

YOU NEED ANY HELP?

Contact the Cathedral Office for all necessary information and the Office will direct you to the appropriate persons to help. Below are the Contact Persons.

- A. **For Booking of all Services of the Church**
The Dean; The Canon Residentiary
- B. **For Social Welfare and Charity**
The Dean; The Rev. Dr. S. Opaaje; Dr. (Mrs.) Irene Omogbehin 08033223803
- C. **For Cathedral Societies**
The Dean; The Society Chaplains; Presidents & Secretaries of Societies
- D. **For The Elderly Ministry**
The Dean; Chief (Mrs.) Ayo Akideinde - 07068610707
- E. **For The Evangelical Ministry**
The Dean; The Rev. Olukayode Fasogbon; Mr. Cyril Mgbamoka - 07053334081
- F. **For Cathedral Missionary Society**
The Dean; The Rev. Canon Dr. Benjamin Okere; Mr Tunji Odeneye. - 08033163337
- G. **For the Children Ministry**
The Dean; The Rev. Olukayode Fasogbon, Mr. Tunji Odeneye - 08033163337;
- H. **For The Youth Ministry**
The Dean, Rev. Ayodeji Oluwatusin; Chief (Mrs.) Funmi Ogunbadejo – 08033025033; Mr. Dayo Egbedeyi - 08022865591
- I. **For The Boys' & Girls Brigade; Boys' & Girls' Guild**
The Dean, The Rev. Ayodeji Oluwatusin; Mrs A.O. Agara, Mrs C.F. Akinrotimi 08022791113; Mr Ayo Tetede - 08020691247
- J. **For The Medical Board**
The Dean; Rev. Canon Dr. Benjamin Okere; Prof. (Mrs.) Ronke Akinsete 0802300049
- K. **For The Counselling Ministry**
The Dean; Rev. Bolarinwa Osineye, Dr. (Mrs) Irene Okwerekwu – 08023078162
- L. **For the Prisons & Hospital Ministry**
The Dean; Rev. Canon Dr. Benjamin Okere; Mrs. Babarinsa - 08031334211.
- M. **For ETS Discipleship Training**
The Dean; Rev. Canon Dr. Benjamin Okere; Mr Tunji Odeneye – 0803-3163337; Dr (Mrs) Oyin Ilo
- N. **For The Home Fellowship**
The Dean; Ven. J. Adekanye, Rev. Canon Dr. Benjamin Okere, Sir. Godson I. Chijindu- 08033025458
- O. **For Singles' and Couples' Fellowship**
The Dean; Rev. Ayodeji Oluwatusin; Mr. Steve Aladesawe- 08033261047
- P. **For Intercessory Ministry**
The Dean; Rev. Dr. Samuel Opaaje, Engr. T. Adejuyigbe- 08037227105
- Q. **For Sports Ministry**
The Dean; The Canon Residentiary, Mr Desmond Odiase- 08033066901
Mr Steve Ahua - 07038816041
- R. **For Board of Directors for Economic Empowerment**
The Dean; Rev. Ayodeji Oluwatusin; Dr. Oladimeji Alo; Mrs Segilola Olawoyin - 08074533508
- S. **For Cathedral Christian Mothers Matters**
The Dean; Mrs. A.O. Agara; Mrs. Folake Owolabi - 08023156546
- T. **For Chaplains to Societies**
The Dean; The Canon Residentiary
- U. **For The Choir**
The Dean; Mr Sunday Olawuwo - 08023030357
- V. **For Booking of the Hall**
The Dean, Mrs. Tola Famade - 0803-3109378
- W. **For Booking of the Guest House**
Mr. Jide Afolabi - 08037128186; Tobi Balogun -08033716752

Below are the Telephone Numbers of the Cathedral Office, the Dean and the Cathedral Priests. You can contact these phones as need be.

