

Rich young man talk

Dangerous things

Dangerous things hidden throughout church, marked in 'dangerous' envelopes/packaging:

(ask who in congregation is medically trained...)

Salt: brain, heart, kidneys, arteries

Alcohol: liver, brain, relationships

Cigarettes: lungs

Sugar: obesity, heart, blood, diabetes, teeth

Be very, very careful about all these things...

Money – most dangerous of them all – big envelope, big stickers.

That's what Jesus said... money is bad for you.

Why is money bad for you??

Because people love it too much and do anything to get it. They hurt other people, cheat them, rip them off.

Because when they have lots of it, they often kind of think they deserve it. That they must be special. That they are more important, more talented, better than others.

Money is dangerous.

So be careful with money.

Here's the best way to make sure you don't have a money problem....

Are you giving lots of it away? And the more you get, are you giving more away?

And the wonderful thing is that *when you give it away*, it stops being dangerous and it becomes a blessing:

Parish Giving Scheme envelope: it helps the Church grow and teach people about God

Christian Aid envelope: it helps feed the hungry and care for the sick.

But the problem is – greed and fear have gone deep. We don't *want* to give.

And the solution is – come to the Eucharist. Drink that cup, brimming over with generosity. The one who is perfect generosity filled it with his life. Drink it, and put the Generous One inside you. He will make you anew, make you able to give, and give, and give.

And then you'll be free from the love of money...