



# 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

## OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray: Almighty God, our creator and guide, may we serve you with all our heart and know your forgiveness in our lives. We ask this...

## FIRST READING

(Prophet Isaiah conveys to us that one who perseveres in faith and trusts in God will not come to any harm even if one is subjected to sufferings and trials.)

A reading from the Book of Isaiah (50:5-9)

The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I turned not backward. I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

For the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been confounded; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?

This is the Word of the Lord

## PSALM (114)

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Alleluia! I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him. R./

They surrounded me, the snares of death, with the anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress. I called on the Lord's name. O Lord my God, deliver me! R./

How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me. R./

He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling, I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. R./

## SECOND READING

(Faith alone, that is, the acceptance of all revealed truths, is of no avail toward eternal life, unless we show our faith through our good works of charity.)

A reading from the Letter of St James (2:14-18)

What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can his faith save him? If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith.

This is the Word of the Lord

### **ACCLAMATION (Jn 6:51)**

Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the living bread which came down from heaven, says the Lord; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever. Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL**

(Jesus asks the disciples: first, as to whom the people thought him to be and secondly, what they themselves thought. Peter declares their belief in him as the promised Messiah. And then Jesus makes the first prediction of his passion and death.)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark (8:27-35)

Jesus went on with his disciples, to the village of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that I am?" And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." And he charged them to tell no one about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. And he said this plainly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him. But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men." And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."

This is the Gospel of the Lord