



Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

Open on
8 December 2015,
Solemnity of the
Immaculate Conception

Close on
20 November 2016,
Solemnity of
Christ the King



See **Luke 6:36**:
Be merciful, just as [also]
your Father is merciful
[NAB].



Lectionary for Mass,
Year C – the year
for reading the
Gospel of Luke

Sunday Prayer Shaping Life and Belief in the JUBILEE OF MERCY

◆ **Ordinary Time in Year C** ◆
23rd - 30th Sundays
September to mid-October 2016


The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy can be a new year for the Sundays and big Feastdays to enrich our lives. The *Lectionary for Mass* Year C presents us with the Gospel of Luke and the good news of mercy. Week by week and season by season, the Church will unfold – by means of readings, prayers, and liturgical music – the great mystery of Christ. Use these seasonal booklets as preparation for preaching and catechesis, as inspiration for prayer and reflection, as help for thinking of and doing mercy works.



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Holy Door – open for your pilgrimage
Cathedral Church of the Immaculate Conception

Acknowledgements	Table of Contents
<p>Excerpts from the English translation of the Introduction, Psalm responses, and Titles of the Readings from the <i>Lectionary for Mass</i>, second typical edition © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL); the English translation of the <i>Liturgy of the Hours</i> © 1970, 1973, 1975, ICEL; the English translation of <i>The Roman Missal, Third Edition</i>, © 2010, ICEL; and the English translation of <i>Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar</i>, © 2010 ICEL. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.</p> <p>Excerpts from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, <i>Homiletic Directory</i>, © 2014, Libreria Editrice Vaticana (LEV), Vatican City State.</p> <p>Art: Steve Erspamer, SM [now Martin Erspamer, OSB], <i>Clip Art for Year C</i>, © 1994, Archdiocese of Chicago. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.</p> <p>Parishes and institutions may reprint and post this booklet and excerpts from it with no additional request for permission. Common copyright 2015, Eliot Kapitan and the Office for Worship and the Catechumenate, Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.</p>	<p>3 Concerning the Liturgical Time</p> <p>4-5 To the Holy Door</p> <p>6 Catechesis on the Works of Mercy</p> <p>6-7 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time • 04 September 2016</p> <p>8 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time • 11 September 2016</p> <p>9 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time • 18 September 2016</p> <p>10 Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time • 25 September 2016</p> <p>10 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time • 02 October 2016</p> <p>11 Diocesan Mission Mass • Wednesday, 05 October 2016</p> <p>11-12 Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time • 09 October 2016</p> <p>13 Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time • 16 October 2016</p> <p>13 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time • 23 October 2016</p> <p>14-16 Bulletin Shorts for Sept.-Oct. 2016</p>
<p>BB = <i>Book of Blessings</i> CCC = <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> CDWDS = Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments CSL = <i>Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy</i> FDLC = Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions HD = CDWDS, <i>Homiletic Directory</i> LM = <i>Lectionary for Mass</i> LMIntro = <i>Lectionary for Mass</i>, Introduction RM3 = <i>Roman Missal, Third Edition</i> UNLYC = <i>Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar</i> USCCB = United States Conference of Catholic Bishops</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>CRS Preaching Resources provides good help for select days in the Jubilee of Mercy. The briefs for the 23rd, 25th, and 28th Sundays in Ordinary Time are excerpt on pages 7, 9, and 12 below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home page: http://www.crs.org/ • Or Resource Center, Year of Mercy materials, http://www.crs.org/resource-center/solr-search?f%5B0%5D=field_liturgical_calendar%3A5830 then open Homily helps “Preaching Resources” by Fr. Ron Chochol. • Contact the diocesan Office for the Missions and Victoria Compton for additional help: vcompton@dio.org.

Concerning the Liturgical Time

◆ *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*

102. ... Within the cycle of a year, moreover, the Church unfolds the whole mystery of Christ ... Recalling thus the mysteries of redemption, the Church opens to the faithful the riches of the Lord's powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present in every age in order that the faithful may lay hold on them and be filled with grace.

◆ *Universal Norms for the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*

II. The Cycle of the Year

17. Over the course of the year the Church celebrates the whole mystery of Christ, from the Incarnation to Pentecost Day and the days of waiting for the Advent of the Lord.

VI. Ordinary Time

43. Besides the times of the year that have their own distinctive character, there remain in the yearly cycle thirty-three or thirty-four weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather, the mystery of Christ himself is honored in its fullness, especially on Sundays. This period is known as Ordinary Time.

◆ *Lectionary for Mass, Introduction*

5. Ordinary Time

a) THE ARRANGEMENT AND CHOICE OF TEXTS

103. Ordinary Time begins on the Monday after the Sunday following 6 January [Baptism of the Lord]; it lasts until the Tuesday before Lent inclusive. It begins again on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday and finishes before evening prayer I of the First Sunday of Advent.

The Order of Readings provides readings for thirty-four Sundays and the weeks following them....

b) THE SUNDAY READINGS

105. On the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

the Gospel continues to center on the manifestation of the Lord which is celebrated on the Solemnity of the Epiphany....

