

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 10, 2022

Gospel Luke 10:25-37

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test Jesus and said,

“Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

Jesus said to him, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?”

He said in reply,

“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

He replied to him, “You have answered correctly; do this and you will live.”

But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus,

“And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied,

“A man fell victim to robbers

as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho.

They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead.

A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.

Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.

But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight.



He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them.

Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him.

The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction,

‘Take care of him.

If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.’

Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers’ victim?”

He answered, “The one who treated him with mercy.”

Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Readings for the week:

15th Sunday

in Ord. Time

Deut 30:10-14
Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31,
33-34, 36, 37 or
Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11
Col 1:15-20
Luke 10:25-37

Monday

Isa 1:10-17
Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17,
21 and 23
Matt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday

Isa 7:1-9
Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4,
5-6, 7-8
Matt 11:20-24

Wednesday

Isa 10:5-7, 13b-16
Ps 94:5-6, 7-8,
9-10, 14-15
Matt 11:25-27

Thursday

Isa 26:7-9, 12,
16-19
Ps 102:13-14ab
and 15, 16-18,
19-21
Matt 11:28-30

Friday

Isa 38:1-6,
21-22, 7-8
Isa 38:10, 11,
12abcd, 16
Matt 12:1-8

Saturday

Mic 2:1-5
Ps 10:1-2, 3-4,
7-8, 14
Matt 12:14-21

16th Sunday

in Ord. Time

Gen 18:1-10a
Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5
Col 1:24-28
Luke 10:38-42



Opening Prayer

O God, who show the light of your truth
 to those who go astray,
 so that they may return to the right path,
 give all who for the faith they profess
 are accounted Christians
 the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ
 and to strive after all that does it honor.
 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

In today's parable of the good Samaritan, the aid that the Samaritan offered to the half-dead traveler was indeed brave and compassionate. But notice: to go on to Jericho (or maybe back to Jerusalem) to find lodging for himself and the wounded man was a further act of the Samaritan's brave compassion. Palestinian inns hardly offered five-star accommodation, especially if you arrived with a battered body slung over your donkey's back! Jesus's listeners might well imagine that the morning after the Samaritan's vigil with the patient there could be a thankless awakening when the traveler found himself ministered to by a Samaritan. After all, how would we feel about being helped by someone we find extremely distasteful?

The Samaritan asks the innkeeper to take care of the man and gives the innkeeper the resources to do so until he returns, when the innkeeper will be repaid for anything he has spent on the care of the wounded one. Jesus is telling us, as well as the lawyer, that we are all innkeepers, entrusted by Jesus with the care of the wounded until his return at the end of human history when we will be repaid for our compassion, or lack of it.

Which of the three, Jesus asks the lawyer, was a neighbor to the one who fell among thieves? The answer is inescapable: "The one who treated him with mercy." Back comes Jesus's response to all who travel not only from Jerusalem to Jericho, but on his Way: "Go and do likewise" with the humility to recognize that we are sometimes each one of the four characters in the parable. Do we ever admit that we are wounded travellers in need of another's compassion? When are we too self-centered or legalistic or frightened to get our hands dirty by touching another's physical, psychological, or social wounds?

Closing Prayer

Loving God, thank you for the gift of this day and the opportunity to grow in relationship with you. There are no strangers with you, only beloved brothers and sisters on a common journey. Quell our fears and give us confidence to respond to you, that we may remain faithful to your Gospel and the way of life to which we are called. **Amen.**

For Reflection:

- Have you ever ignored or sidestepped a person or issue because you were uncomfortable?

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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Living Liturgy™ Sunday Bulletin.
 Liturgical Press, Collegeville,
 Minnesota 56321. © 2022 by
 Order of Saint Benedict
 www.litpress.org 1-800-858-5450