

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

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

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care,
that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace,
they may be defended always by your protection.
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

Is 6:1-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the
Lord seated on a high throne; his train filled the
sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one
with six wings.

And they cried out one to another in this way,
'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the
voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple
was filled with smoke. I said:

'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost,
for I am a man of unclean lips
and I live among a people of unclean lips,
and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord
of hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in
his hand a live coal
which he had taken from the altar with a pair of
tongs.

With this he touched my mouth and said:
'See now, this has touched your lips,
your sin is taken away,
your iniquity is purged.'

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:
'Whom shall I send? Who will be our
messenger?'

I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 137 (138):1-5, 7-8

Response:

Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

- I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)

- I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)

- All earth's kings shall thank you
when they hear the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the Lord's ways:
'How great is the glory of the Lord!' (R.)

- You stretch out your hand and save me,
your hand will do all things for me.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

SECOND READING

1 Cor 15:1-11

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians Shorter form (1 Cor 15:3-8, 11)
read between >>

Brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I
preached to you, the gospel that you received
and in which you are firmly established;
because the gospel will save you only if you
keep believing exactly what I preached to you –
believing anything else will not lead to anything.

Well then, > in the first place, I taught you
what I had been taught myself, namely that
Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the
scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was
raised to life on the third day, in accordance with
the scriptures; that he appeared first to Cephas
and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared
to more than five hundred of the brothers at the
same time, most of whom are still alive, though
some have died; then he appeared to James,
and then to all the apostles; and last of all he
appeared to me too; it was as though I was born
when no one expected it. <

I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I
persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve
the name apostle; but by God's grace that is
what I am, and the grace that he gave me has
not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather
the grace of God that is with me, have worked
harder than any of the others; >but what
matters is that I preach what they preach, and
this is what you all believed.<

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the
Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 5:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Luke

Jesus was standing one day by the lake of
Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round
him listening to the word of God, when he
caught sight of two boats close to the bank.
The fishermen had gone out of them and were
washing their nets. He got into one of the boats
– it was Simon's – and asked him to put out
a little from the shore. Then he sat down and
taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to
Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out
your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied,
'we worked hard all night long and caught
nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.'
And when they had done this they netted such
a huge number of fish that their nets began to
tear, so they signalled to their companions in
the other boat to come and help them; when

these came, they filled the two boats to sinking
point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the
knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord; I am
a sinful man.' For he and all his companions
were completely overcome by the catch they
had made; so also were James and John, sons
of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But
Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from
now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing
their boats back to land, they left everything
and followed him.

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

O Lord, our God,
who once established these created things
to sustain us in our frailty,
grant, we pray,
that they may become for us now
the Sacrament of eternal life.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who have willed that we be partakers
in the one Bread and the one Chalice,
grant us, we pray, so to live
that, made one in Christ,
we may joyfully bear fruit
for the salvation of the world.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday Message

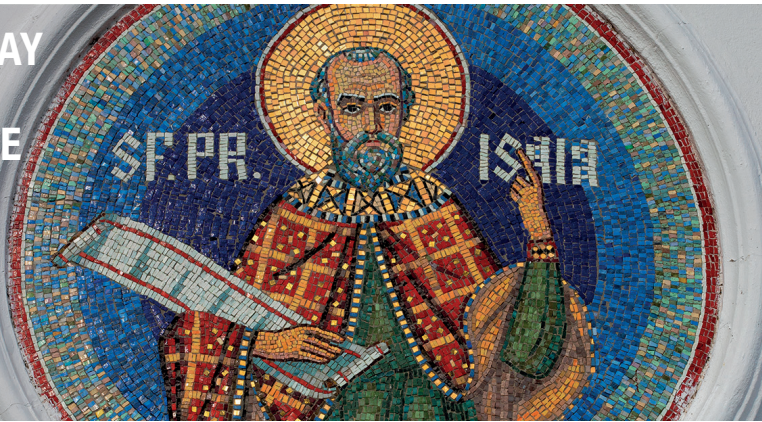
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 9 February 2025 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 1

IT'S OKAY
TO BE
HUMBLE

LK 5:1-11



One of the striking things about the great figures of the Old and New Testament is their sense of their own unworthiness. They had no illusions about how great they were. Even though God had chosen them to do great things – to be prophets, wise leaders - they were painfully aware that they were not perfect.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah had a profound sense of his own unworthiness in the presence of God. He sensed a vast chasm between his own uncleanness and the holiness of the Lord of heaven. "I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of hosts."

St Paul regarded himself as one who had done wrong. "I am the least of the apostles," he tells the people of Corinth. "In fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle."

In the Gospel, Peter also feels intensely unworthy in the presence of Jesus. Overcome by what Jesus has done, he falls at his feet and says, "Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man."

These prophets and apostles saw themselves as unworthy servants of God. They were all too aware of their sinfulness.

But they knew something else too: God had not called them because they were perfect. God had called them in spite of their imperfections. God had chosen them even though they were sinners. God saw the goodness in them, their potential, and that was enough.

And those prophets and apostles went on to do great things. Knowing that God was one with them, filled with God's spirit, they went out and preached God's word, they witnessed to God's plan, even undergoing martyrdom. ■

REFLECT

Today's readings hold two lessons for us. First, God always sees the potential in us. Sometimes we focus on the things we don't like about ourselves, our faults, our failings. We can see ourselves as weak links, even as failures. In our celebrity obsessed culture, young people especially can look at themselves and think they don't measure up.

Sometimes, too, as individuals or as a society, we can see others as weak links. We look down on or judge individuals or groups of people. We see only their faults, their downsides, only what we think is wrong with them or inferior about them. Isn't that what racism is about? Why Hitler targeted

Jews? Why as a society we could so easily confine people to Magdalene laundries and industrial schools? Why in school, college, the workplace or neighbourhood, we pick on the person who is different?

But in the eyes of God, no one is inferior. God has created each of us in God's own likeness and created in God's own likeness, we can't be weak links – no matter who we are, or how we look, or how smart we are. And we are called to see ourselves the way God sees us and to see others the way God sees them.

The second lesson is to acknowledge, like Isaiah, Paul and Peter, that we are not

SAY

"Lord, thank you for creating me in your image and likeness. Help me to see myself and others as you see us. Amen."

LEARN

As members of the Church, we are called to make a choice for Christ and his principles and values

The Christian knows he or she is unworthy but trusts in God's goodness and love

Christ has called each of us by name

DO

Very often we can be our own worst critics, obsessing over our perceived failings and weaknesses, seeing only the negative. Make a (mental or written) list of the things you like about yourself, the many gifts and talents God has given you. Thank God for God's blessings.



PRAY

To follow Jesus isn't easy. To be a Christian today means risking being ridiculed or dismissed as deluded by the forces of secularism. Pray for yourself and Christians everywhere that you will always say 'Yes' to Jesus.

perfect. We are always a work in progress. But the wonderful thing is, unworthy as we are, God loves us anyway. Weak though we are, God has chosen us to be his followers. Sinful though we may be, he has called us to be his witnesses, summoned us to be saints.

We acknowledge this in the prayers of the Mass, in the words we say before receiving holy communion: "Lord, I am not worthy... but only say the word and my soul shall be healed."

God speaks only to the good in us. We must speak only to the good in ourselves and those around us. ■