

# Monday of the Twenty-ninth Week in Ordinary Time

**Gospel text (Lk 12:13-21):** ...Jesus said to the crowd, “Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions...”

## *Human development*

EDITORIAL TEAM [evangelii.net](http://evangelii.net) (based on texts by Benedict XVI)  
(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, Jesús speaks to us of the development of man and warns us of the dangers, even nonsensical nature of avarice. The reality of truth and love –the true path– cannot be found in a world of amounts and accumulation, but can only be found if we reach beyond this world and enter into a new order.

It is clear that dinosaurs became extinct as a result of evolving in an incorrect way: lots of flesh and a small brain, layers of muscle but little intelligence. Are we not also evolving in an erroneous way: lots of technical knowledge, but lacking in soul? A thick layer of material capabilities, but a heart that has become empty? In the midst of so many material things and the need for appearances, have we not lost the ability to hear God's voice within ourselves, to recognize what is good, beautiful and true?

—Lord, our God, be merciful with us so as we may understand what is true human development, which is foremost in “Being” rather than “possessing”.