

# Sunday Readings

## 27th October 2024

### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
increase our faith, hope and charity,  
and make us love what you command,  
so that we may merit what you promise.  
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.

### FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

31:7-9

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob!

Hail the chief of nations!

Proclaim! Praise! Shout:

'The Lord has saved his people,  
the remnant of Israel!'

See, I will bring them back  
from the land of the North  
and gather them from the far ends of earth;  
all of them: the blind and the lame,  
women with child, women in labour:  
a great company returning here.

They had left in tears,  
I will comfort them as I lead them back;  
I will guide them to streams of water,  
by a smooth path where they will not stumble.  
For I am a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my first-born son.

The word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

### Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 125. R/. v.3*

***R/. What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.***

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,  
it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs. **R/.**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. **R/.**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **R/.**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves. **R/.**

### SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

5:1-6

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

### Gospel Acclamation

Jn 8:12

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life.*

*Alleluia!*

### GOSPEL

Mark 10:46-52

The Lord be with you. *And with your Spirit.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*Glory to you, O Lord.*

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

### Prayer over the Offerings

Look, we pray, O Lord,  
on the offerings we make to your majesty,  
that whatever is done by us in your service  
may be directed above all to your glory.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Prayer after Communion

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray,  
perfect in us what lies within them,  
that what we now celebrate in signs  
we may one day possess in truth.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

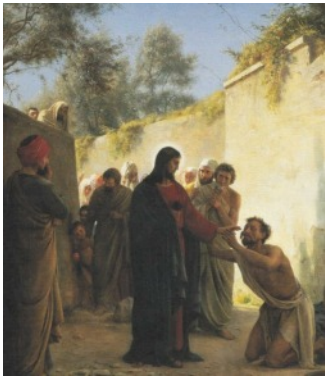
Lectionary Year B

The Word of God

Saint of the Week

**“Bartimaeus ..... began to shout and to say, ‘Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.’”**

**M**ark’s story of Bartimaeus is a striking example of a blind man’s faith in Jesus. Bartimaeus refused to listen to the crowd when they insisted he be quiet; he called out even more loudly in his plea to be healed.



When Jesus responded to Bartimaeus’s call and asked him to come forward, Bartimaeus gave up his only possession, his cloak, and rushed forward to be healed. One act of faith was enough to change this blind man’s life. Bartimaeus was not only healed but then “followed him on the way.”

This reading from Mark is appropriate for all of us who need a strong faith to believe that the troubles we are experiencing in our society will be healed if we continue to plead our case for God’s assistance. Hebrews, the second reading of the day, concludes with the thought, “Let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.” If we have the faith of a Bartimaeus, we will bear witness to God’s grace in our lives.

*“Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.” (Psalm 105)*



**Thursday 31 October 2024**

**Saint Alfonso Rodriguez  
(1533-1617)**

Alfonso Rodriguez was born in Segovia, Spain. His family played host to Saint Peter Faber, who prepared the young Alfonso for his First Communion. He left school at age 14 to help his widowed mother run the family wool business. At age twenty-seven, he married and had three children. Five years later, he found himself a widower with one surviving child, who died soon after. He joined the Society of Jesus as a Brother at the age of thirty-eight. He spent the next forty-six years of his religious life as guest master and doorkeeper of the Jesuit college in Majorca, where he exercised a marvellous influence not only on the members of the college, but upon a great number of people who came to him for spiritual advice. He was a friend and advisor to Saint Peter Claver, encouraging him to go to the missions in South America. His daily routine, though ordinary, offered him opportunities for holiness of life: each time the bell rang, he looked at the door and envisioned that it was God who was standing outside. He was often heard to say “I’m just coming, Lord.”

## Prayer of the Week

Lord God, deepen our faith,  
strengthen our hope,  
enkindle our love;  
and so that we may obtain what you promise  
make us love what you command.  
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.