| | |
|--|---------------|
| The Cathedral Office | 0811-1114588 |
| The Dean | 0803-7152811 |
| The Ven. Festus Olowosile | 0803-4003 552 |
| The Ven. Gbenga Oniye | 0803-3564593 |
| The Ven. James Adekanye | 0803-5806344 |
| The Ven. Azubike Ahubelem | 0803-3081617 |
| The Rev. Canon Dr. Benjamin Chijioke Okere | 0802-3270247 |
| The Rev. Dr. Samuel Opaaje | 08 06-3097612 |
| The Rev. Bolarinwa Osineye | 0802-3224427 |
| The Rev. Olukayode Fasogbon | 0805-3460755 |
| The Rev. Opeyemi Ibikunle | 0803-0573299 |
| The Rev. Ayodeji Oluwatusin | 0802-7562421 |

DIOCESE OF LAGOS WEST (Anglican Communion)



ARCHBISHOP VINING MEMORIAL CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Oba Akinjobi Way, GRA, Ikeja

Founded – March, 1964

P.O. Box 506, Ikeja, Lagos

Tel: 0811-1114588

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archbishopviningchurchcathedral@yahoo.com

Follow Us On [avmccgraikeja](https://www.facebook.com/avmccgraikeja) [@avmcccathedral](https://twitter.com/avmcccathedral)

[#avmc_cathedral](https://www.instagram.com/avmc_cathedral)



Vol. 16/09/38/2020

Our Vision:

"CHRIST FOR ALL NATIONS"

Our 2020 Mission:

"THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH"
Romans 1:17

A GOOD INDICATOR OF YOUR SPIRITUAL TEMPERATURE IS YOUR EAGERNESS TO COME TO THE CHURCH (PS 122:1). NEVER ALLOW YOUR SEAT TO BE EMPTY FOR AN EMPTY SEAT IS AN EMPTY HEAD AND IN HIS PRESENCE ONLY ARE FULLNESS OF JOY AND PLEASURES.

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Sunday, 20th Sept., - Saturday, 26th Sept., 2020

TRINITY 15

THEME: *STANDING WITH THE POOR*
Colour: Green

Mr. Adetunji Adekoya
Cathedral Warden

Mr. Charles Ojo
Cathedral Warden

The Ven. Adegoke O. Agara
The Dean of the Cathedral

The Rt. Rev. Dr. James O. Odedeji
The Bishop, Diocese of Lagos West

Please Take A Copy
Support God's Mission through the Covenant Seed
Be A Diocesan Covenant Seeder

1. SERVICES FOR SUNDAY – 20th SEPT., 2020

A. 7.00 am HOLY COMMUNION ALL WOMEN'S HARVEST

Celebrant: *The Ven. Azubike Ahubelem*

Preacher: *The Ven. Gbenga Oniye*

- ❖ Processional Hymn: CH 485
- ❖ Praise & Worship
- ❖ Preparation to Penitence – *The Ven. James Adekanye*
- ❖ The Epistle: **Romans 12:9-21**
- ❖ Gradual Hymn: CH 199
- ❖ The Gospel: **Luke 16:19-31**
- ❖ **SERMON**
- ❖ Nicene Creed & Intercession – *The Rev. B. Osineye*
- ❖ The Peace (*Let there be peace*)
- ❖ All Offerings: Praises
- {*First Fruit, Tithes, Building, Covenant Seed, Sunday Offering & All other offerings*}
- ❖ The Eucharistic Prayers
- ❖ The Administration: Worship Songs
- ❖ The Ablution: CH 454
- ❖ Post Communion Prayer
- ❖ **Thanksgiving:**
 - i. All Women's Thanksgiving
 - ii. Family Harvest: (*as indicated... pg. 9*)
 - iii. Society Harvest: (*as indicated... pg. 9*)
- ❖ Closing Prayer & Benediction
- ❖ Notices
- ❖ Withdrawal Hymn: VSH 244 – Give me joy... (*pg 8*)

