



31 October 2021
Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



INTRODUCTION:

As Christians, our moral behaviour is guided by the two-part commandment taught by Jesus: love God and love your neighbour as yourself. Many of us learned to use this framework as an examination of conscience. By examining our lives through the lens of these commandments, we have learned that the challenge of these commandments is not in our desire to follow them but in our capacity to consistently honour these commandments in our daily lives.

READINGS:

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 18:2-3a,3bc-4,47&51ab
Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28
Gospel: Mark 12:28b-34

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: God provides for the needs of his children. As people of faith, we present the needs of our Church and the world to our generous Father.

Response: Lord in mercy, hear our prayer.

That the Church may always keep focused on Christ and on the mission to proclaim God's kingdom, we pray to the Lord.

That leaders of nations and all in authority, may govern with wisdom, understanding and a special care for the poor, we pray to the Lord.

That we may have the grace to see and love each person as a neighbour like ourselves, including the unborn, the outcast, the burdensome, the stranger, and the criminal, we pray to the Lord.

That the deceased members of our families may be welcomed into the presence of God's love for eternity, we pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Lord God, hear these prayers which we bring to you from the depths of our hearts. Answer us, we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF FROM THE CORONA VIRUS:

Almighty and merciful God, who show Your love to all creation everywhere, hear graciously the prayers we make for all those affected by the Corona Virus in various parts of the world.

We come before You asking for an efficacious control of the outbreak, for a healing of those affected, for the victims and their families.

We thank You for blessing the efforts of our research scientists working on the development of a vaccine. We pray that these vaccines will be effective in combating the virus and its mutants, and in controlling the spread of the pandemic. We pray that the vaccine be available for all our people even the poor and those in rural areas.

We pray for doctors, nurses and health workers who are in the frontline of this battle, that they be kept safe and have the strength and courage to continue their heroic efforts.

We pray for the Government and health authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.