

He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."

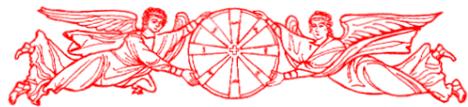
And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you desire."

And her daughter was healed instantly.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time **A**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 22:19-23

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord to Shebna, who is over the household:

"I will thrust you from your office, and you will be cast down from your station. In that day I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, and I will clothe him with your robe, and will bind your belt on him, and will commit your authority to his hand; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah.

And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will

fasten him like a peg in a sure place, and he will become a throne of honour to his father's house."

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

138

R. Thy mercy endureth for ever, despise not the work of thy hands.

I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, with my whole heart:

Even before the angels

will I sing praise unto thee.

I will worship toward thy holy temple. **R.**

I praise thy name

because of thy faithfulness and truth; for thou hast magnified thy name and thy word above all things.

When I called upon thee

thou heardest me,

and enduedst my soul

with much strength. **R.**

For though the Lord be high,

yet hath he respect unto the lowly; as for the proud,

he beholdeth them afar off.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever, despise not then the work of thy hands. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 11:33-36

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and how inscrutable his ways!

"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counsellor? Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory for

Out of Sion hath God appeared: in perfect beauty. **R.**

I will not reprove thee because of thy sacrifices, or for thy burnt-offerings, because they were not alway before me. **R.**

If I be hungry, I will not tell thee: for the whole world is mine, and all that is therein. Thinkest thou that I will eat bulls' flesh: and drink the blood of goats? **R.**

Offer unto God thanksgiving and pay thy vows unto the most Highest.

And call upon me in the time of trouble. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 4:18-25

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: In hope Abraham believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations; as he had been told, "So shall your descendants be."

He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead because he was about a hundred years old, or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was "reckoned to him as righteousness."

But the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be

reckoned to us who believe in him that raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was put to death for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 79:9-10, Psalm 9:4,9

Be merciful, O Lord, unto our sins: wherefore do the heathen say, Where is now their God? Help us, O God of our salvation: and for the honour of thy Name, deliver us, O Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia. Thou, O God, art set in the throne that judgest right: be thou the refuge of the opprest in due time of trouble. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 9:9-13

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: As Jesus passed on, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office; and he said to him, "Follow me."

And he rose and followed him. And as he sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples.

And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

The Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time A

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 19:2-6

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

In those days: When the people of Israel came into the wilderness of Sinai, they encamped in the wilderness; and there Israel encamped before the mountain.

And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the sons of Israel: 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my own possession among all peoples; for all the earth is mine, and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.'"

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

100

R. We are his people,
the sheep of his pasture.

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands :
serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence
with a song. R.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
it is he that hath made us,
and not we ourselves;
we are his people,
and the sheep of his pasture. R.

For the Lord is gracious,
his mercy is everlasting :

and his truth endureth
from generation to generation. R.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 5:6-11

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: While we were yet helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man - though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 84:10,9, Psalm 21:1

Behold, O God, our defender : and look upon thy servants. O Lord God of hosts: hear the prayers of thy servants. Alleluia. Alleluia. The King shall rejoice in thy strength, O Lord : exceeding glad shall he be of thy salvation. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 9:36-10:8

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

and to be his servants, every one who keeps the sabbath, and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

67

R. O God,
let all the peoples praise thee!

O God, be merciful unto us, and bless us, and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us: That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. R.

O let the nations rejoice and be glad : for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. R.

Let the people praise thee, O God,
let all the people praise thee.
Then shall the earth bring forth
her increase;
and God, even our own God,
shall give us his blessing.
God shall bless us,
and all the ends of the world
shall fear him. R.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry

in order to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.

Just as you were once disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may receive mercy. For God has consigned all men to disobedience, that he may have mercy upon all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 118:8,9; 95:1

It is better to trust in the Lord: than to put any confidence in man. It is better to trust in the Lord than to put any confidence in princes. Alleluia, alleluia! O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 15:21-28

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus went away and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon."

But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us."

Christ, I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the sonship, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and of their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed for ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 74:21,20,23; 90:1

Look upon thy covenant, O Lord: and forget not the congregation of the poor for ever. Arise, O Lord, maintain thine own cause: remember how the foolish man blasphemeth thee daily. Alleluia, alleluia. Lord, thou hast been our refuge: from one generation to another. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 14:22-33

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

After the crowd was satisfied, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray.

