

Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions.

Luke 12: 15

SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Amos 6: 1, 4-7

Psalm 145: 6-10

1 Timothy 6: 11-16

Luke 16: 19-31

At the global level, the richest 1% in Global North countries extracted USD 30 million an hour from the Global South through the financial system in 2023. Global North countries control 69% of global wealth despite making up just 21% of the global population.

Wages in the Global South are 87-95% lower than wages in the Global North for work of equal skill. Despite contributing 90% of the labour that drives the global economy, workers in low- and middle-income countries receive only 21% of global income.

At the individual level, the richest 1% have more wealth than the bottom 95% of the world's population put together. The richest 10% of people on the planet are responsible for about 50% of greenhouse gas emissions—within this, the richest 1% contribute 16%—while 50% of the world's poorest are responsible for only 8%.

Those who "have" are clearly driving the climate crisis and doing "too little too late" to cut down excessiveness in their lifestyles. Our consumption decisions are literally life and death ones at this point of time in history. We don't have to be in the richest 10% bracket to make a difference. Every one of our decisions matters. We are accountable for our own acts and omissions. Every fraction of a degree of increased global warming will affect billions of lives, especially those of the poor who have nothing to buffer them from the impacts of worsening floods, storms, droughts and other climate impacts. In addition, we must be ready to "fight the good fight of faith" (today's second reading) and persist in our advocacy for justice for the poor and all creation.



CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE



This week, we continue with the theme of hearing the "cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor" (Laudato Si' #49). The first reading and the Gospel are warnings to those who have wealth to hear the cry of the poor.