

[100] FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME C

FIRST READING

The word is very near to you for your observance.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

30:10-14

Moses said to the people:

“You must obey the Lord your God
and follow all the laws and commands
that are in the book of the Law.

You must trust him with all your heart and soul.

“What I am commanding you today is not too hard.
It isn't out of your reach somewhere up in the sky.
You don't have to ask yourselves,
'Who will cross the sea and get it for us?
Who will bring it here and tell us what to do?

“What I am commanding you is not on the other side of the sea.
You don't have to ask yourselves,
'Who will bring it here and tell us what to do?
No! What I am commanding is as near as your mouth or your heart.
All you have to do is obey.”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

69:13, 29-30

R. (see 33) Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

I pray to you, Lord.
So when the time is right,
answer me and help me
with your wonderful love.

R. Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

I am mistreated and in pain.
Protect me, God,
and keep me safe!
I will praise the Lord God
with a song
and a thankful heart.

R. Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

SECOND READING

Christ is the head of his body, the Church.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

1:18-20

Brothers and sisters:

Christ is the head of his body, which is the church.
He is the very beginning,
the first to be raised from death,
so that he would be above all others.

God himself was pleased to live fully in his Son.
And God was pleased for him to make peace
by sacrificing his blood on the cross,
so that all beings in heaven and on earth
would be brought back to God.

The word of the Lord.

ALLELUIA

See John 6:63, 68c

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life;
you have the words of everlasting life.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Who is my neighbor?

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

10:25-37

An expert in the Law of Moses stood up and asked Jesus a question
to see what he would say.

“Teacher,” he asked,
“What must I do to have eternal life?”

Jesus answered, “What is written in the Scriptures?”

How do you understand them?”

The man replied, “The Scriptures say,
‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind.’
They also say, ‘Love your neighbors as much as you love yourself.’ “

Jesus said, “You have given the right answer.
If you do this, you will have eternal life.”

But the man wanted to show that he knew what he was talking about.
So he asked Jesus, “Who are my neighbors?”

Jesus replied:

“As a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho,
robbers attacked him and grabbed everything he had.
They beat him up and ran off, leaving him half dead.

“A priest happened to be going down the same road.
But when he saw the man,
he walked by on the other side.
Later a temple helper came to the same place.
But when he saw the man who had been beaten up,
he also went by on the other side.

“A man from Samaria then came traveling along that road.
When he saw the man,
he felt sorry for him and went over to him.
He treated his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them.
Then he put him on his own donkey and took him to an inn,
where he took care of him.

“The next morning he gave the innkeeper two silver coins and said,
‘Please take care of the man.
If you spend more than this on him,
I will pay you when I return.’”

Then Jesus asked,
“Which of these three people was a real neighbor
to the man who was beaten up by robbers?”

The teacher answered, “The one who showed pity.”
Jesus said, “Go and do the same!”

The gospel of the Lord.



**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Cycle C**

Prayer:
Dear Jesus,
Please help us to be like the Good Samaritan and help everyone in need.
In your name we pray.
Amen

Readings:

Deuteronomy	30:10-14
Psalms	69:13, 29-30
Colossians	1:18-20
Luke	10:25-37

Reflection:
Sometimes Jesus uses stories, called parables, to teach us a lesson. The parable in today's Gospel is called 'The Good Samaritan.' In it, Jesus is teaching us how we are to love and help others. Imagine that you were given an extra recess at school because you are such a great kid! While you are on the playground playing by yourself, you trip and fall. Your ankle hurts so much you can't stand up or walk to get help. After being out there alone for a long time, you see Mr./Mrs. (insert the school Principal's name) arrive at school. You feel relieved that someone is finally there to help you but Mr./Mrs. ___ has their hands full and can't help you so they leave you there telling you they will send someone else out for you. Apparently they forget though, because no one comes out. Eventually Fr./Msgr. (insert Pastor's name) sees you as he is walking to the rectory. Again you feel hopeful but he is late for an appointment. He says he is sure someone will be out to help you soon and as he is leaving he says he will pray for you. Next you see someone come out of the school building dragging a trash bag. For a third time you are hopeful but then you realize it is someone who is not your friend so you know they won't want to help you. To your surprise, they walk over to you. They see that you need help but if they help you instead of doing the job they were given, they will get in trouble with the teacher and have to stay after school so they leave to do their job. They come back though, after a few minutes, saying they didn't feel right leaving you alone and hurt so they help you into the nurse's office and then they return to their teacher to get punished for taking too much time.

Discussion:

1. How did you feel when you were alone and hurt?
2. How did it feel when the Principal and the Pastor did not help you?
3. Do you think we need to help someone even if we don't like them?
4. What do you think Jesus would do in this situation?



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Activity: Good Samaritan Race

Materials needed: A wash cloth (1 for each team of 5 kids), Band-aids (10 to 15 for each team of 5 kids in the class), a cup of water (1 for each team of 5 kids), a lollipop (1 for each kid).

To Play: Divide the class into teams of 5 kids. One kid on each team should lie on the floor at one end of the room. The other kids stand at the other end with 10-15 bandaids, a wash cloth and a cup of water. At the count of three, the group must race down to the kid on the floor, "wash" his/her wound (arm or leg), put all of the band-aids on him/her, give him/her a drink of water, carry him/her back to their side of the room and give him the lollipop. The team to complete this first wins and the entire team gets a lollipop – so does the rest of the class at the end of the lesson after the mess is cleaned-up.