

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME LITURGIES

First reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18

The Lord is close to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts.

The Lord is close to all who call him.

Second reading

Philippians 1:20-24,27

Life to me is Christ; but death would bring me more

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk19:38,2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven

and glory in the highest heavens!

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

Why be envious because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered. He said to them, “You go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’

BIDDING PRAYERS

PRIEST

We pray to our generous God, confident that the Lord will hear our prayers and grant us our needs.

READER

As we celebrate Home Mission Sunday, we pray for the work of the Catholic Agency to Support Evangelisation; that it may enthuse, engage and equip the Catholic Community of England and Wales to evangelise.

Lord, hear us....

May all those who have not yet encountered Jesus Christ, come to know the fullness of his love and mercy in a way that they can understand.

Lord, hear us....

May God's generous love always be what the world sees in the lives of each one of us and in the whole Church.

Lord, hear us....

We pray for the courage to answer the call to be workers in God's vineyard; may each of us discern his or her opportunities to live and share the Gospel.

Lord, hear us....

We pray for a special blessing on parents, catechists, teachers and youth workers that they may pass on, with conviction, generosity and joy, the faith to the next generation of adult followers of Christ.

Lord, hear us....

For our parish, especially for the Baptised who no longer or rarely attend Church: that the Witness of our Christian lives will draw more people into an active participation in our parish.

Lord, hear us....

May God grant eternal rest to all those who have died, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Lord, hear us....

In a few moments of silence we pray for our own intentions and for those for whom we have promised to pray: (*pause*)
Lord, hear us....

We seek the help of Mary as we say together: Hail Mary.....

PRIEST

Loving Father, thank you that you are always with us and that, through the power of your Holy Spirit, you enable us to witness to your Son. We ask you to receive our prayers, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.