Beginning on the Third Sunday, there is a semicontinuous reading of the Synoptic Gospels. This reading is arranged in such a way that as the Lord's life and preaching unfold the doctrine proper to each of these Gospels is presented.

This distribution also provides a certain coordination between the meaning of each Gospel and the progress of the liturgical year. Thus after Epiphany the readings are on the beginning of the Lord's preaching and they fit in well with Christ's baptism and the first events in which he manifests himself. The liturgical year leads quite naturally to a conclusion in the eschatological theme proper to the last Sundays, since the chapters of the Synoptics that precede the account of the Passion treat this eschatological theme rather extensively....

c) THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

106. These readings have been chosen to correspond to the Gospel passages in order to avoid an excessive diversity between the readings of different Masses and above all to bring out the unity between the Old and the New Testaments....

To the degree possible, the readings were chosen in such a way that they would be short and easy to grasp....

b) THE READINGS FROM THE APOSTLES

107. There is a semicontinuous reading of the Letters of Paul and James (the Letters of Peter and John being read during the Easter and Christmas seasons).

Because it is quite long and deals with such diverse issues, the First Letter to the Corinthians has been spread over the three years of the cycle at the beginning of Ordinary Time. It also was thought best to divide the Letter to the Hebrews into two parts; the first part is read in Year B and the second in Year C.

Only readings that are short and readily grasped by the people have been chosen.

Plenary Indulgence for the Jubilee of Mercy

Springfield in Illinois Bishop Thomas John Paprocki has designated the Cathedral Church of the Immaculate Conception as the one church in the diocese that Catholics may visit to receive a plenary indulgence established by the Holy See for the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.

To receive an indulgence during this Year of Mercy:

- Pass through the doors of mercy of the pilgrimage church.
- Make a profession of faith in the church using either the Apostles' or Nicene Creed.
- Pray for the pope' intentions and for the pope himself.
- Meditate on mercy while receiving Communion during a period 20 days before or after visiting the pilgrimage church.
- Participate in the Sacrament of Penance during a period 20 days before or after visiting the pilgrimage church.

EXCERPT FROM *MISERICORDIAE VULTUS*
Bull of Indiction
of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

14. The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life. Life itself is a pilgrimage, and the human being is a viator, a pilgrim travelling along the road, making his way to the desired destination. Similarly, to reach the Holy Door in Rome or in any other place in the world, everyone, each according to his or her ability, will have to make a pilgrimage. This will be a sign that mercy is also a goal to reach and requires dedication and sacrifice. May pilgrimage be an impetus to conversion: by crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, we will find the strength to embrace God's mercy and dedicate ourselves to being merciful with others as the Father has been with us.

Franciscus

Making Pilgrimage to the Holy Door

1. ON THE JOURNEY TO THE HOLY DOOR

Read aloud a story from the Bible.

- **Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18** – God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant. LM, no. 27C, Second Sunday of Lent, Year C
- or **Exodus 14:15—15:1** – The Israelites marched on dry land through the midst of the sea. LM, no. 41.3, Easter Vigil

Share faith.

- What did I notice in the reading; what struck me; what word/phrase stood out?
- Talk about an experience of a “big move” or a “momentous trip”. What did I learn? What do I carry with me even today?
- Why am I making this pilgrimage?

Read aloud Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus*, no. 14.

- What in my life is requiring this much effort to get to the “desired destination”?
- What new insight does it offer me concerning this pilgrimage? Concerning my pilgrimage to heaven?

2. WHILE CROSSING THE THRESHOLD OF THE DOOR

Spend some time in prayer.

- Sing or recite a Song of Ascents / Pilgrimage Song from Psalms 120-134:
 - Ps 120 – Amongst treacherous strangers
 - Ps 121 – The Lord, our protector
 - Ps 122 – In praise of Jerusalem
 - Ps 123 – A prayer of mercy
 - Ps 124 – Thanksgiving for protection
 - Ps 126 – Song of the returned exiles
 - Ps 127 – Praise of God's goodness
 - Ps 130 – A prayer of repentance and trust
 - Ps 131 – The peaceful heart
 - Ps 133 – The blessings of unity
 - Ps 134 – Prayer at nighttime

3. ON THE JOURNEY HOME

Talk about the experience.

- What did I notice? What struck me? What stood out?
- What was going on inside me at the door?
- What will I do, do differently, or change because of this experience?

Give God thanks.

Nicene Creed	Apostles' Creed
<p>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, 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.</p>	<p>I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.</p> <p><small>Excerpt from the English translation of <i>The Roman Missal, Third Edition</i> © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.</small></p>

One Parish's Experience	
<p>Saints James and Patrick Parish made a pilgrimage to the Holy Doors on Saturday, 2 July. 52 people filled a bus and cars for the trip. They planned for prayer, reflection, and food for the journey.</p>	<p>For information on the experience, contact: Therese Allen, Pastoral Associate Ss. James and Patrick Parish 407 East Eldorado Decatur IL 62523 Work: 217-429-5363 E-mail: allent@ssjpparish.com</p>

LITURGICAL CATECHESIS ON THE WORKS OF MERCY

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary
Time – Year C
LM, no. 129C
04 September 2016

Song – Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, © Oxford University Press.
Tune: BEACH SRRING, 87 87 87 D; *The Sacred Harp*, 1844.

