



## THIRTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

The **Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time** today, we hear about being ready for the end of time. "In the same way, when you see these things happening, know that he is near, at the gates." It is the good news that we can stay alert and will be ready when it is our time to recognize the Lord's coming in our own life's challenges today.

**Sunday is Remembrance Day** – for all victims of War – today we pray that *"Out of this darkness love will grow and goodness will once again flourish, and in the words of Julian of Norwich – **all will be well, all will be well, all manner of thing will be well**"* .

Tuesday is the memorial of **Gertrude the Great** Benedictine nun, mystic, and theologian. Wednesday is the **Memorial of St Hild of Whitby (St Hilda) and Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, religious.**

During these last two weeks of Ordinary Time, the first reading is from the Book of **Revelation**, with its mystic imagery. Written for readers who were familiar with apocalyptic writings, the writings send a hidden message of salvation to the earliest communities of Christians, and to us.

**Luke's Gospel** offers the story of the blind man who hails him, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!" An unpopular tax collector, Zacchaeus, climbs a tree to get a glimpse of Jesus and is given personal recognition as Jesus says, "Zacchaeus, today I must stay at your house." Luke's version of the parable of the talents offers praise for the servant who has invested the ten coins and earned another ten. "Well done, good servant! You have been faithful in this very small matter; take charge of ten cities." He weeps over Jerusalem: "If this day you only knew what makes for peace – but now it is hidden from

your eyes." Jesus drives out the sellers from the temple while the chief priests plot against him. Religious leaders try to trap him with a trick question about a woman who marries seven brothers but Jesus refutes them.

Next Sunday is the **Thirty-Fourth or Last Sunday in Ordinary Time** and **The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King**. In **John's Gospel** Jesus tells Pilate, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth **listens** to my voice."

## DAILY PRAYER THIS WEEK

Making changes in our lives and the fear of making those changes are both themes in this week's gospels. Zacchaeus boldly reforms his life after he allows Jesus into it. The servant who is given a gold coin hides it in a handkerchief because he is afraid of his master. He has a chance to be given responsibilities but his fear keeps him from doing anything.

We are often afraid when we consider making a change in our lives. We can see habits that are not healthy, a benign neglect of those we love and patterns that are deeply set in our lives. We may know deep down that we want to change them but we do not have the confidence to believe we can do it. This week Jesus invites us to know that while we cannot make those changes alone, we can, if we allow Jesus to be with us in them.

Where do we start? With a small prayer. In those tiny pockets of time during our week, when we travel, ride to work, do dishes, or even in the shower, we can make these reflective moments to ask for help. Just as Jesus asked the blind man, "What do you want me to do for you?" he is asking us the same question.

<https://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>

## A FULL MEAL FOR THE JOURNEY

I made you in my own image and likeness, and when I made you, I saw that you are good. [Genesis 1:27,31] You are my work of art and part of my household. [Ephesians 2:10 and 22]

*You, reflect like a mirror the brightness of the Lord, and grow brighter and brighter as you are turned into the image that you reflect: this is my work.* [2 Corinthians 3:18]

I have blessed you, with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. [Ephesians 1:3] Before the world was made, I chose you, chose you in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in my presence. [Ephesians 1:3-4] I chose you to live with me. [1 Timothy 5:9] You are my friend. [John 15:15]

*I made you, only a little less than the angels, and crowned you with glory and honour.* [Psalm 8:5]

I am your shepherd. You shall not want. [Psalm 23]

*I have loved you with an everlasting love, and therefore I am constant in my affection for you.* [Jeremiah 31:3] *I am silently planning for you in love.* [Zephaniah 3:17]

You are precious in my eyes you are honoured, and I love you. [Isaiah 43:1-4]

*You are worth more than sparrows.* [Luke 12:24]

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name. You are mine. Should you pass through the sea, I will be with you; or through rivers, they will not swallow you up. Should you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched and the flames will not burn you. For I am Yahweh, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your saviour. [Isaiah 43:1-4]

*I will look after you.* [Luke 12:28] *Your name is written on the palms of my hands.* [Isaiah 49:16]

You have been born anew to a living hope. [1 Peter 1:3]

*I, Christ, loved you, and sacrificed myself for your sake.* [Galatians 2:20]

Now you are able to appear before me, blameless, holy and pure. [Colossians 1:22] Christ is with you your hope of glory. [Colossians 1:27] When Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him. [Colossians 3:4]

*You are not your own property: you have been brought and paid for.* [1 Corinthians 6:20] *I know you fully.* [1 Corinthians 13:12] [Psalm 139] *You are the Temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you.* [1 Corinthians 6:19] *You have become the goodness of God.* [2 Corinthians 5:21]

You have become an ambassador for Christ. It is as though I were appealing through you. [2 Corinthians 5:20] For you who are in Christ, there is a new creation; the old has gone, and now the new one is here. [2 Corinthians 5:17]

## LISTENING

"Say, Pooh, why aren't you busy?" I said.

"Because it's a nice day," said Pooh.

"Yes, but-----",

"Why ruin it?" he said.

"But you could be doing something Important," I said.

"I am," said Pooh.

"Oh? Doing what?"

"Listening," he said.

"Listening to what?"

"To the birds. And that squirrel over there."

"What are they saying?" I asked.

"That it's a nice day," said Pooh.

"But you know that already," I said.

"Yes, but it's always good to hear that somebody else thinks so, too," he replied.

Listening to Christ in others, through nature, through his Word received in silence....*Speak Lord your servant is listening!*