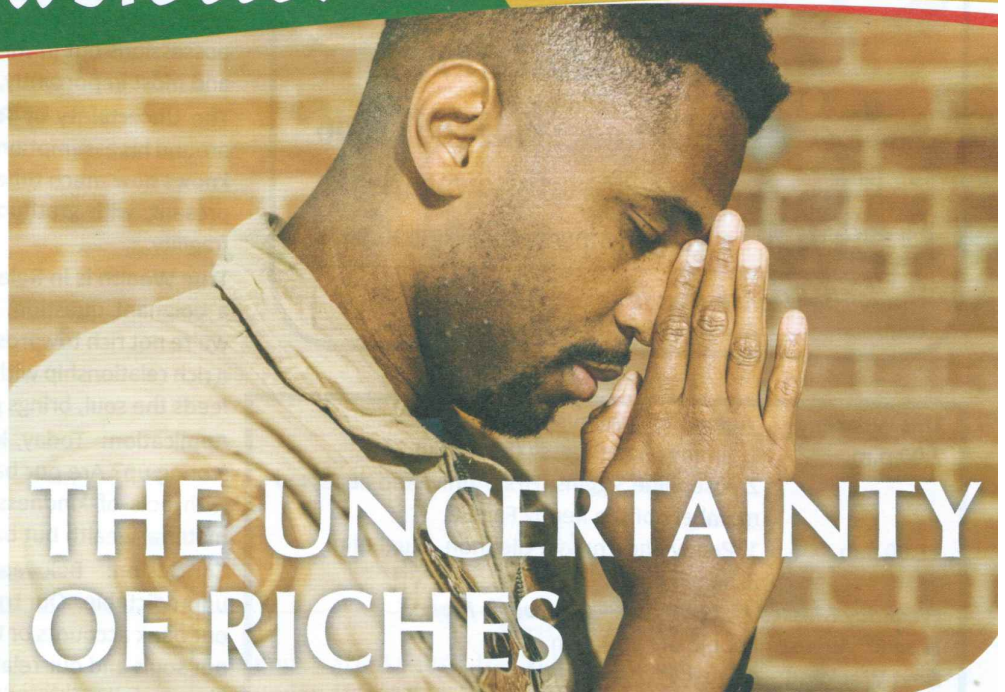


Viktor Frankl, an influential psychologist, maintained that the deepest need of the human heart is a sense of ultimate meaning and purpose. In his autobiography he said that for him personally, the notion of ultimate meaning was synonymous with God. He observed that when a relationship with God is absent in a person's life, 'Sometimes the frustrated will to meaning is vicariously compensated for by a will to power, including the most primitive form of the will to power, the will to money.' The Bible warns its readers about the dangers posed by greed and a love of riches. Jesus said, 'You cannot serve God and wealth' (Mt 6:24) and St Paul added, 'the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs' (1 Tim 6:10).

When he was in Galway in 1979, St John Paul II said to young people, 'the prospect of growing economic progress, and the chance of obtaining a greater share of the goods that modern society has to offer, will appear to you as an opportunity to achieve greater freedom ... In order to make more



money and to possess more ... you may be tempted to take moral shortcuts where honesty, truth and work are concerned.' Fifty years later it is clear that Irish people have become much richer, while at the same time they have become much less religious. The words of St Paul are still relevant, 'Put to death ... the greed that is idolatry' (Col 3:5).

Generosity to others, especially the poor and needy, is an effective antidote to the corrosive effects of greed. The author of 1 Timothy 6:17-18 said: 'As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set

their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share.' Proverbs 22:9 declares that: 'Those who are generous are blessed.' Jesus reiterated that point when he said in Luke 6:38, 'Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

— Pat Collins

THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

Our Father, ...

Deliver us, Lord, ...

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are
yours now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ...

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And with your spirit.

**As the priest breaks the consecrated Host
the following is sung or said:**

Lamb of God, you take away ...

Showing the Eucharist to the people, the priest says:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes

away the sins of the world. Blessed are those
called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion Antiphon (Wis 16:20)

**You have given us, O Lord, bread from
heaven, endowed with all delights and
sweetness in every taste.**

Prayer after Communion

Accompany with constant protection, O Lord,
those you renew with these heavenly gifts
and, in your never-failing care for them,
make them worthy of eternal redemption.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Reflection

Think of people you know who
seem to be very happy and
contented. What do you think is
the secret of their happiness?

Lesson

Draw strength from God who is
with us at all times, no matter
what our difficulties

Prayer

'Make us know the shortness of our
life that we may gain wisdom of
heart.'