

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY

ORDINARY Season of the Year A

First Reading † Ezekiel 18:25-28

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows:

‘But you say, “What the Lord does is unjust.”

Now listen, House of Israel: is what I do unjust?

Is it not what you do that is unjust?

When the righteous abandons righteousness and does wrong and dies,
he dies because of the wrong which he himself has done.

Similarly, when the wicked abandons wickedness
to become law-abiding and righteous, he saves his own life.

Having chosen to renounce all his previous crimes,
he will most certainly live: he will not die.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial † Psalm 24:4-9

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

O Lord, make me know your ways.

Teach me your paths.

Guide me in your truth, and teach me;
for you are the God of my salvation.

In you I hope all day long.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Remember your compassion, O Lord,
and your acts of merciful love,
for they are of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth,
nor my offences.

In your merciful love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Good and upright is the Lord;
he shows the way to sinners.

He guides the humble in right judgement;
to the humble he teaches his way.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading [longer form] † Philippians 2:1-11

In your minds be the same as Christ Jesus.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive in love, any fellowship in the Spirit, any affection or sympathy, make my joy complete by being of a single mind, having the same love, the same aims and the same mind. Do nothing out of rivalry or vanity; instead, out of humility, consider each other to be better than yourselves, everyone looking not to their own interests but to those of others. Let the same mind be in you as was also in Christ Jesus:

Who, being in the form of God,
did not count equality with God
something to be grasped.

But he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
born in human likeness,
and found in human shape;
he humbled himself,
becoming obedient unto death, death on a cross.

And therefore God highly exalted him,
and granted him the name above every name
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend
of beings heavenly, earthly and under the earth,
and *every tongue acknowledge*
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Second Reading [shorter form] † Philippians 2:1-5

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any incentive in love, any fellowship in the Spirit, any affection or sympathy, make my joy complete by being of a single mind, having the same love, the same aims and the same mind.

Do nothing out of rivalry or vanity; instead, out of humility, consider each other to be better than yourselves, everyone looking not to their own interests but to those of others.

Let the same mind be in you as was also in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation † John 10:27

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

Gospel † Matthew 21:28-32

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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

‘What do you think?

A man had two sons. Going up to the first he said,

“Son, go and work in the vineyard today.”

He answered,

“I will not,”

but afterwards thought better of it and went.

The man then went up to the second and said the same thing, and he answered,

“I’ll go, sir,”

but did not go. Which of the two did the father’s will?’

They said, ‘The first.’

Jesus said to them,

‘Amen I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes
are going into the kingdom of God before you.

For John came to you on the road of righteousness,

but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did.

Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

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