23 SATURDAY

Saturday, 11th Week of Year

2 Cor 12: 1 - 10 Ps 33: 8 - 13 Matt 6: 24 - 34

"Do not worry about tomorrow", Jesus said. But ordinary human prudence suggests we do have to take some care for tomorrow, especially if we've got responsibilities towards other people. But is that really what Jesus was talking about? Certainly, it's possible to become obsessed with worries about tomorrow, and even for genuine reasons. Too often, the set-up of modern societies is uncaring and unhelpful for people who are temporarily or permanently unable to work or even look for work, because of disability, illness, changes in markets or economies. It's easy to say, to oneself or someone else: "Trust in God", but that doesn't fill a needy person's rice-bowl. What Jesus was talking about is where our hearts are, and telling us to set our hearts first on His kingdom. If our hearts are only set on material things, even necessary though they are, they will remain set there and nothing will ever be enough. That's the way that leads to greed and selfishness. Eventually, it's why our world spends millions on cosmetics and fashion, and there's not enough money or even concern about feeding the starving and eliminating disease. Today's demands are enough of a worry: and we only have today -- tomorrow hasn't come. It's only today that we have in which to praise and thank the Lord and serve Him in His people and His world. The present moment is our time of grace, to be aware, to ask, to listen and to be who God wants each of us to be, with our hearts set on Him.

Text wordcount: 261