

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

COLLECT

May your grace, O Lord, we pray, at all times go before us and follow after and make us always determined to carry out good works. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

7:7-11

A reading from the book of Wisdom

I prayed, and understanding was given me;

I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.

I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones;

compared with her, I held riches as nothing.

I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer,

for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand,

and beside her silver ranks as mud.

I loved her more than health or beauty, preferred her to the light,

since her radiance never sleeps.

In her company all good things came to me,

at her hands riches not to be numbered.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 89:12-17

Response: Fill us with your love that we may rejoice.

1. 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.)

2. In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Give us joy to balance our affliction for the years when we knew misfortune. (R.)

3. Show forth your work to your servants; let your glory shine on their children.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

SECOND READING

4:12-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the

eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father,

Lord of heaven and earth,

for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom

to mere children.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

10:17-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days'. Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case' they said to one another 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men' he said 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.'

Peter took this up. 'What about us?' he asked him. 'We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land - not without persecutions - now in this present time and, in the world to come, eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful with the sacrificial offerings, that, through these acts of devotedness, we may pass over to the glory of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

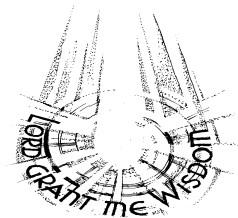
COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord, that, as you feed us with the nourishment which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son, so you may make us sharers of his divine nature. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

GOSPEL REFLECTION



What is the price you pay to gain heaven?

Is entrance into the fullness of the kingdom ever guaranteed?

What is promised in Scripture regarding heaven?

Can you appear to the world as a good person and still not fulfil the words of the gospel? What is the difference between a humanist and someone who lives a good and moral life for the love of Jesus Christ?

Have you ever been faced with choosing either gospel values or worldly values? How do you react when you face these choices?

How attached are you to your possessions? Can you have an abundance of material things and still be a good Christian?

Is it sinful to work in order to gain material things? What if this causes others on the world to do without basic necessities?

Can those who you love sometimes be a stumbling block to living a good Christian life? How and why?

GOSPEL ACTION

Make a list of your most important material possessions. Then ask yourself, one by one, why you really need that possession and what would happen if it were suddenly taken from you.

Readings – 29th Sunday Year B

First Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45