B. 9.00 am HOLY COMMUNION ALL WOMEN'S HARVEST & TORCHBEARERS SOCIETY ANNIVERSARY

Celebrant: *The Rev. Dr. Samuel Opaaje*
Preacher: *The Ven. Festus Olowosile*

- ❖ Processional Hymn: CH 512
- ❖ Praise & Worship
- ❖ Preparation to Penitence- *The Rev. Kayode Fasogbon*
- ❖ The Epistle: **Romans 12:9-21**
- ❖ Gradual Hymn: VSH 174
- ❖ The Gospel: **Luke 16:19-31**
- ❖ **SERMON**
- ❖ Nicene Creed & Intercession – *The Ven. J. Adekanye*
- ❖ The Peace (*Let there be peace*)
- ❖ All Offerings: Praises
- {*First Fruit, Tithes, Building, Covenant Seed, Sunday Offering & All other offerings*}
- ❖ The Eucharistic Prayers
- ❖ The Administration: Worship Songs
- ❖ The Ablution: CH 462
- ❖ Post Communion Prayer
- ❖ **The Anniversary:**
 - i. Torchbearers Society Anthem: CH 551
 - ii. Rededication of members
 - iii. Torchbearers, Patrons / Patronesses & the Church Thanksgiving

C. ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, September 21, 2020 **Colour: Red**

St. Matthew the Apostle & Evangelist

Epistle: *Galatians 4:1-6*

Gospel: *Matthew 9:1-13*

Hymns: CH 15 VSH 20 CH 578

Prayer Points:

1. Let the fullness of Your Spirit be released upon me, O Lord.
2. Single me out, O Lord, and use me for Your own glory.

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 **Colour: Green**

Epistle: *Acts 18:12-28*

Gospel: *Luke 3:15-22*

Hymns: CH 3, VSH 22 CH XVII

Prayer Points:

1. O Lord, let Your grace be evident in my life and career.
2. O Lord God, I desire that Your heaven be opened over my life and family.

BIBLE STUDY PREVIEW

GATHERING OF THE NOBLES - ACTS 17:10-11

Wednesday, September 23, 2020 **Colour: Green**

Epistle: *Acts 19:1-10*

Gospel: *Luke 4:1-13*

Hymns: CH 18, CH 306, CH 577

Prayer Points:

1. Confirm my faith and conversion with signs and wonders, O God.
2. Give me grace not to fall into temptation, O Lord.

HOURS OF DIVINE SETTLEMENT – 1 PETER 5:10

Prayer Leader: The Ven. Festus Olowosile

THEME: "I SHALL NOT BE CONFOUNDED

–PSALM 93:1

4.00pm: Service Of Songs For Late Mrs Olabisi Adewale

Thursday, September 24, 2020 **Colour: Green**

Epistle: *Acts 19:11-20*

Gospel: *Luke 4:14-30*

Hymns: CH 15, VSH 59, CH 153

Prayer Points:

1. Lord, make my life a demonstration of Your power that miracles be wrought by my hands.
2. Keep my household enemies in perpetual silence O God.

Friday, September 25, 2020 **Colour: Green**

Epistle: *Acts 19:21-41*

Gospel: *Luke 4:31-37*

Hymns: CH 5, VSH 25, CH CS 51

Prayer Points:

1. Keep me safe in the hollow of Your hand, and let me not be a victim of riot.
2. I receive divine mandate to operate in the frequency beyond human ability.

9.00am: Burial Service For Late Mrs Olabisi Adewale

Saturday, September 26, 2020 **Colour: Green**

Epistle: *Acts 20:1-16*

Gospel: *Luke 4:38-44*

Hymns: CH 516, VSH 63, CH 373

Prayer Points:

1. Let every good thing that is dead in me arise and proclaim Your glory.
2. Heal my body, soul and spirit, O Lord, my maker.

