

## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY



### A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

*Let the instruction of the Lord God be near you.*

Moses said to the people:

‘Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

‘For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder,

“Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?”

‘Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder,

“Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?”

‘No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.’

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial † Psalm 68:14.17.30-31.33-34.36-37*

### ***Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.***

This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favour.

In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails:

Lord, answer, for your love is kind;  
in your compassion, turn towards me.

### ***Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.***

As for me in my poverty and pain  
let your help, O God, lift me up.

I will praise God’s name with a song;  
I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

### ***Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.***

The poor when they see it will be glad  
and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the Lord listens to the needy  
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.

***Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.***

For God will bring help to Zion  
and rebuild the cities of Judah.  
The sons of his servants shall inherit it;  
those who love his name shall dwell there.

***Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.***

***Alternative Responsorial † Psalm 18:8-11***

***The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.***

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

***The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.***

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes.

***The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.***

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just.

***The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.***

They are more to be desired than gold,  
than the purest of gold  
and sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey from the comb.

***The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.***

***Second Reading † Colossians 1:15-20***

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians**

*All things were created through him and for him.*

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God  
and the first-born of all creation,  
for in him were created  
all things in heaven and on earth:  
everything visible and everything invisible,  
Thrones, Dominions, Sovereignities, Powers —  
all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed,  
and he holds all things in unity.  
Now the Church is his body,  
he is its head.

As he is the Beginning,  
he was first to be born from the dead,

so that he should be first in every way;  
because God wanted all perfection  
to be found in him  
and all things to be reconciled  
through him and for him,  
everything in heaven and everything on earth,  
when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The word of the Lord.

*Gospel Acclamation † cf John 6:63.68*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life;  
you have the words of everlasting life.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Gospel † Luke 10:25-37*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

*Who is my neighbour?*

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him,

‘Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’

He said to him,

‘What is written in the Law?  
What do you read there?’

He replied,

‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.’

‘You have answered right,’ said Jesus.  
‘Do this and life is yours.’

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus,

‘And who is my neighbour?’

Jesus replied,

‘A man was once on his way down  
from Jerusalem to Jericho  
and fell into the hands of brigands;  
they took all he had, beat him and then made off,  
leaving him half dead.

‘Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.  
In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side.

‘But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him  
was moved with compassion when he saw him.  
He went up and bandaged his wounds,  
pouring oil and wine on them.  
He then lifted him on to his own mount,  
carried him to the inn and looked after him.

'Next day, he took out two denarii  
and handed them to the innkeeper.

"Look after him," he said,  
"and on my way back I will make good  
any extra expense you have."

'Which of these three, do you think,  
proved himself a neighbour to the man  
who fell into the brigands' hands?'

'The one who took pity on him,' he replied.

Jesus said to him,

'Go, and do the same yourself.'

The Gospel of the Lord.