

October 1, 2023: The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**First Reading****Ezekiel 18:25-28**

Thus says the LORD:

You say, "The LORD's way is not fair!"

Hear now, house of Israel:

Is it My way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14**

R. (6a) **Remember Your mercies, O Lord.**

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.

R. **Remember Your mercies, O Lord.**

Remember that Your compassion, O LORD,
and Your love are from of old.

The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not;
in Your kindness remember me,
because of Your goodness, O LORD.

R. **Remember Your mercies, O Lord.**

Good and upright is the LORD;
thus He shows sinners the way.

He guides the humble to justice,
and teaches the humble His way.

R. **Remember Your mercies, O Lord.**

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**October 1, 2023: The 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(continued)**

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-11

Brothers and sisters:

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others. Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus, Who, though He was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, He emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the Name which is above every Name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in Heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Or:

Philippians 2:1-5

Brothers and sisters:

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others. Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "What is your opinion?"

A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not, ' but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir, 'but did not go. Which of the two did his father's will?"

They answered, "The first."

Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him."

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October 8, 2023: The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me now sing of my friend, my friend's song concerning his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside; he spaded it, cleared it of stones, and planted the choicest vines; within it he built a watchtower, and hewed out a wine press. Then he looked for the crop of grapes, but what it yielded was wild grapes. Now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard: What more was there to do for my vineyard that I had not done? Why, when I looked for the crop of grapes, did it bring forth wild grapes? Now, I will let you know what I mean to do with my vineyard: take away its hedge, give it to grazing, break through its wall, let it be trampled! Yes, I will make it a ruin: it shall not be pruned or hoed, but overgrown with thorns and briars; I will command the clouds not to send rain upon it. The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are His cherished plant; He looked for judgment, but see, bloodshed! for justice, but hark, the outcry!

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20

R. (Is 5:7a) **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**

A vine from Egypt you transplanted;
you drove away the nations and planted it.
It put forth its foliage to the Sea,
its shoots as far as the River.

R. **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**

Why have you broken down its walls,
so that every passer-by plucks its fruit,
The boar from the forest lays it waste,
and the beasts of the field feed upon it?

R. **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**

Once again, O LORD of hosts,
look down from Heaven, and see;
take care of this vine,
and protect what Your right hand has planted
the son of man Whom You Yourself made strong.

R. **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**

Then we will no more withdraw from You;
give us new life, and we will call upon Your Name.
O LORD, God of hosts, restore us;
if Your face shine upon us, then we shall be saved.

R. **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**

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**October 8, 2023: The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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**Second Reading
Philippians 4:6-9**

Brothers and sisters:

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

**Gospel Reading
Matthew 21:33-43**

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people:

"Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?"

They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times."

Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures:

*The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
by the Lord has this been done,
and it is wonderful in our eyes?*

Therefore, I say to you, the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit."

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October 15, 2023: The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**First Reading****Isaiah 25:6-10A**

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines. On this mountain He will destroy the veil that veils all peoples, the web that is woven over all nations; He will destroy death forever. The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face; the reproach of His people He will remove from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.

On that day it will be said:

"Behold our God, to Whom we looked to save us! This is the LORD for whom we looked; let us rejoice and be glad that He has saved us!"

For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6**

R. (6cd) **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures He gives me repose;
beside restful waters He leads me;
He refreshes my soul.

R. **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

He guides me in right paths
for His Name's sake.

Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for You are at my side
with Your rod and Your staff
that give me courage.

R. **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

R. **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come.

R. **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

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October 15, 2023: The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(continued)

Second Reading

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Brothers and sisters:

I know how to live in humble circumstances; I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstance and in all things I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need. I can do all things in Him who strengthens me. Still, it was kind of you to share in my distress. My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with His glorious riches in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father, glory forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-10

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables, saying, "The Kingdom of Heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come. A second time he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those invited: "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast.'" Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged and sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.' The servants went out into the streets and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the hall was filled with guests."

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October 22, 2023: The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**First Reading****Isaiah 45:1, 4-6**

Thus says the LORD to His anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp, subduing nations before him, and making kings run in his service, opening doors before him and leaving the gates unbarred:

For the sake of Jacob, My servant, of Israel, My chosen one, I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides Me. It is I who arm you, though you know Me not, so that toward the rising and the setting of the sun people may know that there is none besides me. I am the LORD, there is no other.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10**

R. (7b) **Give the Lord glory and honor.**

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all you lands.

Tell His glory among the nations;
among all peoples, His wondrous deeds.

R. **Give the Lord glory and honor.**

For great is the LORD and highly to be praised;
awesome is He, beyond all gods.

For all the gods of the nations are things of nought,
but the LORD made the heavens.

R. **Give the Lord glory and honor.**

Give to the LORD, you families of nations,
give to the LORD glory and praise;
give to the LORD the glory due His Name!

Bring gifts, and enter His courts.

R. **Give the Lord glory and honor.**

Worship the LORD, in holy attire;
tremble before Him, all the earth;
say among the nations: The LORD is King,
He governs the peoples with equity.

R. **Give the Lord glory and honor.**

Second Reading**1 Thessalonians 1:1-5B**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers and sisters loved by God, how you were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.

Gospel Reading**Matthew 22:15-21**

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to Him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are a truthful man and that You teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And You are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for You do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is Your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed Him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that He said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

October 29, 2023: The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**First Reading****Exodus 22:20-26**

Thus says the LORD:

"You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to Me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans.

"If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among My people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him. If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset; for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body. What else has he to sleep in? If he cries out to Me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51**

R. (2) **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

I love You, O LORD, my strength,
O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.

R. **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

My God, my rock of refuge,
my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold!
Praised be the LORD, I exclaim,
and I am safe from my enemies.

R. **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

The LORD lives and blessed be my rock!
Extolled be God my Savior.

You who gave great victories to Your king
and showed kindness to Your anointed.

R. **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

Second Reading**1 Thessalonians 1:5C-10**

Brothers and sisters:

You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from Heaven, Whom He raised from the dead, Jesus, Who delivers us from the coming wrath.

Gospel Reading**Matthew 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested Him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

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