

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY



*First Reading † Exodus 22:20-26*

*If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.*

### **A reading from the book of Exodus**

The Lord said to Moses,

‘Tell the sons of Israel this,

‘You shall not molest or oppress foreigners, for you yourselves were once foreigners in Egypt. You shall not ill-treat widows or orphans; if you ill-treat them in any way and they make an appeal to me for help, I shall certainly hear their appeal, my anger will be roused and I shall put you to the sword; then your own wives will be widows and your own children orphans.

‘If you lend money to any of my people, to anyone poor among you, you are not to make a profit on it: you will not demand interest.

If you take someone’s cloak in pledge, you will return it to the owner before sunset.

It is the only covering the owner has, the only clothing to use as a cover; what else will that person sleep in?

If the owner appeals to me, I shall listen, for I am compassionate!’

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial † Psalm 17:2-4.47.51*

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

I love you, Lord, my strength;  
O Lord, my rock, my fortress, my saviour;  
my God, my rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my saving strength, my stronghold.  
I cry out, ‘Praised be the Lord!’  
and see, I am saved from my foes.

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

The Lord lives, and blest be my rock!  
May the God of my salvation be exalted,  
The Lord gives great victories to his king,  
and shows merciful love for his anointed.

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

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

*You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**

And you know what kind of people we were among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord, welcoming the word in great hardship with the joy of the Holy Spirit.

And so you became an example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord rang out – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for your faith in God has spread everywhere.

We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us what sort of welcome we had from you, and how you turned from idols to God to serve the living and true God, to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who saves us from the wrath that is to come.

The word of the Lord.

***Gospel Acclamation † John 14:23***

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***Gospel † Matthew 22:34-40***

*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

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

But when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to put him to the test, one of them, a lawyer, put a further question,

‘Master, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?’

Jesus said to him,

*‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
and 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 neighbour as yourself.*

*On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets.’*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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