When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking

on the sea.

But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear.

But immediately he spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water."

He said, "Come."

So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me."

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity.

The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. These Twelve Jesus sent out, charging them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without pay, give without pay."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:10-13

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah.

Jeremiah said, "I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! 'Denounce him! Let us denounce him!' say all my familiar friends, watching for my fall. 'Perhaps he will be deceived, then we can overcome him, and take our revenge on him.'

But the Lord is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonour will never be forgotten.

O Lord of hosts, who test the righteous, who see the heart and the mind, let me see thy vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause.

Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers."

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

69

R. Hear me, O God,
in the multitude of thy mercy.

O Lord, for thy sake
have I suffered reproof:
shame hath covered my face.
I am become a stranger
unto my brethren,
even an alien
unto my mother's children. **R.**

Hear me, O God,

in the multitude of thy mercy :
even in the truth of thy salvation.
Take me out of the mire,
that I sink not. **R.**

The humble shall consider this,
and be glad :
seek ye after God,
and your soul shall live.
For the Lord heareth the poor:
Let heaven and earth praise him;
the sea, and all that moveth therein. **R.**

THE SECOND READING
Romans 5:12-15

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: As sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned - sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass.

For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Psalm 90:13,1; Psalm 31:2,3

Turn thee again, O Lord, at the last :
and be gracious unto thy servants.
Lord, thou hast been our refuge : from
one generation to another. Alleluia.
Alleluia. In thee, O Lord, have I put

my trust, let me never be put to confusion : deliver me in thy righteousness; bow down thine ear to me, make haste to deliver me. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING
Matthew 10:26-33

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his apostles, "Have no fear of men; for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, utter in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim upon the housetops.

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

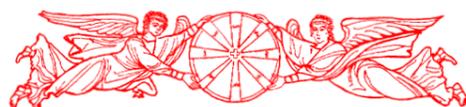
Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground without your Father's will.

But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.

Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

So every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



followed him on foot from the towns.

As he went ashore he saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick.

When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."

They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish."

And he said, "Bring them here to me."

Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The 19th Sunday
in Ordinary Time A

THE FIRST READING
1 Kings 19:9, 11-13

A reading from the first Book of Kings.

In those days: When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he lodged in a cave;

And behold, the word of the Lord came to him. And he said, "Go forth,

and stand upon the mount before the Lord."

And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
85

R. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us,
and grant us thy salvation.

I will hearken what the Lord God will say concerning me,
for he shall speak peace unto his people.
His salvation is nigh them that fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and truth are met together;
righteousness and peace
have kissed each other.
Truth shall flourish out of the earth,
and righteousness hath looked down
from heaven. **R.**

The Lord shall show loving-kindness,
and our land shall give her increase.
Righteousness shall go before him,
and he shall direct his going
in the way. **R.**

THE SECOND READING
Romans 9:1-5

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: I am speaking the truth in

The 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:1-3

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, "Ho, every one who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

"Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

"Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, merciful love for David."

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

145

R. The Lord is nigh
unto all that call upon him.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,
long-suffering and of great goodness.
The Lord is loving unto every man,
and his mercy is over all his works. **R.**

The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord:
and thou givest them their meat
in due season.

Thou openest thine hand
and fillest all things living
with plenteousness. **R.**

The Lord is righteous in all his ways
and holy in all his works.

The Lord is nigh
unto all them that call upon him,

yea, all such as call upon him
faithfully. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 8:35, 37-39

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 145:15-16, Psalm 88:1

The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord:
and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thy hand: and fillest all things living with plenteousness. Alleluia, alleluia! O Lord God of my salvation: I have cried day and night before thee. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 14:13-21

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew from there in a boat to a lonely place apart.

But when the crowds heard it, they

The 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

THE FIRST READING

2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

A reading from the second Book of Kings.

One day Elisha went on to Shunem, where a wealthy woman lived, who urged him to eat some food.

So whenever he passed that way, he would turn in there to eat food.

And she said to her husband, "Behold now, I perceive that this is a holy man of God, who is continually passing our way. Let us make a small roof chamber with walls, and put there for him a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp, so that whenever he comes to us, he can go in there."

