

[130] **TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME C**

**FIRST READING**

Love one another and serve the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

12:9-12

**B**rothers and sisters:

Be sincere in your love for others.  
Hate everything that is evil  
and hold tight to everything that is good.  
Love each other as brothers and sisters  
and honor others more than you do yourself.

Never give up.  
Eagerly follow the Holy Spirit and serve the Lord.  
Let your hope make you glad.  
Be patient in time of trouble and never stop praying.

The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

25:4-5ab, 5cd-6

*R. (4a) Teach me your ways, O Lord.*

Show me your paths  
and teach me to follow;  
guide me by your truth  
and instruct me.

*R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.*

You keep me safe,  
and I always trust you.  
Please, Lord, remember,  
you have always  
been patient and kind.

*R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.*

## ALLELUIA

2 Corinthians 8:9

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,  
to make you rich out of his poverty.

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

## GOSPEL

You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

16:10-13

**J**esus said to his disciples:

“Anyone who can be trusted in little matters  
can also be trusted in important matters.

But anyone who is dishonest in little matters  
will be dishonest in important matters.

If you cannot be trusted with this wicked wealth,  
who will trust you with true wealth?

And if you cannot be trusted with what belongs to someone else,  
who will give you something that will be your own?

“You cannot be the slave of two masters.

You will like one more than the other  
or be more loyal to one than to the other.

You cannot serve God and money.”

The gospel of the Lord.



**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Cycle C**

**Prayer:**  
Dear God,  
Please help us to focus on doing your will; loving others and making this world a better place.  
In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen

**Readings:**  
First Letter of Paul to the Romans      12:9-12  
Psalm      25:4-5ab, 5cd-6  
Luke      16:10-13

**Reflection:**  
On a typical Saturday morning at our house we are rushing around trying to get all of our chores done before running off to the many activities on our calendar: soccer games, social events, volunteer projects, school and church events. Often I will give my daughters a list of chores to do while I do the grocery shopping. Just as often, after I leave, my husband will also try to give them jobs and they get caught in the question of whose job do they do or which one do they do first. Usually they try to rush through both jobs to make both of us happy and they don't do either job very well. Today's Gospel tells us we cannot be "slaves to two masters" in the context of serving God and money. The teaching is not about money being bad. It is about focusing on loving God and others, making our decisions and actions based on that focus. God does not want us to concentrate on material things. God wants us to concentrate on making the world better for others. Like the problem my daughters have when their parents give them different sets of directions, when we try to concentrate on making money or acquiring things to make ourselves happy we are not be able to give adequate attention to the really important things that God wants us to do.

**Discussion:**  
Based on what we learned in today's Gospel, which option is the better choice in the following questions and why?

1. Sleeping-in on a Saturday morning or helping to serve Mass at Church?
2. Serving a wedding at Church because you will get paid to serve weddings or volunteering your time to help you neighbor clean their yard?
3. Giving up your recess to practice with the Church Choir or going out play during recess?
4. Making cards for wounded soldiers or spending the afternoon watching TV?
5. Saving all your money for a new video game or putting part of what you earn into the collection basket at Church?

**Activity:** TUG OF PEACE (formerly known as Tug Of War)  
Materials: A long rope, masking tape, a brightly colored scarf and a big space  
Activity: Place 2 lines on the floor with the tape in the center of your space 2 feet apart. Tie the scarf in the middle of the rope. Split the class into 2 teams. The teams line up on either side of the rope with the scarf in the middle of the 2 foot section. When you say go, the teams pull until the scarf crosses either of the tape lines.

