How to be rich!

What does it take to be rich? Did you know some people spend their whole lives asking this question? How can I be rich?

In today’s Gospel reading, we hear the story of a rich man and a poor man named Lazarus. The rich man enjoyed big feasts and wore fancy clothes. The poor man, Lazarus, didn’t have such fun. He lay on the ground, with sores all over his body. He hardly had any food to eat. The Gospel says that the dogs licked him, as he lay there!

We hear this story every year and every time we hear it, we can learn something new! One of the greatest saints of our Church, Saint John Chrysostom, wrote lots of sermons about this Gospel reading. In one of them, he tells us what it really means to be rich.

Think about this! The rich person is not the one who has lots of things. The rich person is the one doesn’t need many things. And you might think that a poor person is somebody who doesn’t have much. But really, a poor person is somebody who always wants more, more, more.

Do you see how you can be rich, just by your attitude? When we always want more, more, more, we can never be rich! But when we are happy with what we have, we already feel rich! May God help us all to be rich...in the right way!
What's in an icon?

This is an icon of the unmercenary saints—the doctors saints who did not take payment for their work. There are so many of them!

If you know somebody who is sick, pray to Saints Kosmas and Damian and these other holy saints!

SAINTS KOSMAS AND DAMIAN
THE HOLY DOCTORS

Have your parents ever taken you to the doctor? Well, of course they have. Sometimes we go for check-ups to make sure everything is going ok. Other times we might get hurt or sick, and we need a doctor to help us.

Today, we celebrate two doctors who were brothers, and they are saints too! When the two boys were young, their father died, and their mother did everything she could to raise her sons as strong Christians. She also gave them the best medical training, too. Kosmas and Damian knew that being a Christian is not just something for Sundays at church! They practiced their Christian faith every day, and especially while they worked as doctors. They refused to accept payment for their work. They helped many, many people to become well again, especially the poor, who had nobody else to help them.

You can read about many miracles of Saints Kosmas and Damian. They helped while they were still alive, and also after they died, and they even have healed people who are alive today! When we hear about these awesome miracles, we know that God is with us. We know He is listening to us and working through His saints!

By the way, listen for the names of these saints in some of our church prayers. We ask for the prayers of Saints Kosmas and Damian, the holy unmercenaries (doctors who didn’t get paid).

We celebrate Sts Kosmas and Damian today, Nov. 1st (OC: Nov 14).