular persons who lived extraordinary lives.**
- **Saints responded to God's invitation to use their unique gifts.**
- **They are teachers and guides for us.**
- **God calls each one of us to lead a life of exceptional holiness.**

**ACTION PLAN**

This week I will do my best to listen for God's will in my life by:

Creating a daily prayer practice

Seeking God in prayer and being quiet in His presence

Paying more attention to Blessing those in my life as God intends

Asking Jesus for help in becoming a better servant

**Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself, forgive me, and fill me with every good thing, not withholding even the gift of your most beloved son.**

**Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide me in your path. Make me worthy of your love, and teach me how to forgive as you forgave.  
Amen**