

Amos observes that we can't wait until the new moon to get our share of the harvest and then some. We are so anxious to possess that we "buy up the poor". We will pay for our greed. St. Paul urges us to pray together without anger or argument. Jesus tells us with a parable to be as shrewd and astute as a merchant or businessman making a deal or a sale. God, you are serious business! What is the Word saying to me? Am I listening?



WHAT IS NOT YOURS We have some wise sayings about being shrewd:

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

A bill in the coffer is worth two in the offer.

A ring on the finger is worth two on the phone.

We have a knack for our own interests especially involving money. We know how to win friends and influence people.

But today's gospel parable concludes that if we REALLY had "a vested interest" in the Kingdom of God , we would be as shrewd about securing it as we are about our own income.

The Reign of God and moneymaking have nothing in common. That may seem unfortune-ate! Jesus made the point not just once, as if by slip, but several times as in the story of Lazarus and Dives, the rich young man, the camel and eyeof-the-needle, today's passage. God's Son(who ransomed usnot with money and who became poor so that we might benefit from his divestment) teaches us that riches are treacherous and may sabotage the Kingdom of God.



To add insult to difficulty, we are told that money is not even our own: WE ARE ONLY STEWARDS.

These are hard sayings and a hard choice in an age of lottos, bingo, speculations and high interest. But it must be admitted that our attitude to money and to the poor reveals the seriousness of our following of christ. The same criterion of faithfulness held in Amos' time. GREED IS STILL THE SIN OF THE WORLD BECAUSE IT CAUSES PEOPLE TO SUFFER. That is why GOD HAS A PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR.

A servant of that same God and a pleader for the poor put it in a small poem:

A warning to the properous: It is not easy To preserve the soul of a jeep In a Cadillac body. (Dom Helder Camera, Brazil)

...Mary Alban Bouchard, CSJ---NOVALIS



MARRIAGE PREPARATION INFORMATION NIGHT

This Tuesday Eve Sept. 23rd

7-9 pm Badin Hall Chapel

We will be discussing Diocesan Requirements nationwide.

If you are getting married in Sacred Heart Church or in your home parish, you can do your marriage preparation here.

It's never too soon to start!!!

ENGAGED ??



A presentation on <u>NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING</u> will be given on Sept. 17 at 7:00 P.M. at the Village Community Center which is located across from the married Student housing. Call Kathleen de Groot at 239-5242 for further inquiry.

The married students at ND's University Village are in constant need of <u>BABYSITTERS</u>. Any time, hourly, weekly, monthly ... you can give us will help. If you'reinterested in <u>VOLUNTEERING</u>, please contact Kathleen de Groot at 239-5242. By the way, did you know that University Village houses 132 families including 15 undergrad couples and 135 children ranging in age from new born to college bound teen agers? Find the Village on your handy ND map and visit Kathleen to talk about volunteering.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERY WORKSHOPS WILL TAKE PLACE IN SACRED HEART CHURCH on Sunday September 21 at 2:00 P.M. or Tuesday September 23 at 10:00 P.M.

An <u>EVENING OF REFLECTION</u> will be held for <u>RETURNING EUCHARISTIC</u> MINISTERS on Thursday September 25 at 7:30 P.M. in SH Church.

An information night will be held for those interested in <u>BECOMING CATHOLIC, BEING CONFIRMED OR SPONSORING A RCIA CANDIDATE</u> on Sunday September 28 @ 7 PM: DETAILS ON BECOMING A RCIA SPONSOR; @ 8 PM CATECHUMENATE PROCESS AND FULL COMMUNION EXPLAINED and @ 9 PM CONFIRMATION OF ADULTS EXPLAINED.

THE NOTRE DAME RELIGIOUS BULLETIN, PUBLISHED WEEKLY TO INFORM AND INSPIRE THE ND FAMILY, WELCOMES SHORT ARTICLES, QUESTIONS, NOTICES, INQUIRY. CONTACT US AT THE BADIN HALL OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY MINISTRY.