

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

**O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity! For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'

To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. **(R.)**

You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning.

In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. **(R.)**

Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.

Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?

Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**

In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days.

Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy the poor in spirit;

the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke 12:13-21

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.**

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though you have already come,
I embrace You and Unite myself entirely to You:
never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen



READINGS NEXT WEEK:

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

1st Reading: **Wisdom 18:6-9**

2nd Reading: **Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19**

Gospel: **Luke 12:32-48**