

The Living Word

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

16 November 2025

First Reading Mal 3:19-20

The sun of righteousness will shine on you.

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 97:5-9. R. see v.9

(R.) The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

1. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord. (R.)
2. Let the sea and all within it, thunder; the world, and all its peoples.
Let the rivers clap their hands
and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord. (R.)
3. For the Lord comes,
he comes to rule the earth.
He will rule the world with justice
and the peoples with fairness. (R.)

Second Reading 2 Thes 3:7-12

Do not give anyone food who refuses to work.

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 21:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Lift up your heads and see;
your redemption is near at hand.
Alleluia!**

Gospel Lk 21:5-19

Your endurance will win you your life.

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our prayer can tell us a lot about the image of God we really have – holding a parking spot for us, or stopping rain on the second day of the Australian Open. But, if you were in Syria, your prayerful image of God would be as a Liberator from warfare, of a Saviour from Crimes against Humanity, of a Strengthener in time of torture and impending death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus promises his persecuted followers of every age, 'Your endurance will win your lives'. As Malachi prophesied: 'the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays'.

It is our faith that, out of the darkness of the tomb, the Son of righteousness did rise with healing in His rays, bathing the world with that light which makes the world habitable for human beings.

We could take a moment to pray for contemporary persecuted Christians that their faithful endurance will win their lives.

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St Elizabeth of Hungary was the daughter of King Andrew II of Hungary. In 1221 she married Prince Louis of Thuringa at the age of thirteen. She built a hospital and cared for the sick herself, despite opposition from her family and the royal court. A legend arose that once when she was taking food to the poor, her husband stopped her and looked under her mantle to see what she was carrying, only to find that the food had miraculously been changed to roses. After the death of her husband, St Elizabeth was driven from the court by her brother-in-law after she refused to marry again. In 1228 she became a Franciscan tertiary and continued her work with the poor and sick, but after only a few years of austere living, she died at the early age of twenty four.

Cross out all letters that appear more than once.
Unscramble the remaining letters to reveal what Jesus gives to us so that we know what to say when we defend ourselves.

S	A	R	T
	U	C	P
M	T	I	A
	L	K	U
E	G	N	R
	N	A	D
R	P	T	G
	K	O	P
C	W	L	E

Crossword



Across

- 1: sicknesses
- 4: the Messiah
- 6: disciplined
- 7: tricked
- 9: to go hungry
- 11: those who are against you
- 12: wise thought

Down

- 2: when the ground shakes
- 3: a place of worship
- 5: carved rocks used to make buildings
- 8: protect
- 10: belief