**CONSECRATION & ENTHRONEMENT
THE VENERABLE ADEGOKE OLUDARE
& MRS OLUTOYIN AGARA**

1. CONSECRATION RETREAT WEDNESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER - MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2020
2. CONSECRATION SERVICE TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2020
VENUE: THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT, LIFE CAMP, GWARINPA, ABUJA.
TIME: 9.00AM.
3. GENERAL SYNOD ABUJA - TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER - FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER, 2020.
4. DEPARTURE TO IDOANI SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2020.
5. ENTHRONEMENT - TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
VENUE: THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, IDOANI
TIME: 11.00AM

***WE COVET YOUR PRAYERS AND YOUR
ACTIVE PARTICIPATION***

PROCESSIONAL HYMN FOR 11.00AM

ALL PRAISE TO OUR REDEEMING LORD

1. All praise to our redeeming Lord,
who joins us by His grace,
and bids us, each to each restored,
together seek His face.
2. The gift which he on one bestows
we all delight to prove;
the grace through every vessel flows,
in purest streams of love.
3. He bids us build each other up;
and gathered into one,
to our high calling's glorious hope,
we hand in hand go on.
4. We all partake the joy of one,
the common peace we feel,
a peace to sensual minds unknown,
a joy unspeakable.
6. And if our fellowship below
in Jesus be so sweet,
What height of rapture shall we know
When round His throne we meet.

❖ **Thanksgiving:**

- i. **All Women's Thanksgiving**
- ii. Family Harvest: *(as indicated... pg. 9)*
- iii. Society Harvest: *(as indicated... pg. 9)*
- iv. The Family of Mr Dapo Sanu thanking God for 65th birthday of Dr. (Mrs) Remi Oladapo-Sanu, 34th wedding anniversary & God's numerous blessings.
- v. Thanksgiving after the successful burial of Late Ezinne Mercy Osuoha (Mother of Mrs Ugochi Osinigwe of Choir) and journey mercies.
- vi. Thanksgiving after the successful burial of Late Chief Moses Chukwuemeka (Father of Mrs Adaobi Mbaezue of Daughters of Light) and journey mercies.
- vii. 1st year remembrance of Late Clement Adekunle Olowokande and God's numerous blessings on the family he left behind
- viii. 20th remembrance of Late Mr Sunday Adedapo Odotola (Father of Mrs Adejumo Odunubi of Band of Faith & Guild of Stewards & God's numerous blessings on the family he left behind.

❖ Closing Prayer & Benediction

❖ Notices

❖ Withdrawal Hymn: CH 471

C. 11.00 am HOLY COMMUNION

ALL WOMEN'S HARVEST

Celebrant: *The Rev. Canon. Dr. B. Okere*

Preacher: *The Ven. James Adekanye*

❖ Processional Hymn: *All Praise to our Redeeming (pg10)*

❖ Praise & Worship

❖ Preparation to Penitence- *The Rev. Bolarinwa Osineye*

❖ The Epistle: **Romans 12:9-21**

❖ Gradual Hymn: VSH 99

❖ The Gospel: **Luke 16:19-31**

❖ **SERMON**

❖ Nicene Creed & Intercession - *The Rev. Dr. S. Opaaje*

❖ The Peace (*Let there be peace*)

❖ All Offerings: Praises

{First Fruit, Tithes, Building, Covenant Seed, Sunday Offering & All other offerings}

❖ The Eucharistic Prayers

❖ The Administration: Worship Songs

❖ The Ablution: CH 446

❖ Post Communion Prayer

❖ **Thanksgiving:**

i. **All Women's Thanksgiving**

ii. Family Harvest: *(as indicated... pg. 9)*

❖ Closing Prayer & Benediction

❖ Notices

❖ Withdrawal Hymn: CH 492

EVENT AHEAD

1. **National Harvest – Sunday, 27th Sept, 2020**

2. **SENTENCES FOR TRINITY 15**

Introductory Sentence

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has abolished death; and brought life immortality to light through the gospel. *1 Timothy 1:10.*

Collect for Trinity 15:

Almighty God, You have taught us through Your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law. Grant that we may love You with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Post Communion Sentence

Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by the changing the way you think.
Romans 12:2.

