

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Gospel Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples:

“To you who hear I say,
love your enemies, do good to those who hate
you,
bless those who curse you, pray for those who
mistreat you.

To the person who strikes you on one cheek,
offer the other one as well,
and from the person who takes your cloak,
do not withhold even your tunic.

Give to everyone who asks of you,
and from the one who takes what is yours do
not demand it back.

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

For if you love those who love you,
what credit is that to you?

Even sinners love those who love them.

And if you do good to those who do good to you,
what credit is that to you?

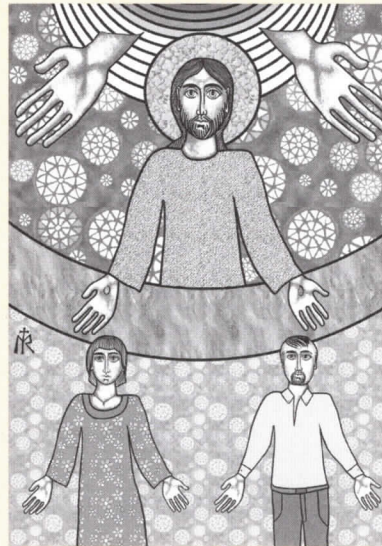
Even sinners do the same.

If you lend money to those from whom you
expect repayment,
what credit is that to you?

Even sinners lend to sinners,
and get back the same amount.

But rather, love your enemies and do good to them,
and lend expecting nothing back;
then your reward will be great
and you will be children of the Most High,
for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the
wicked.

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.



“Stop judging and you will not be judged.
Stop condemning and you will not be condemned.
Forgive and you will be forgiven.
Give, and gifts will be given to you;
a good measure, packed together, shaken
down, and overflowing,
will be poured into your lap.
For the measure with which you measure
will in return be measured out to you.”

Readings for the week:

7th Sunday in Ord. Time

1 Sam 26:2, 7-9,
12-13, 22-23
Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8,
10, 12-13
1 Cor 15:45-49
Luke 6:27-38

Monday

Jas 3:13-18
Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15
Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday Chair of St. Peter

1 Pet 5:1-4
Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6
Matt 16:13-19

Wednesday

Jas 4:13-17
Ps 49:2-3, 6-7,
8-10, 11
Mark 9:38-40

Thursday

Jas 5:1-6
Ps 49:14-15ab,
15cd-16, 17-18,
19-20
Mark 9:41-50

Friday

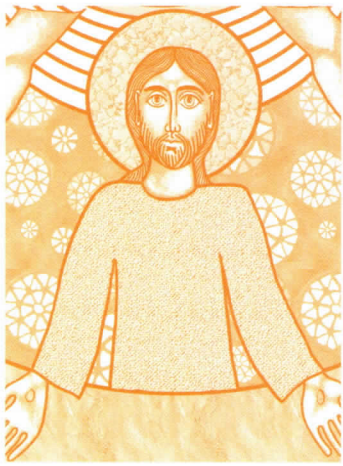
Jas 5:9-12
Ps 103:1-2, 3-4,
8-9, 11-12
Mark 10:1-12

Saturday

Jas 5:13-20
Ps 141:1-2,
3 and 8
Mark 10:13-16

8th Sunday in Ord. Time

Sir 27:4-7
Ps 92:2-3, 13-14,
15-16
1 Cor 15:54-58
Luke 6:39-45



Opening Prayer

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is pleasing to you.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Reflecting on Living the Gospel

The following story is told of Rabbi Hillel, an important Jewish scholar in Jerusalem who died around 10 AD. A man had approached Hillel's contentious and impatient contemporary Rabbi Shammai and asked him, "Are you able to teach me the whole Law in the time I'm able to stand on one foot?" Shammai drove him away. Whereupon the man went to Hillel, who welcomed him and said, "What is hateful to you, do not do to anyone else. That is the whole Law; all the rest is its interpretation."

This "Golden Rule" was one strand of Jewish tradition (see Lev 19:18; Tob 4:15), known to Jesus, as it was to Hillel. And Jesus does interpret it for us. Love of enemies has nothing to do with self-interest, the rule of "You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours!" The only motivation for this love is our kinship with God as daughters and sons, kinship with a God who is compassionate.

"Mercy" is a most privileged gospel word. In Jesus's mother tongue, it derives from the word for "womb." It is like the womb-love that a mother has for her child, fiercely protective and lavishly loving. That Jesus chooses in the gospel reading for today to describe his Father's love as this mother-love—"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful"—is not only a startling reinterpretation of what the "Fatherhood" of God means, but also a challenge to what it means to be a daughter or son of such a Father. The responsorial Psalm 103 calls us to remember the mercy and love of God who forgives and removes our sins. Our gratitude to God for this should urge us to try to be worthy sons and daughters of God, likewise compassionate and forgiving of others.

Closing Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the gift of this day and the opportunity to grow in relationship with you. When you challenge us to forgive sinners and love our enemies, you challenge us to grow in your own image and likeness. May we share mercy abundantly as we remain faithful to your Gospel and the way of life to which we are called. **Amen.**

For Reflection:

- What does it mean for you to "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful?"

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
02/19/22 to 02/20/22

Financials: 02/07/22 – 02/13/22

/22

Weekly Collection Goal \$2400	Total \$3600.00 Over 1200.00		
In Church		\$ 3600.00	
Mail In		\$ 00.00	

Bread Baking this Monday afternoon, February 21 @ 4:30pm with pickup the next day, Tuesday, February 22; 8am to Noon. There is an appeal for more volunteers as there will be a shift in duties. Please plan ahead to help us with this monthly endeavor to help defray operating expenses. After Sunday mass, your kokua to configure the hall is appreciated. Mahalo for your continued support in all ways.

Mahalo for your support of the AUGUSTINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION last weekend. St. Ann collected \$323. Your support makes a difference in hundreds of student lives.

Next weekend, Second Collection is for the Maintenance Fund.

Have a Blessed Week!