

# TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the most high,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
In the glory of God the Father. Amen

**FIRST READING** A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,  
and both are found with the sinner.  
He who exacts vengeance will experience the  
vengeance of the Lord,  
who keeps strict account of sin.  
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,  
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.  
If a man nurses anger against another,  
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?  
Showing no pity for a man like himself,  
can he then plead for his own sins?  
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;  
who will forgive him his sins?  
Remember the last things, and stop hating,  
remember dissolution and death, and live by the  
commandments.  
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your  
neighbour ill-will;  
remember the covenant of the Most High, and  
overlook the offence. The word of the Lord.

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

My soul, give the thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. R/-

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion. R/-

His wrath will come to an end;  
he will not be angry for ever.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. R/-

For as the heavens are high above the earth  
so strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins. R/-

**SECOND READING** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. The word of the Lord.

**Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**



**THE GOSPEL** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

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'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all the debts of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.' The Gospel of the Lord.

## The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
(all Bow until man)  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin  
Mary, and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,**

**he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## Creation Time

During Creation Time we are encouraged to reflect and give thanks for God's amazing creation, while as its custodians we're encouraged to protect, defend and care for it, and all living things upon it. Increasingly however, we're seeing God's creation damaged. Climate change is leading to extreme weather events and environmental disasters such as the recent flood in Libya, while conventional farming, deforestation, urbanisation and pollutants have led to a decline in biodiversity and habitat. At times it can feel hopeless. .**Pope Francis** however, in his encyclical **Laudato Si**, reminds us that we can all do something "There is nobility in the duty of care for creation through little daily actions." **#LS211**This month, consider what little daily actions you can take to nurture and care for God's creation:

- Scatter wildflower seeds in the garden to grow flowers for bumble bees and other pollinators and leave a part of your garden untidy
- Or if you have a paved area consider using a few plant pots with flowers which provides food
- How about giving flower seeds for a birthday gift? Look for neonicotinoid –free organic seeds and give them to family and friends.
- In winter and early spring, feed the birds. Suitable seeds and grains include millet, oats, and sunflower seeds, or tasty fruit such as Fruit: apples, pears and soft fruits.
- If a spider gets trapped in your house, try to rescue rather than kill it!