Commentary to the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B –



Chosen as the arbiter of a musical contest

between Pan's flute and Apollo's lyre, King Midas had attributed the victory to the first. Only an inexperienced, one with the musical sensitivity of a donkey could become unbalanced in such a judgment. He would grow donkey's ears and would become the symbol of the reckless man. One day, Dionysus, grateful for a favor received, allowed him to express a wish, promising to fulfill it. Midas, without thinking, and guided by his proverbial folly, asked that everything he touched would change into gold. Thus it happened but from that time he was no longer in a position to either eat or drink.

Of these myths, only one who does not realize that they reflect our reality, and denounce our foolish choices, can smile.

It is we who, between the sound of the Apollonian lyre, a symbol of harmony, the balance of passions, moderation, and the melody of the flute, an instrument of seduction and stimulus to excesses, preferred the latter.

The insatiable longing for gold, the greed for the goods, the idolatry of money are causes for concern, anxiety, and shortness of breath. They take the breath away and make life impossible. They continue to

be held objectives for which it is worth living. Everything that one touches—the profession, scientific research, friendships, family and, sometimes, religion—is appreciated ... if it produces gold. This is madness.

"A man of donkey's ears" was considered by the sages of antiquity, "crazy." Who accumulates assets as the purpose of his existence is defined a fool by Jesus (Lk 12:20).

To internalize the message, we repeat:

"I do not want to bet life on the goods, but on the Good."

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Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13
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Gospel: Mark 10:17-30
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Fr. Fernando Armellini