One day he came there, and he turned into the chamber and rested there. And he said to Gehazi his servant, "What is to be done for her?"

Gehazi answered, "Well, she has no son, and her husband is old." He said, "Call her." And when he had called her, she stood in the doorway. And he said, "At this season, when the time comes round, you shall embrace a son."

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

89

R. For ever I will sing
the goodness of the Lord.

My song shall be always
of the loving-kindness of the Lord;
for I have said,
Mercy shall be set up for ever
thy truth shalt thou stablish
in the heavens. **R.**

Blessed is the people, O Lord,
that can rejoice in thee;
they shall walk in the light
of thy countenance.

Their delight shall be daily
in thy Name;

and in thy righteousness
shall they make their boast. **R.**

For thou art the glory of their strength:
and in thy loving-kindness

thou shalt lift up our heads.

For the Lord is our defence;
the Holy One of Israel is our King. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: All of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death.

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.

For we know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God.

So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 90:13,1; Psalm 47:1

Come, ye children, and hearken to me:
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

They had an eye unto him, and were enlightened: and their faces were not ashamed. Alleluia. Alleluia. O clap your hands together, all ye people: O sing unto God with the voice of melody. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 10:37-42

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his apostles, "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake will find it.

He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives him who sent me. He who receives a prophet because he is a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward, and he who receives a righteous man, because he is a righteous man, shall receive a righteous man's reward.

And whoever gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water, because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

THE FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9-10

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zechariah.

Thus says the Lord:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

145

R. I will praise thy name for ever, my king and my God.

I will magnify thee, O God, my King and I will praise thy Name for ever and ever.

Every day will I give thanks unto thee and praise thy Name for ever and ever. **R.**

The Lord is gracious and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness. The Lord is loving unto every man and his mercy is over all his works. **R.**

All thy works praise thee, O Lord and thy saints give thanks unto thee. They shew the glory of thy kingdom and talk of thy power. **R.**

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth

For I love thy commandments above gold and precious stone. Therefore hold I straight all thy commandments, and all false ways I utterly abhor. **R.**

Thy testimonies are wonderful, therefore doth my soul keep them. When thy word goeth forth it giveth light and understanding unto the simple. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 8:28-30

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 55:22, 18; 18:1-2

My heart hath trusted in God, and I am helped: therefore my heart danceth for joy, and in my song will I praise him. Unto thee will I cry O Lord: be not silent, O God, nor depart from me. Alleluia, alleluia. Sing we merrily unto God our strength; make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob. Take the psalm, bring hither the tabret. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:44-52

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowds, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

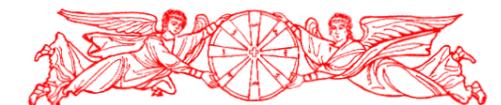
"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net which was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind; when it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous, and throw them into the furnace of fire; where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?"

They said to him, "Yes."

And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a household-er who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE GOSPEL READING**Matthew 13:24-30**

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus put another parable before them, saying,

“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the householder came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No; lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time **A**

THE FIRST READING**1 Kings 3:5, 7-12**

A reading from the first Book of Kings.

In those days: At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by

night; and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.”

Solomon replied, “O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil; for who is able to govern this great people of yours?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from **Psalm 119**

R. Lord, I love thy commandments.

Thou art my portion, O Lord:
I have promised to keep thy law.
The law of thy mouth is dearer unto me
than thousands of gold and silver. **R.**

O let thy merciful kindness
be my comfort
according to thy word unto thy servant.
O let thy loving mercies come unto me,
that I may live;
for thy law is my delight. **R.**

throughout all ages.
The Lord upholdeth all such as fall,
and lifteth up all those that are down. **R.**

THE SECOND READING**Romans 8:9, 11-13**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: You are not in the flesh, you are in the Spirit, if the Spirit of God really dwells in you. Any one who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit which dwells in you.

So then, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - for if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**Psalm 71:2,1; Matthew 11:28**

Be thou my strong rock, and house of defence: that thou mayest save me. In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion. Alleluia, alleluia. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy-laden: and I will give you rest. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING**Matthew 11:25-30**

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,

that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been delivered to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time **A**

THE FIRST READING**Isaiah 55:10-11**

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, “As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I intend, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

65

R. The seed that falls on good ground
will yield a fruitful harvest.

Thou visitest the earth, and blessest it;
thou makest it very plenteous.