3. PRAYER POINTS FOR TODAY – SUNDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER, 2020

A. Prayers for the Anglican Communion and for Christian Denominations and Organizations

- i. Pray for Henry Ndukuba our Primate, Olusina, Our Archbishop and Olusola our Bishop that trusting God in every situation shall be their delight as they shepherd the sheep.
- ii. For the Rt. Rev. John Garba Danbinta, his family and all members of the Diocese of Gusau.

B. Prayer for Nigeria & the World

- i. *Pray that the Lord of Host in His mercies will on account of His elects and remnants in Nigeria frustrate every raging from the pit of hell and all evil counsels, gang-ups and schemes in form of Boko Haram, Herdsmen and Islamnization agenda so that Christianity in Nigeria will never go the way of TURKEY nor NORTH AFRICA in Jesus Name. Amen.*
- ii. That there shall be an end to endless cycle of horror on our highways in Nigeria.
- iii. That the favour of God will not elude our nation as we are counting down to the end of September.

C. Prayer for AVMCC

- i. That the divine favour of the Lord shall be revealed upon His Church.
- ii. That members of AVMCC shall experience the divine favour of God before the ending of this year.
- iii. That members will not take the favour of God for granted.

D. 7.00a.m, 9.00a.m. &11.00am - YOUTH SERVICE

Celebrant: *The Rev. Ayodeji Oluwatusin*

Preacher: *The Rev. Ayodeji Oluwatusin*

Theme: *Standing with the poor today*

- ❖ Processional Hymn: CH 161
- ❖ Preparation to Penitence
- ❖ The Epistle: Romans 12:9-12
- ❖ The Gospel: Luke 16:19-21
- ❖ Hymn before Sermon: I need you, You need me....
- ❖ Sermon
- ❖ Creed & Intercession
- ❖ Offerings: Praises
- (a) *First Fruits* (b) *Tithes, Building, Covenant Seed & Offering*
- ❖ The Eucharistic Prayers
- ❖ The Administration to Ablution: Worship Songs
- ❖ Post Communion Prayer
- ❖ Thanksgiving: Sis Adora Igunma (Adiv 2nd Year Anniversary)
- ❖ Youth Anthem
- ❖ Notices
- ❖ Prayer & Benediction
- ❖ The Withdrawal Hymn: CH 373

HARVEST NEWS

A. Family Harvest for today- Sunday 20th September, 2020

7.00am: *Bro. Reuben Umukoro & Family,*

9.00am: *The Family of Olowokandes, Oloye Gunwa Osinubi & Family, Mr Godwin Igbinoia & Family, Mr Oladapo Sanu & Family, Mr Dayo Alabi & Family, Princess Modupe Oni & Family.*

11.00am: *Mr Charles Monwuba & Family.*

B. Society Harvest for today - Sunday 20th September, 2020

Torchbearers & Band of Peace Societies

C. Society Harvest for - Sunday 4th October, 2020

Christian Family & Christian Morning Star Societies

AVMCC CHURCH NEEDS

Dear Parishioners,

Be encouraged to pick one or more of the items listed below to mark your birthday, wedding anniversary and other occasions of joy. Do endeavour to get in touch with the WARDENS for specifications or monetization.

