

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON:

To you I call, for you will surely heed me, O God. Turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye. Hide me in the shadow of your wings.

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:8-13.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 121.

RESPONSE:

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where shall come my help? My help shall come from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. R

2. He will keep your foot from stumbling. Your guard will never slumber. No, he sleeps not nor slumbers. Israel's guard. R

3. The Lord your guard, the Lord your shade at your right hand. By day the sun shall not smite you, nor the moon in the night. R

4. The Lord will guard you from evil; he will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming, both now and forever. R

SECOND READINGS: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia. The word of God is living and active, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8.

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON:

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 17 Oct St Katerina of Alexandria, RM

Ephesians 2:1-10; Psalm 100; Luke 12:13-21

Pray today for those who do not believe in God - that God, in time, will speak to their hearts. Through the joyful living of our faith, may they come to know the living God.

Tue 18 Oct St Luke, E

2 Timothy 4:10-17; Psalm 145; Luke 10:1-9

Are you tired of self-improvement programmes that don't seem to work? Create a new you by placing yourself in God's hands and allowing God to mould you into the person that God wants you to be.

Wed 19 Oct St Francis of Assisi, W

Ephesians 3:2-12; Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6; Luke 12:39-48

How might our lives be different if we lived with awareness of the reality that, at every moment, the Holy One, our loving God, is truly in our midst? And yet it's true - at all times, and in every person we meet!

Thu 20 Oct St Ignace of Loyola, A (for Living ASK)

Ephesians 3:14-21; Psalm 33; Luke 12:49-53

When we truly repent, we turn away from our sin and head in a new direction. Of course we are not proud of our sinful past, but with God we know we can change where we are going.

Fri 21 Oct St Theophylact of the Divy

Ephesians 4:1-6; Psalm 24; Luke 12:54-59

The great danger for family life, in the midst of any society whose idols are pleasure, comfort and independence, lies in the fact that people close their hearts and become selfish. - Pope John Paul II

Sat 22 Oct St Joseph, F (for Living ASK)

Ephesians 4:7-16; Psalm 122; Luke 13:1-9

It is the small things that add up to make the whole person. We have choices, e.g. we can choose to make a negative remark or hold it back. We grow into Christ through a multitude of small choices, every day.

Sun 23 Oct 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St Matthew 23:1-12; Luke 18:9-14

Grace can only be trusted by an equally graceful human nature. Our work is merely to fill the fertile soil knowing that God's indwelling Spirit has already been planted within.

KEY: SOLEMNITY: FEAST: Memorial: Optional Memorial: Sabbath: Memorial: Feast: Vigil: First-Peace: Pre-Peace



Friends of the Poor

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year C
Dioc. Office: Week 1 • 16 October 2012

When Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio, our present pope, was elected in March 2013 as successor of St. Peter - the first pope from Latin America - he wondered what name he should choose.

As they were leaving the Sixtine Chapel, one of the electing cardinals, a fellow Latin American, whispered in his ear, "Do not forget the poor". Taking those words as a message from God, the new pope chose the name Francis, after the poor saint of Assisi.

Pope Francis has lived up to his name in his ministry as Bishop of Rome through gestures such as visiting prisons and celebrating Mass with prisoners, meeting the homeless and welcoming refugees. At the time of writing Pope Francis is in Canada asking forgiveness of the First Nations Peoples.

St Luke in his Gospel shows us Jesus as one who has regard for the humble and the poor. It is the despised tax-collector whose prayer reached Heaven, rather than the proud Pharisee (Luke 18:1-4). It is the hated Samaritan who acted as a true friend to one in need, as Pope Francis points out in his encyclical, *Fraternity of All* (Luke 10:33). Luke in Chapter 6 of his Gospel gives us the Beatitudes in stark form:

Blessed are you who are poor; woe to you who are rich.
Blessed are you who hunger; woe to you who are full.
Blessed are you who mourn; woe to you who are laughing.
Blessed are you when others hate you; woe when all speak well of you.
Woe to you who observe the Gospel to observe

what Jesus says and does in relation to the poor, to women, to outcasts, to gentiles, to sinners. We must ask ourselves, do we who are anointed with his Spirit in Baptism go forth, out of ourselves, towards our brothers and sisters in need as Jesus would? Would others recognise Christ in us in our attitude to the poor and most vulnerable?

Pope Francis practices what he preaches, so as we offer this quote from his encyclical *Fraternity of All*, we know that it is not mere words. Building social friendship calls for a renewed encounter with the poor and most vulnerable sectors of society. For peace is not merely absence of war but a commitment to recognize, protect and concretely restore the dignity of our poorest brothers and sisters. If at times they react with attitudes that appear antisocial, we should realize that in many cases those reactions are born of a history of scorn and social exclusion. Only the closeness that makes us friends can enable us to appreciate deeply the values of the poor today, their legitimate desires, and their own manner of living the faith. The option for the poor should lead us to friendship with the poor.

As Catholics, we will be taking the Social Teaching of the Church seriously if we offer time, talents, and treasures in reaching out to others. We have the St Vincent de Paul Society, Caritas International, the Knights of Da Gama and other groups who will use our contributions wisely. Let us learn to pray with St. Teresa of Kolkata: "Give the poor, dear Lord, their daily bread, through our hands."

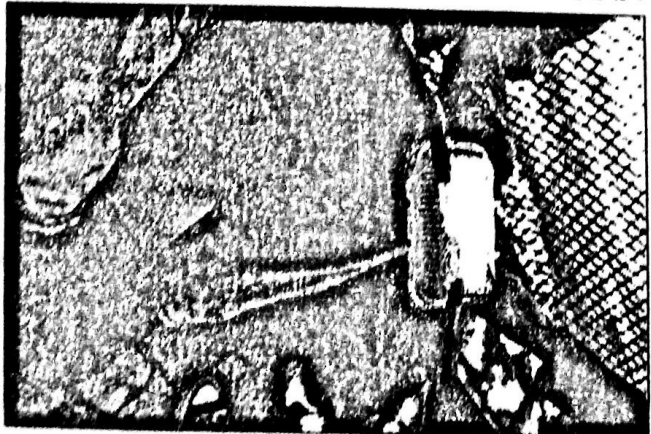


Image by Tim Weber from *Parade*

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