The river of God is full of water;
thou preparest their corn,
for so thou providest for the earth. **R.**

Thou waterest her furrows,
thou sendest rain
into the little valleys thereof;
thou makest it soft
with the drops of rain,
and blessest the increase of it. **R.**

Thou crownest the year
with thy goodness;
and thy clouds drop fatness
upon the pastures of the wilderness. **R.**

The hills shall rejoice on every side.
The folds shall be full of sheep;
the valleys also shall stand so thick
with corn,
that they shall laugh and sing. **R.**

THE SECOND READING**Romans 8:18-23**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to
the Romans.

Brethren:

I consider that the sufferings of this
present time are not worth comparing
with the glory that is to be revealed to
us.

For the creation waits with eager
longing for the revealing of the sons of
God; for the creation was subjected to
futility, not of its own will but by the
will of him who subjected it in hope;
because the creation itself will be set
free from its bondage to decay and ob-
tain the glorious liberty of the children

of God.

We know that the whole creation
has been groaning with labour pains
together until now; and not only the
creation, but we ourselves, who have
the first fruits of the Spirit, groan in-
wardly as we wait for adoption as sons,
the redemption of our bodies.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**Psalm 17:8,1; Psalm 65:1**

Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of thine
eye; hide me under the shadow of thy
wings. Let my sentence come forth
from thy presence: and let thine eyes
look upon the thing that is equal. Alle-
luia, alleluia. Thou, O God, art praised
in Zion: and unto thee shall the vow be
performed in Jerusalem. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING**Matthew 13:1-9**

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

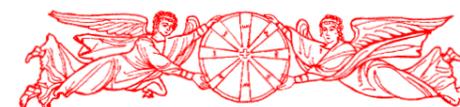
That same day Jesus went out of the
house and sat beside the sea.

And great crowds gathered about
him, so that he got into a boat and sat
there; and the whole crowd stood on
the beach. And he told them many
things in parables, saying:

“A sower went out to sow. And
as he sowed, some seeds fell along
the path, and the birds came and de-
voured them. Other seeds fell on
rocky ground, where they had not
much soil, and immediately they
sprang up, since they had no depth of
soil, but when the sun rose they were
scorched; and since they had no root
they withered away. Other seeds fell

upon thorns, and the thorns grew up
and choked them. Other seeds fell
on good soil and brought forth grain,
some a hundredfold, some sixty, some
thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

THE FIRST READING**Wisdom 12:13, 16-19**

A reading from the Book of Wis-
dom.

There is no god besides thee, whose
care is for all men, to whom you should
prove that you have not judged unjust-
ly. For your strength is the source of
righteousness, and your sovereignty
over all causes you to spare all.

For you show your strength when
men doubt the completeness of your
power, and rebuke any insolence
among those who know it.

You who are sovereign in strength
judge with mildness, and with great for-
bearance you govern us; for you have
power to act whenever you choose.

Through such works you have
taught your people that the righteous
man must be kind, and you have filled
your sons with good hope, because you
give repentance for sins.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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R. Thou, O Lord,
art full of compassion and mercy.

Thou, Lord, art good and gracious,
and of great mercy unto all them
that call upon thee.

Give ear, Lord, unto my prayer,
and ponder the voice
of my humble desires. **R.**

All nations whom thou hadst made
shall come and worship thee, O Lord,
and shall glorify thy Name.

For thou art great,
and doest wondrous things;
thou art God alone. **R.**

But thou, O Lord God,
art full of compassion and mercy,
long suffering,
plenteous in goodness and truth.
O turn thee then unto me,
and have mercy upon me. **R.**

THE SECOND READING**Romans 8:26-27**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to
the Romans.

Brethren: The Spirit helps us in our
weakness; for we do not know how to
pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself
intercedes for us with sighs too deep
for words. And he who searches the
hearts of men knows what is the mind
of the Spirit, because the Spirit inter-
cedes for the saints according to the
will of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**Psalm 8:1-2; Psalm 59:1**

O Lord, our Governor : how excellent
is thy Name in all the world. Thou hast
set thy glory : above the heavens. Al-
leluia. Alleluia. Deliver me from mine
enemies, O God : defend me from them
that rise up against me. Alleluia.