

THIRTIETH SUNDAY



First Reading † *Sirach 35:12-14.16-19*

The prayer of the humble will penetrate the heavens.

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

For the Lord is a judge
with whom there is no partiality.
He never shows partiality to the detriment of the poor;
he listens to the plea of the injured party.

He does not ignore the orphan's supplication
nor the widow's as she pours out her complaint.
Whoever wholeheartedly serves God will be accepted;
such a person's petitions will carry to the clouds.

The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds
and until it does, the petitioner will not be consoled
nor desist until the Most High takes notice,
acquits the righteous and delivers judgement.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial † *Psalm 33:2-3.17-19.23*

The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad.

The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
When the righteous cry out, the Lord hears,
and rescues them in all their distress.

The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
None who trust in him shall be condemned.

The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Second Reading † 2 Timothy 4:6-8.16-18

All that remains is the crown of righteousness reserved for me.

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time has come for me to depart. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith; all there is to come for me now is the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but also to all those who have longed for his appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence, no one came into court to support me. Everyone deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it; and so I was *saved from the lion's mouth*. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attacks on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation † 2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel † Luke 18:9-14

The publican returned to his home justified; the pharisee did not.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being righteous, and despised everyone else,

“Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself,

“I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like everyone else, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I possess.”

The tax collector stood at a distance, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said,

“God, be merciful to me, a sinner.”

This man, I tell you, went home again justified; the other did not. For everyone who raises himself up will be humbled, but anyone who humbles himself will be raised up.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

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