

## **16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME LITURGIES**

### **First reading**

**Jeremiah 23:1-6**

#### **I will gather together the remnant of my flock and raise up shepherds for them**

‘Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them.

Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

‘See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks –  
when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David,  
who will reign as true king and be wise,  
practising honesty and integrity in the land.  
In his days Judah will be saved  
and Israel dwell in confidence.  
And this is the name he will be called:  
The-Lord-our-integrity.’

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 22(23)**

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

## **Second reading**

**Ephesians 2:13-18**

### **Christ Jesus is the peace between us**

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God: in his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, *peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand*. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn10:27**

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

## **Gospel**

**Mark 6:30-34**

### **They were like sheep without a shepherd**

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

## **BIDDING PRAYERS**

### **PRIEST**

Let us pray to the Father who cared about us so much that he sent his Son to be our shepherd and friend.

## READER

We pray that those who have a ministry of leadership in the church may carry out their office of bringing the good news to others in a caring way. *(pause)*

Lord, hear us.....

We pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. May our young people be generous in their response to the voice of the Good Shepherd. *(pause)*

Lord, hear us.....

We ask God's blessing on all mothers and fathers as they shepherd their children, guiding them each day down the path of faith, the path that leads to life. *(pause)*

Lord, hear us....

We pray that we may all find quiet time to be alone to listen to the voice of the Lord who heals our hearts of the wounds of sin. *(pause)*

Lord, hear us.....

We pray for the sick, the confused and the fearful, that Christ's peace and love may be always with them. *(pause)*

Lord, hear us.....

We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially.....for whom this mass is offered and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May the Lord in his mercy grant them eternal rest. *(pause)*

Lord, hear us.....

In a few moments of silence, let us add our personal intentions. *(pause)*

Lord, hear us.....

Let us humbly implore the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother also as we say: ***Hail Mary.....***

## PRIEST

God our Father, we thank you for sending Jesus to be our Shepherd. May we always be open to his gentle guidance and live and work for the glory of your name. We make our prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen.