



29 October 2023
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



INTRODUCTION:

Today, the church reminds us of the most important theological virtue, love. In a most special way, Jesus gives us the two dimensions of love. The vertical, love of God, and the horizontal, love of neighbour. When these are perfectly lived, a Christian can conveniently say, I have lived well.

READINGS:

First Reading: Ex 22:21-27
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 & 51ab
Second Reading: 1 Thes 1:5c-10
Gospel: Mt 22:34-40

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Conscious that our God listens compassionately when we call, we place now our needs before Him with the confidence of faith.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church, that practising the justice of love according to the commandment of the Gospel, it may always be a home of welcome for all. We pray to the Lord.

For endurance and integrity among leaders of nations. May God whisper peace in the ears of political leaders. May hope thrive among nations. May retaliation end in assured peace. We pray to the Lord.

For a kind and gentle end to the Synod in Rome. May true authority of Christ be realized in every baptized Christian. May hope for the future be realized in our surrender to the Holy Spirit. We pray to the Lord.

For people who smother themselves in misery. May bitterness be washed away in love. May our youth and our elderly discover God's abundant protection and peace. May we all find new reasons to live upon the earth. We pray to the Lord.

For our own deceased family and friends, as we approach the month of the dead, we remember them in faith and love. In prayer, we commend them to the eternal embrace of our Lord. We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, may our hearts be immersed in selfless love for you, that with Your grace, each of us may radiate your compassion in the ordinary realities of this world, this we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

