

Dear Padre,

Sometimes after Mass, I go to the late service at a “Bible church” with the rest of my family. Once a month, this church serves communion, but they make it clear that it is only as a memory of Jesus and the Last Supper, and that Jesus is not present at communion. Is it OK to receive this communion?



The Catholic understanding of Holy Communion includes not only the understanding of Communion as the Body and Blood of Christ, but it includes something more. Communion is a statement of belief and a statement of belonging. When Catholics participate in the sacrament, they are identifying with divinity as well as with the community of believers who are joined together in “one mind and in one spirit.” It is an act of unity, a real “communion.” Even though the Bible church clearly teaches a different theology of communion, it would seem to me that, for a Catholic, the fullest meaning and understanding of Communion is important and worth witnessing to. For this reason, I would refrain from participating in communion at the Bible church. Do so quietly and respectfully, because what is being celebrated is important; it just does not have the full meaning that you understand is necessary. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| August 4 | August 5 | August 6 | August 7 | August 8 | August 9 | August 10 |
| St. John Vianney, Priest | Weekday | Transfiguration of the Lord | Weekday | St. Dominic, Priest | Weekday | Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| Nm 11:4b-15 | Mt 14:22-36 or | Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 | Nm 20:1-13 | Dt 4:32-40 | Dt 6:4-13 | Wis 18:6-9 |
| Mt 14:13-21 | Mt 15:1-2, 10-14 | 2 Pt 1:16-19 | Mt 16:13-23 | Mt 16:24-28 | Mt 17:14-20 | Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 |
| | | Lk 9:28b-36 | | | | or 11:1-2, 8-12 |
| | | | | | | Lk 12:32-48 or |
| | | | | | | Lk 12:35-40 |



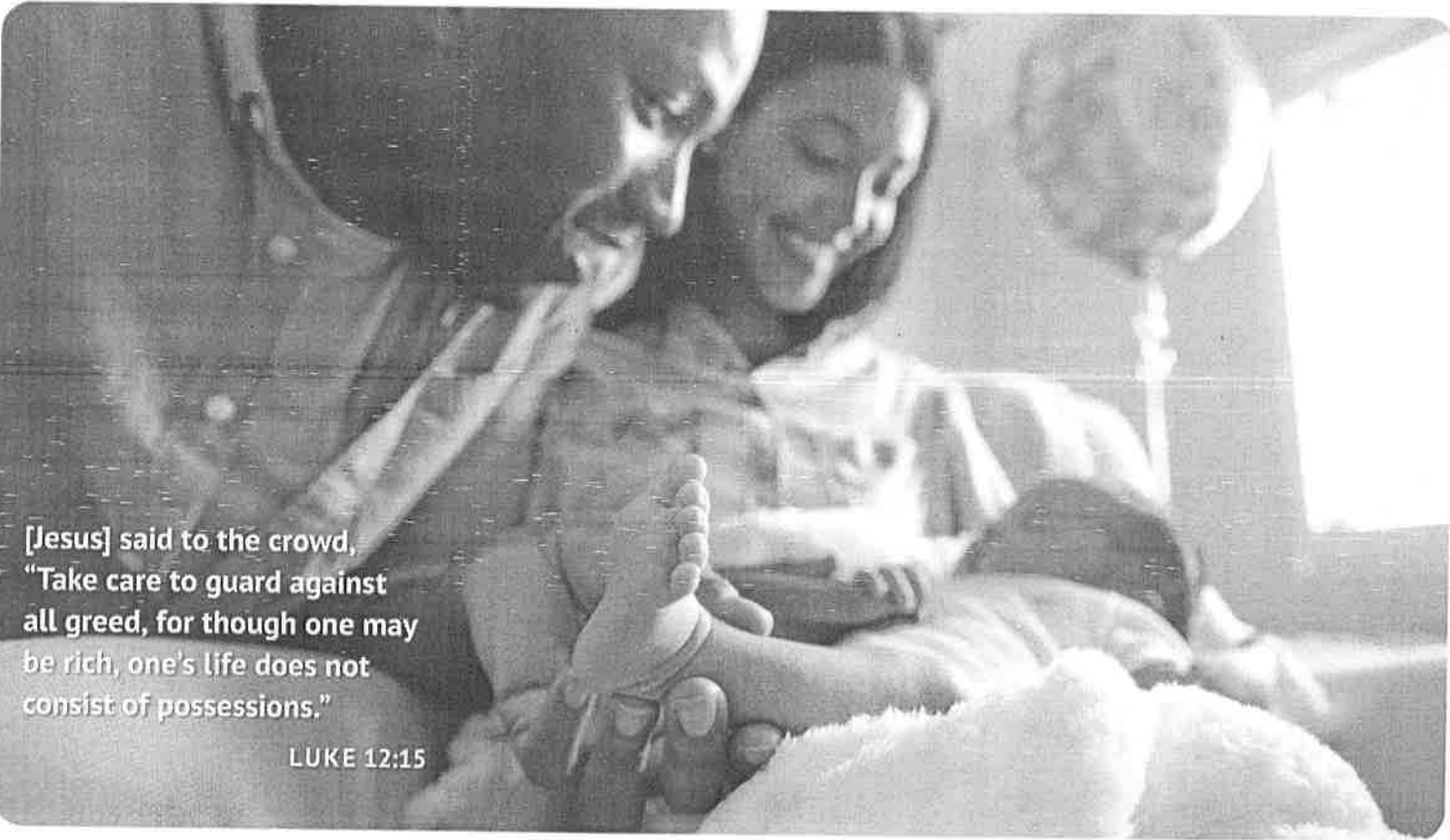
A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS
Covetousness of goods, the desire to have goods, does not satisfy the heart, but rather causes more hunger!... Be careful! Love...is the source of true happiness, whereas the exaggerated search for material goods and wealth is often a source of anxiety, adversity, abuse of power, war. Many wars begin from covetousness.

ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 4, 2019

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 3, 2025
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23 / Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11 / Luke 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."

LUKE 12:15

Remember This

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Remember this: Jesus said, “one's life does not consist of possessions.” But, if not that, what then?

Think back upon your memories: the first warm day of spring, when the fireworks of new life exploded upon you; laughing so hard that your sides hurt, and you and your friends could not stop laughing even to breathe; walking barefoot in the dewy grass; your best friend telling you you're best friends; learning to finally ride a bike no-handed and thinking that you moved up a rung on the ladder of awesomeness; the first time you dared to risk reaching for the hand of someone you discovered you liked more than anyone else; the unbelievable wonder at the birth of your child; making googly faces at a burbling baby, and the baby googling back; your child snuggling into

bed with you at two in the morning because she's frightened by the thunderstorm; talking with friends on and on into the night and wishing it could go on for forever; a cold beer, the reward for cutting the grass on a dizzying summer afternoon; being young with an abundance of dreams of what might be; growing old and thinking life was worth it all.

Remember this: there is so much more to life than one's possessions. We all know this, and yet we forget. Perhaps in forgetting, we might be surprised again and again by the beauty of what cannot be purchased and so recognize the loving touch of our God. ●

Reflect

**What is more important to me than possessions?
Does my life reflect this?**