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Based on the gospel for Sunday 25 September–Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 16:19-31

"...between you and us a great chasm has been fixed."

The chasm which exists between the rich man and Lazarus after their deaths reflects the distance that separated them in life. Though the rich man knew Lazarus' name, it seems that he passed him by him each day, overlooking him and ignoring his needs.

The rich man in the gospel accepts the world as it is, without trying to change anything. He is condemned not for being cruel to Lazarus or mistreating him but for his failure to do anything to help him. The message of the parable is clear. Don't fail to see the poor and needy. Don't accept the status quo. Don't imagine you can't make a difference.

Many chasms divide our world today – between the rich and poor, the powerful and marginalised, those with access to education and healthcare and those without. We are reminded by Catholic Social Teaching of God's call to have a special concern for the poor and powerless, to be aware of and challenge the chasms that keep people apart and prevent them from flourishing.

How might we begin to bridge some chasms today?

Compassionate God,  
forgive us for the times we fail to see those in need.  
Give us courage and strength to believe that we can make a difference  
and move us to love in concrete ways  
so that all your people may enjoy justice and peace.  
Amen.



Faith and food

Join us online on Thursday 29th September for an evening with MasterChef Semi- finalist Olayemi Adelekan. discussing her MasterChef journey, Nigerian cooking and the role faith plays in her daily life.

[Register now](#)



Make and Create

This Harvest, we invite you to 'Make and Create' and raise vital funds for CAFOD.

[Find out more](#)



Food crisis Mass

Join us online on Friday 23 September at 7pm for a Mass, praying for all affected by the world food crisis. The Mass will be celebrated from the Shrine of Mary Help of Christians in Nairobi, Kenya.

[Sign up](#)

This reflection and prayer were written by Caroline Stanton from our Theology team.



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