- * Walkie-Talkie (4pcs) Hands free – (N160,000.00)
- * Multimedia Headset (2pcs) – (N280,000.00)
- * Proper Lighting – (N150,000.00)

NEW LOCKDOWN RULES

1. **Wash your heart with Christ's blood (Psalm 73:1).**
2. **Keep a social distance from evil (Job 28:28)**
3. **Avoid the crowd of wickedness and wicked men (Psalm 1:1)**
4. **Cover your mind from being infected from the sneeze of sin and hatred (Lev. 19:17)**
5. **Do not shake hands with abomination (Deut. 25:16)**
6. **Do not hug, heresy and false teachings (2 Pet. 2:1)**
7. **Be safe so that you will be saved (Jer. 17:14)**
8. **Sanitize your life with the Word of God (Psalm 1:2)**
9. **In case you notice any symptoms of sin, call the helpline of Christ in PRAYER (Jer. 33:3)**
10. **Always remember to boost your spiritual immunity With Faith and the Power of the Holy Spirit (Jude 1:20)**

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

We publish the Banns of Marriage between the persons under-listed: If anyone knows any just cause in law why the persons listed may not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, he should declare it immediately.

3RD NOTICE:

1. *Mr. Chibuike Okeke & Miss Udoka Anadu*
2. *Mr. Chukwuebuka Ogudiegwu & Miss Chiamaka Anaele*

2ND NOTICE:

1. *Mr. Friday Chukwu & Miss Sarah Chukwu*
2. *Mr. Francis Ogbuka & Miss Kate Okwuraiwe*

1ST NOTICE:

1. *Mr. Nicholas Chukwu & Miss Ukamaka Obaji*
2. *Mr. Charles Onyeoziri & Miss Chineye Amisu*

**WITHDRAWAL HYMN FOR 7.00AM
VSH 244 – GIVE ME JOY IN MY HEART**

1. Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Give me joy in my heart, I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Keep me praising till the break of day. (Refrain)
*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King!*
2. Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving.
Give me peace in my heart, I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me loving,
Keep me loving till the break of day.
(Refrain) *Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,*
3. Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Give me love in my heart, I pray,
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Keep me serving till the break of day.
(Refrain) *Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,*

AVMCC BANK ACCOUNTS DETAILS

| <u>BANK</u> | <u>ACCOUNT</u> | <u>SORT</u> | <u>PURPOSE</u> |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|--|
| <u>ACCESS</u> | <u>NUMBER</u> | <u>CODE</u> | |
| WEMA | 0017948337 | 044151245 | Evangelical Fund |
| WEMA | 0120970667 | 035150695 | Offering & Thanksgiving |
| FIRST | 2025018178 | 011151841 | Harvest (kindly signify the purpose e.g. Family harvest, Youth Harvest etc.) |
| FIRST | 2001350641 | 011151841 | Project Support |
| STANBIC | 9200212515 | | |
| IBTC | | 221150027 | First Fruits |
| GTB | 0007899440 | 058152120 | Tithes |
| ECO | 0953002198 | | Building Fund |
| ZENITH | 1011097083 | 057150314 | Covenant Seed |
| WEMA | 0122245798 | 035150695 | Endowment Fund |

AVMCC DEVELOPMENT FUND ACCOUNT

Account Name: AVMCC Development Fund
Account Number: 1021733207
Sort Code: 033154512
Branch Address, UBA Plc, 51A Adeniyi Jones Street, Ikeja.

2021 BUDGET

We hereby inform all Committee Chairmen and Co-ordinators of Ministries to submit their DETAILED 2021 Budget to the Account Section of the Cathedral before 30th September, 2020.

**4. THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
SUNDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2020**

**THEME: STANDING WITH THE POOR TODAY
READINGS: PSALM 56; DEUTERONOMY 15:7-11;
ROMANS 12:9-21; LUKE 16:19-31.**

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus never delayed anytime in confronting wrong attitudes that are prevalent among men.. He spoke a parable to strictly warn us not to love money more than people in the text chosen for this write up. He confronted religious leaders who were lovers of money, telling them that "what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God" (Luke 16:14-15). A proper perspective of greed and cynicism and the judgment of God could be seen as the points Jesus was addressing in this passage.

