

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;  
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

COLLECT

O God, who show the light of your truth  
to those who go astray,  
so that they may return to the right path,  
give all who for the faith they profess  
are accounted Christians  
the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the  
name of Christ  
and to strive after all that does it honour.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

FIRST READING

Deut 30:10-14

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy  
Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the  
Lord your God, keeping those commandments  
and laws of his that are written in the Book of  
this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your  
God with all your heart and soul.

'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not  
beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is  
not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who  
will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to  
us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it  
beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder,  
"Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back  
to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No,  
the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth  
and in your heart for your observance.'

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 68 69):14,17,30-31,33-34,36-37

Response:

Seek the Lord, you who are poor, and your  
hearts will revive.

1. This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favour.  
In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails:  
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;  
in your compassion, turn towards me. (R.)

2. As for me in my poverty and pain  
let your help, O God, lift me up.  
I will praise God's name with a song;  
I will glorify him with thanksgiving. (R.)
3. The poor when they see it will be glad  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the Lord listens to the needy  
and does not spurn his servants in their  
chains. (R.)
4. For God will bring help to Zion  
and rebuild the cities of Judah.  
The sons of his servants shall inherit it;  
those who love his name shall dwell there.  
(R.)

SECOND READING

Col 1:15-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Colossians

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God  
and the first-born of all creation,  
for in him were created  
all things in heaven and on earth:  
everything visible and everything invisible,  
Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignties, Powers –  
all things were created through him and for him.  
Before anything was created, he existed,  
and he holds all things in unity.  
Now the Church is his body,  
he is its head.  
As he is the Beginning,  
he was first to be born from the dead,  
so that he should be first in every way;  
because God wanted all perfection  
to be found in him  
and all things to be reconciled through him and  
for him,  
everything in heaven and everything on earth,  
when he made peace  
by his death on the cross.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The sheep that belong to me  
listen to my voice, says the Lord,  
I know them and they follow me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 10:25-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Luke

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus,  
stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I  
do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What  
is written in the law? What do you read there?'  
He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God  
with all your heart, with all your soul, with all  
your strength, and with all your mind, and your  
neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered  
right,' said Jesus 'do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself  
and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?'  
Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way  
down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into  
the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat  
him and then made off, leaving him half dead.  
Now a priest happened to be travelling down  
the same road, but when he saw the man, he  
passed by on the other side. In the same way  
a Levite who came to the place saw him, and  
passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan  
traveller who came upon him was moved with  
compassion when he saw him. He went up and  
bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on  
them. He then lifted him on to his mount, carried  
him to the inn and looked after him. Next day,

he took out two denarii and handed them to the  
innkeeper. "Look after him," he said "and on my  
way back I will make good any extra expense  
you have." Which of these three, do you think,  
proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell  
into the brigands' hands?' 'The one, who took  
pity on him' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go,  
and do the same yourself.'

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with  
the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the  
dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look upon the offerings of the Church, O Lord,  
as she makes her prayer to you,  
and grant that, when consumed by those who  
believe,  
they may bring ever greater holiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and  
my God.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having consumed these gifts, we pray, O Lord,  
that, by our participation in this mystery,  
its saving effects upon us may grow.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

# Sunday Message

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## THE WORD

Year C • 13 July 2025 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 3



In today's Gospel a lawyer puts this question to Jesus: "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replies: "What is written in the law? How do you read it?"

It's not a quiz Jesus springs on him as a test but a question that has to do with the foundation of a well-lived Jewish life. The scholar replies by reciting a portion of the Shema, a prayer that remains a basic Jewish prayer to this day: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself." Jesus tells the lawyer: "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live."

But the scholar, as scholars often do, wants to have the last word. He has a follow-up question: "And who is my neighbour?" His question results in one of the most famous of all Jesus' parables.

A traveller on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho is attacked, robbed and beaten up. The half-dead victim is passed by both a priest and Levite who appear to be going to the Temple. It is possible they pass him by because they consider him already dead and don't want to make themselves impure by touching him, which would leave them unable to serve in the Temple. Maybe they're worried that if the robbers beat one man to death, they might be looking for more victims. In any event, they ignore him.

Then along comes a Samaritan. Jews and Samaritans despised each other. Imagine Ukrainian and Russian soldiers today, or a Palestinian and an Israeli settler. It is the despised Samaritan who puts aside all concerns for his own safety and acts out of compassion for the Jewish victim. He cleans him up, bandages him, puts him on his horse, takes him to an inn where he gives the innkeeper money out of his own pocket, and says: "Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back." The Samaritan not only opens his heart and his wallet, but leaves the equivalent of his credit card number behind. His actions say, "Put it on my account."

Who is the neighbour to the unfortunate traveller? The answer is obvious, and it must have been very difficult for Jesus' listeners to hear. The one who acted like a neighbour was the foreigner, the outsider, the enemy. In so doing, Jesus identified anyone in need as a neighbour.

Jesus tells the lawyer (and us): "Go and do the same yourself." ■

### PRAY

Pray for people on the margins, those who are  
isolated and ignored, those who feel as if they  
are nobody's neighbour.

### DO

In this era of populism and narrow nationalism,  
think about your attitude to the foreigner, the  
refugee, the stranger. Do you see them as your  
neighbour?

## REFLECT

The implications for us of today's  
Gospel couldn't be clearer.  
Christians cannot be rugged  
individualists, out merely for themselves.  
They never turn a blind eye to those in  
need. Christians always see beyond  
themselves.

Dr Martin Luther King spoke about the  
parable of the Good Samaritan the  
night before he was assassinated. He  
framed it in a beautiful way. He said: "The  
first question the priest asked, the first  
question the Levite asked, was, 'If I stop  
to help this man, what will happen to  
me?' But then the Good Samaritan came  
by and turned the question around: 'If I  
do not stop to help this man, what will  
happen to him?'"

Christians see beyond themselves.

Today's parable reminds us that everyone  
is our neighbour. Not just those who live  
close by, or have the right postal code,  
or share the same views on politics and  
religion – everyone is my neighbour.

It means I cannot be a Christian and a  
racist, or a bigot, or a homophobe, or be  
anti-Semitic; I cannot be a Christian and  
be contemptuous of anyone because of  
who they are or what they look or dress  
like or where they come from. Hard as it  
may be to digest sometimes, the fact is  
everyone is my neighbour.

That's why the Jews have set aside  
a special room in Yad Vashem, the  
Holocaust memorial museum in  
Jerusalem, to honour those they call the  
Righteous of the Nations. The Righteous  
of the Nations were those ordinary people  
- more than 28,000 thousand of them  
are listed - who went out of their way to  
protect their Jewish neighbours from  
the Nazis and their accomplices. Doing  
what they did was dangerous. If caught  
sheltering Jews, they risked imprisonment  
and death. Still, they did it anyway.

Many of their friends and neighbours  
would have considered these people to be  
crazy; their actions not very sensible. The  
wise thing would have been to look away,  
to mind their own business, to pass by on  
the other side, as so many people did in  
those dark years. Instead, they looked out  
for and protected their Jewish brothers  
and sisters. They were Good Samaritans.  
They saw beyond themselves.

Jesus tells us this is how we also must  
act. ■