

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help.  
The Lord sustains my soul.

I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,  
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

## COLLECT

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.

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 18:1-10

*A reading from the book of Genesis*

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said 'I beg you, if I find favour with you kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied 'Do as you say'.

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry' he said 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail, and your wife will then have a son'.

*The word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 14

**Response: The just will live  
in the presence of the Lord**

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue.

(R.)

2. He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.

Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R)

## SECOND READING

1:24-28

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians*

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

*The word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL 10:38-42

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who in the one perfect sacrifice brought to completion varied offerings of the law,

accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants and make it holy, as you blessed the gifts of Abel, so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty may benefit the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,  
has made a memorial of his wonders;  
he gives food to those who fear him.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. Through Christ our Lord.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION



*Would you describe yourself as more, 'Martha,' or as more 'Mary'? Explain why.*

*Are you comfortable practicing Christian values where you work? Why or why not? Are Christian values opposed to the values most often displayed by your co-workers?*

*If you do not have an outside job, how do you share your Christian values with the people you come in contact with during the day? Do you find it easy or hard to live out your faith in the world?*

*Are Christian values and principles appropriate in the working world? Why are those values not always evident in the workplace?*

*When out in the world and in the workplace, do you behave as you would within your faith community or family? Why or why not?*

*Do you know people who let their jobs rule their lives? What is the harm in this?*

*Is there a proper mix of Christianity and worldliness that creates a well-balanced person?*

*Can there ever be such a thing as too much faith? Explain?*

## GOSPEL ACTION

*Take the time this week to ascertain whether your Christian values carry over into your workplace. Listen to your co-workers and discover how many of them exhibit good Christian values.*

**Readings –17<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ord. Time Year C**

**First Reading:** Genesis 18:20-32

**Second Reading:** Colossians 2:12-14

**Gospel:** Luke 11:1-13