

# TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 17, 2021

**Gospel** Mark 10:35-45 (longer form)

James and John, the sons of Zebedee,  
came to Jesus and said to him,  
“Teacher, we want you to do for us  
whatever we ask of you.”  
He replied, “What do you wish me to do  
for you?”  
They answered him, “Grant that in your  
glory  
we may sit one at your right and the  
other at your left.”  
Jesus said to them, “You do not know  
what you are asking.  
Can you drink the cup that I drink  
or be baptized with the baptism with  
which I am baptized?”  
They said to him, “We can.”  
Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink,  
you will drink,  
and with the baptism with which I am  
baptized, you will be baptized;  
but to sit at my right or at my left is not  
mine to give  
but is for those for whom it has been  
prepared.”  
When the ten heard this, they became  
indignant at James and John.  
Jesus summoned them and said to them,  
“You know that those who are recognized  
as rulers over the Gentiles  
lord it over them,



and their great ones make their  
authority over them felt.  
But it shall not be so among you.  
Rather, whoever wishes to be great among  
you will be your servant;  
whoever wishes to be first among you  
will be the slave of all.  
For the Son of Man did not come to be  
served  
but to serve and to give his life as a  
ransom for many.”

## Readings for the week:

29th Sunday in Ord. Time	Monday St. Luke, Evangelist	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	30th Sunday in Ord. Time
Isa 53:10-11 Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 Heb 4:14-16 Mark 10:35-45 or 10:42-45	2 Tim 4:10-17b Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 Luke 10:1-9	Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21 Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 Luke 12:35-38	Rom 6:12-18 Isa 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8 Luke 12:39-48	Rom 6:19-23 Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 Luke 12:49-53	Rom 7:18-25a Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94 Luke 12:54-59	Rom 8:1-11 Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 Luke 13:1-9	Jer 31:7-9 Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 Heb 5:1-6 Mark 10:46-52



### Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant that we may always conform our will to yours  
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Reflecting on Living the Gospel

No one in Mark's gospel approaches Jesus as arrogantly as James and John in today's reading. It is as though James and John have not heard one word of what Jesus has told them about the suffering and death that await him in Jerusalem. All that they are concerned about is "glory." They ask for the two best places next to him, on his right and on his left. Perhaps it is Jesus's deep sorrow at the obtuseness of the brothers' request that tempers his response to them. He answers with the images of "cup" and "baptism." In the Old Testament, the cup was a rich and ambivalent symbol. It could refer not only to overflowing joy and communion with God (Ps 23:5) and God's salvation (Ps 116:13), but also to the draining of the painful cup of punishment (Ps 11:6; Isa 51:17; Jer 49:12).

In his passion Jesus will gulp down the sins of the world, drain the cup of suffering and wrath so that it may be refilled with the joy of salvation. Can the brothers drink this same cup? The baptism of which Jesus speaks is his total submersion in the flood of suffering and death. Can James and John go with him into these depths of his passion?

The failure of his disciples to understand him, his mission, or his relationship to his Father, was an aspect of Jesus's suffering. Their desertion on the eve of his passion would add to the bitterness of the cup he would drink. Power and triumphalism, the desire for first places in the kingdom, have nothing to do with Christian leadership, yet into the hands of these frail and failing human beings Jesus entrusts the Christian community that would, in the power of his love and forgiveness, struggle through to resurrection with him. This is both our challenge and our consolation.

### Closing Prayer

God of mysteries, you sent your son to redeem us; Christ gave *his life as a ransom for many*. We pray you give us an understanding of this astonishing gift, and too an understanding of the gift of dignity you have given to each of us. **Amen.**

#### For Reflection:

• Jesus tells the disciples, "[T]he Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve." Who is a model of Christian servanthood in your life?

#### Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the "Opening Prayer" (in *The Roman Missal* called the "collect").
2. One person read aloud the gospel.
3. Each read prayerfully "Reflecting on Living the Gospel" and spend some time in personal prayer.
4. Share together responses to "For Reflection."
5. Pray the "Closing Prayer."

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**Announcements**  
**10/16/21 to 10/17/21**

**Financials: Last Week 10/06/21-10/12/21**

<b>Weekly Collection Goal \$2400</b>	<b>Total \$1732.00</b>		<b>Short \$668.00</b>
<b>In Church</b>		<b>\$ 1732.00</b>	
<b>OnLine Giving</b>		<b>\$ 00.00</b>	
<b>Mail In</b>		<b>\$ 0.00</b>	

*Bread Day is Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. We will need help to configure the hall for this endeavor after Sunday mass. Should anyone be available, come join us for some camaraderie. We start as early as midnight, however come by anytime thereafter. Many hands make the load lighter. Hope to see you there!*

*Next weekend, Second Collection for World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.*

*Have a Blessed Week!*