

# [73] **SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** C

## **FIRST READING**

A blessing on those who trust in the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah

17:7-8

**T**he Lord blesses everyone who honestly trusts him.

They are like trees growing beside a stream,  
trees with roots that reach down to the water  
and have leaves that are always green.

They always bear fruit  
and they don't worry about the lack of rain  
during the dry season.

The word of the Lord.

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

40:1 and 2de, 3, 17

*R. (5a) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.*

I patiently waited, Lord,  
for you to hear my prayer.  
You listened,  
and you let me stand on a rock  
with my feet firm.

*R. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.*

You gave me a new song,  
a song of praise to you.  
Many will see this,  
and they will honor and trust  
you, the Lord God.

*R. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.*

I am poor and needy,  
but, Lord God, you care about me,  
and you come to my rescue.  
Please hurry and help.

*R. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.*

## SECOND READING

If Christ has not risen, your faith is in vain.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

**B**rothers and sisters:

If we preach that Christ was raised from death,  
how can some of you say  
that the dead will not be raised to life?

If the dead won't be raised to life,  
Christ was not raised to life.

Unless Christ was raised to life,  
your faith is useless,  
and you are still living in your sins.  
And those people who died after putting their faith in him  
are completely lost.

If our hope in Christ is good only for this life,  
we are worse off than anyone else.

But Christ has been raised to life!  
And he makes us certain  
that others will also be raised to life.

The word of the Lord.

## ALLELUIA

Luke 6:23ab

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Rejoice and be glad;  
your reward will be great in heaven.

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

## GOSPEL

Happy are the poor.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke 6:17, 20-23

**J**esus and his apostles went down from the mountain  
and came to some flat, level ground.  
Many other disciples were there to meet him.  
Large crowds of people from all over Judea, Jerusalem,  
and the coastal cities of Tyre and Sidon were there too.

Jesus looked at his disciples and said:  
“God will bless you people who are poor.  
His kingdom belongs to you!  
God will bless you hungry people.  
You will have plenty to eat!  
God will bless you people who are crying.  
You will laugh!

“God will bless you when others hate you  
and won’t have anything to do with you.  
God will bless you when people insult you  
and say cruel things about you,  
all because you are a follower of the Son of Man!  
Long ago your own people did these same things to the prophets.

“So when this happens to you,  
be happy and jump for joy!  
You will have a great reward in heaven.”

The gospel of the Lord.



## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Cycle C

### Prayer:

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for all of the gifts you have given us. Please help us to care for and share with others who need our love and help. Through us, please help them to see how much you love them.

In Your Name We Pray,  
AMEN.

### Readings:

Jeremiah 17:7-8  
Psalm 40:1 and 2de, 3, 17  
1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20  
Luke 6:17, 20-23

### Reflection:

This week St. Luke gives us his version of the Beatitudes in which Jesus teaches us that when we are good and do what is right we will be blessed and happy no matter what else is going on in our lives. We are blessed and happy because we love and trust God even when we are poor, even when we are hungry, even when we are sad, and even when other people don't like us and say mean things about us. This does not mean that the only time we are blessed is when we are poor, hungry, sad, and lonely but in those times if we continue to lean on God then we know everything will be all right. It's when we have lots of things, food and friends that it can be hard to remember to love and rely on God. It is hard to remember that we NEED God when we have everything else. Needing and loving God helps us to be good people and to love and help others. Jesus is telling us we need to be careful so that everything we have: our nice homes, clothes, food, friends and popularity don't keep us from trusting God. We need to know that the good things in our lives come from God and must be shared.

### Discussion:

When Jesus says, "Blest are you poor..." He means those who have trusted in God in hard times. *Have you ever felt God with you during a difficult time? How did it help you? How can you help those who are poor? What can you share with others?*

When Jesus says, "Blest are you who are hungry..." He means all kinds of hunger not just food. People can be hungry for many things such as attention, love, education, freedom, justice, God. *Have you ever felt hungry for something other than food? How did it make you feel? How can you help those who are hungry?*

When Jesus says, "Blest are you who weep..." He means those who are hurt, sad and lonely. *Have you ever helped someone who was hurt, sad or lonely? Could God have been using you to care for that person and bless them?*

(Continued on page 2)

**Activity:**

Materials: Large paper hearts in pink, red and white. Crayons/markers/colored pencils.

Ask the children to draw and color a picture on their hearts of them happily caring for someone else or God's creation.

Discuss how we are in God's heart and how God blesses us when we care for the poor, the hungry, the sad, and the lonely.