

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

All that you have done to us, O Lord,  
you have done with true judgement,  
for we have sinned against you  
and not obeyed your commandments.  
But give glory to your name  
and deal with us according to the bounty of  
your mercy.

**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 manifest your almighty power  
above all by pardoning and showing mercy,  
bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us  
and make those hastening to attain your  
promises  
heirs to the treasures of heaven.  
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**

Amos 6:1, 4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos.

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion  
and those who feel so safe on the mountain of  
Samaria.

Lying on ivory beds  
and sprawling on their divans,  
they dine on lambs from the flock,  
and stall-fattened veal;  
they bawl to the sound of the harp,  
they invent new instruments of music like David,  
they drink wine by the bowlful,  
and use the finest oil for anointing themselves,  
but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care  
at all.

That is why they will be the first to be exiled;  
the sprawlers' revelry is over.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

Ps 145

Response:

My soul, give praise to the Lord. or Alleluia!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down.  
It is the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)
3. He upholds the widow and orphan  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

**SECOND READING**

1 Timothy 6:11-16

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to  
Timothy.

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to  
be saintly and religious, filled with faith and  
love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight  
of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life  
to which you were called when you made your  
profession and spoke up for the truth in front of  
many witnesses. Now, before God the source of  
all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as  
a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate,  
I put to you the duty of doing all that you have  
been told, with no faults or failures, until the  
Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at the due time will be revealed  
by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all,  
the King of kings and the Lord of lords,  
who alone is immortal,  
whose home is in inaccessible light,  
whom no man has seen and no man is able to  
see:  
to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

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**

Luke 16:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Luke.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "There was a  
rich man who used to dress in purple and fine  
linen and feast magnificently every day. And at  
his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus,  
covered with sores, who longed to fill himself  
with the scraps that fell from the rich man's  
table. Dogs even came and licked his sores.  
Now the poor man died and was carried away  
by the angels to the bosom of Abraham. The  
rich man also died and was buried.

"In his torment in Hades he looked up and  
saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in  
his bosom. So he cried out, 'Father Abraham,  
pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his  
finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am  
in agony in these flames.' 'My son,' Abraham  
replied 'remember that during your life good  
things came your way, just as bad things came  
the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted  
here while you are in agony. But that is not all:  
between us and you a great gulf has been fixed,  
to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from  
our side to yours, to stop any crossing from  
your side to ours.'

"The rich man replied, 'Father, I beg you then  
to send Lazarus to my father's house, since  
I have five brothers, to give them warning so  
that they do not come to this place of torment  
too.' 'They have Moses and the prophets,' said  
Abraham 'let them listen to them.' 'Ah no, father  
Abraham,' said the rich man 'but if someone  
comes to them from the dead, they will repent.'

Then Abraham said to him, 'If they will not listen  
either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not  
be convinced even if someone should rise from  
the dead.' "

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**

Grant us, O merciful God,  
that this our offering may find acceptance with  
you  
and that through it the wellspring of all blessing  
may be laid open before us.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,  
by which you have given me hope.  
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord,  
restore us in mind and body,  
that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ,  
to whose suffering we are united  
whenever we proclaim his Death.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
Amen.

# Sunday Message

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## THE WORD

Year C • 28 September 2025 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2



### TO SEE LAZARUS AT THE GATE

LK 16:19-31

In Jesus' time many people believed that wealth and good fortune were a sign of God's favour, and that bad luck was a punishment from God. This belief was so ingrained that it was often assumed that the poor and the destitute were automatically damned, and that the rich and healthy were destined for heaven.

Jesus' story about the rich man and Lazarus completely reverses these beliefs. In it the rich man ends up in torment while the poor beggar goes to paradise. No wonder his listeners were shocked by what Jesus had to say.

They would also have been shocked by the reason why the rich man was condemned. After all, the rich man did nothing to Lazarus. He did not physically harm him. He didn't get his guards to beat him up or remove him from outside his house. He didn't starve him or inflict the sores Lazarus had on his body. He seemed to do nothing to deserve eternal punishment. And yet he is condemned.

The reason the rich man is condemned is precisely because he did nothing. He turned a blind eye to the poor man at his gate. He was so caught up in his own life he was oblivious to the plight of Lazarus. He just wasn't interested in him. As far as he was concerned, Lazarus wasn't his responsibility. And that's why he is condemned. The rich man is punished not for what he did but because he simply didn't care. ■

## PRAY

There are so many migrants today, people in need. Pray for them and for a more just world.

## DO

Consider joining or supporting an organisation that campaigns on behalf of migrants

Christianity is not a 'private' religion

Look at your parish, your neighbourhood. Who is the Lazarus at the gate whose existence you need to be aware of?

## SAY

**"Lord, give me a heart like yours. Help me to respond generously to the needs of the poor and are oppressed. Amen."**

## LEARN

Action for justice is a constitutive part of living the Gospel. Today's Gospel makes it abundantly clear that we will be judged on how we treat the poor, the migrant, the Lazarus at our gate.

## REFLECT

This is World Day of Migrants and Refugees. We know that war in Europe and the Middle East has created more refugees than at any time in decades. It is a major humanitarian crisis.

In his letter for the Holy Year 2025, Pope Francis wrote that Christians must be tangible signs of hope for those who experience hardships of any kind, especially migrants and the poor.

The Holy Father referred often to the plight of refugees, a cause that was close to his heart because his own family were migrants who had left Italy in the 1920s in search of a better life.

"Signs of hope should be present for migrants who leave their homelands behind in search of a better life for themselves and their families," he stated. "Exiles, displaced persons and refugees, whom international tensions force to emigrate in order to avoid war, violence and discrimination, ought to be guaranteed security and access to employment and education, the means

they need to find their place in a new social context."

Pope Francis lamented the closed borders and hard hearts that denied hope to people desperately seeking hope. The huge migration of peoples has led to growing intolerance, xenophobia, nativism, and to the rising popularity of extremist political movements, influenced by a toxic social media and alarmist populist rhetoric that seeks to set peoples against one another.

The Christian community, Pope Francis said, should always be prepared to defend the rights of those who are most vulnerable, opening wide its doors to welcome them, lest anyone ever be robbed of the hope of a better future.

The billions of poor, who often lack the essentials of life, also need hope, Pope Francis wrote. "Echoing the age-old message of the prophets, the Jubilee reminds us that the goods of the earth are not destined for a privileged few, but for everyone," he declared. It is scandalous

that in a world possessed of immense resources, destined largely to producing weapons, the poor continue to be "the majority of the planet's population, billions of people."

"Hunger is a scandal," Pope Francis continued, "an open wound on the body of our humanity, and it summons all of us to a serious examination of conscience."

Therefore, the more affluent nations should forgive the debts of countries that will never be able to repay them. This is a matter of justice, Pope Francis stated, made all the more serious today by the 'ecological debt' that exists, particularly between the global North and South, connected to the disproportionate use of natural resources by certain countries over long periods of time.

Today's Gospel challenges to not be blind to the needs of the poor and the deprived. Because we will be judged not just on what we do but on what we fail to do. ■