The story of the rich man and Lazarus is not an actual story but a parable, which is told in allegorical manner to convey spiritual truth. The parable is one where the main character is given a name, perhaps in part, to make it more personal for each of us reading this. The parable begins by telling us, "There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day" (Luke 16:19). This man dressed in the finest clothes and ate well every day of the year. Nothing is wrong with these pursuits in and of themselves. But this man was not willing to share his wealth. He lived by the "zero sum" rule—he wanted the whole pie for himself. None of it could be shared with others because, in his twisted way of thinking, that would leave less for him. The rich man in this parable personifies an attitude of hoarding: "I have what is mine, I worked hard for it and no one gets a penny, lest I have less than what I had."

Christ contrasts the rich man to the poor beggar named Lazarus who was wracked with sores and reduced to being laid at the gate of the rich man hoping any amount of charity would come his way. Neither the wealthy tycoon nor anyone else gave him an ounce of care.

However, both beggar and rich man died. Here is where the story takes an imaginative turn to provide a larger lesson about judgment and eventual accounting for one's actions. Lazarus is judged faithful, and in being carried to "Abrahams's bosom" he receives an inheritance along with faithful Abraham and others who follow Abraham's example

of faith. That inheritance is here on earth as the Kingdom of God—established when Christ returns and begins His rule. The rich man, we are told, dies and is buried. However, seeing Abraham and Lazarus, he cries out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame" (Luke 16:22-24)

Christ is telling us there will be a day of judgment for the wicked, and it will include a fiery, if brief, torment. Peter describes this event in 2 Peter 3:10 when "the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up." Christ is describing a time when our thoughts and actions will be judged, which should make us all examine ourselves today while we have opportunity to correct our course. (Luke 16:25-26). Judgment is a concept polite people don't want to talk about. It's uncomfortable to be told you may one day have to account for your actions and deeds. Modern philosophies tend toward tolerant, non-judgmental approaches to people and lifestyles. Relativism is a foundation of the religion of modernity. The idea of a judgment, or an accounting for personal actions, is ironically not tolerated. Yet the Bible shows us there will be a day of judgment.

I think the problem has been greed and cynicism. An attitude of callous indifference to a brother's suffering was not changed even when the suffering man lay each day in plain sight of the rich man. The rich man would do nothing to change. He consumed and hoarded his wealth with no thought of obligation toward others.

There's a lot of that in the world today, as there has been in every age. Their motto is, *Dum vivamus edimus et biberimus*, meaning, "While we live, we eat and drink. They, however, represent the attitude Christ is condemning. As long as a person holds the attitude of this rich man, he stands in danger of a growing "great gulf" not just between him and his fellow man, but between him and God. That's a key personal lesson we can take from this parable.

The parable concludes with the plaintive cry of the rich man asking Abraham to send a warning to his father's house for the sake of his five brothers. Abraham says, "They have Moses and the prophets;

let them hear them," and "If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rises from the dead" (Luke 16:27-31). Moses and all the Old Testament Scriptures, and even the New Testament for that matter, carry enough teaching and direction to tell us how to manage our money and possessions to effectively take care of ourselves and others—to share and care for the poor. Learn the lesson now, and avoid the greed that puts us into this parable in the role of the rich man.

How can you put the lessons of this parable to use?

Here are three things you can apply today:

1. Don't hoard your stuff. Give away what you don't really need or use. Do you have clothes hanging in your closet that you didn't wear at all this past season? Think about donating them to someone who needs them or a charity that serves the poor.
2. Get in the habit of sharing what you can spare. For example, the change you get back each time you go through your local fast food drive-through—maybe dump it in the bin below the window and let it help someone going through a crisis. Look at it as a way of leaving the corners of your field for someone in need (Leviticus 23:22).
3. Use all your wealth to honor God. Use it for you and your family and to help others as you are able. This approach reminds us that, as James 1:17 tells us, God is the source of every good and perfect gift.

APOSTLE OF PEACE:

Apostle of Peace Society NG014 will be making the Peace Day on Monday, 21st September, 2020. Join them online on AVMCC Media Channel, on Youtube and Facebook.