Or – Go, Be Justice

Text: Martin Willett, © 2001, WLP.
Tune: NETTLETON, 87 87 D; John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813.

Or – We Are Called

Text: Micah 6:8; David Haas, b. 1957.
Tune: David Haas, b. 1957.
© 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

Or – Thy Kingdom Come

Text and tune: Rory Cooney, b. 1952.
© 1983, North American Liturgy Resources (NALR).

Gospel – Matthew 25: 31-46, *Lectionary for Mass*,
no. 160A, Christ the King

Faith Sharing or Lectio Divina

Corporal Works of Mercy

These are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs. The corporal (bodily) works of mercy are:

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Shelter the homeless
- Clothe the naked
- Visit the sick
- Visit the prisoners
- Bury the dead
- Give alms to the poor

Spiritual Works of Mercy

These are actions that help our neighbor in their spiritual needs. They include:

- Counseling the doubtful
- Instructing the ignorant
- Admonishing the sinner
- Comforting the sorrowful
- Forgiving injuries
- Bearing wrongs patiently
- Praying for the living and the dead

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 508 and 529

Scripture Readings

Lectionary for Mass

Wisdom 9:13-18b – Who can conceive what the Lord intends?

Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 – (1) In every age,
O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Philemon 9-10, 12-17 – Receive him no longer as a slave but as a beloved brother.

Alleluia – Psalm 119:135

Let your face shine upon your servant;
and teach me your laws.

Luke 14:25-33 – Anyone of you who does not renounce all possessions cannot be my disciple.

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/090416.cfm>

CDWDS, *Homiletic Directory*, Appendix

Prefer Christ to all else

- CCC, no. 2544 and 2545-2547



Build with care. Steve Erspamer.

Catholic Relief Services Homily Resources – an excerpt

See the CRS links on page 2 above. Contact the Office for the Missions for additional resources.



Preaching Resources

CRS HOMILY RESOURCES FOR SELECT SUNDAYS AND FEASTS IN THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

by Fr. Ron Chochol

INTRODUCTION

The following resources draw on images and insights found in *Misericordiae Vultus*, the Bull of Indiction of Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year of Mercy, and on the mission and work of Catholic Relief Services. They are designed to assist the preacher in relating the Scriptures for the days selected to our individual and community practices of mercy during the Jubilee Year. Each reflection has a brief summary of the Gospel for that day (from Year C), an **image of mercy**, an illustration from the mission and work of CRS, and examples of one or more practices from the traditional list of corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

NOTE: Quotes from the Bull of Indiction are referenced by its initials—MV—and section number and paragraph; e.g., MV #24-2. For further information about the Jubilee Year, consult *Jubilee of Mercy*, the website sponsored by the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization. Preachers may also want to draw a congregation's attention to the numerous references to God's mercy found in the Eucharistic Prayers, especially the four for Various Needs and Occasions.

SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

The Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospel today makes it quite clear that Jesus insists that we give up everything we hold valuable to us. But, we think, what are we left with? Being a disciple of Jesus! What does that involve? It involves taking up our cross and following him. We tend to think of our cross as burdens imposed on us, like sickness. But our real cross is offering what will help others lead an authentic human life. Our cross is offering others our **hands and feet, and hearts of mercy**. CRS puts boots on the ground around the world so people can become self-sufficient—and then pay it forward. Since the day after this Sunday is Labor Day in the United States, we may want to consider how we can help people who are unemployed or underemployed. Without useful employment, people begin to devalue themselves and to slowly but surely give up on life. By reaching out to them through corporal works of mercy, we can be **hands and feet, and hearts of mercy for them**.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C LM, no. 132C 11 September 2016	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C LM, no. 135C 18 September 2016
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Scripture Readings	Scripture Readings
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Lectionary for Mass
 Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14 – **The Lord relented** in the punishment he had threatened to inflict on his peoples.
Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 – (Luke 15:18) I will rise and go to my father.
 1 Timothy 1:12-17 – Christ came to save sinners.
 Alleluia – 2 Corinthians 5:19
 God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
Luke 15:1-32 – There will be great joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/091116.cfm>

- CDWDS, *Homiletic Directory*, Appendix
God of mercy
- CCC, nos. 210-211
- God takes the initiative in redemption**
- CCC, nos. 604-605, 1846-1848
- The Prodigal Son as an example of conversion
- CCC, nos. 1439, 1700, 2839



Embracing like God. Steve Erspamer.

Lectionary for Mass
Amos 8:4-7 – **Against those who buy the poor for money.**
 Psalm 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 – (cf. 1a, 7b) Praise the Lord, who lifts up the poor.
 1 Timothy 2:1-8 – Let prayers be offered for everyone to God who wills everyone to be saved.
 Alleluia – cf. 2 Corinthians 8:9
 Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.
Luke 16:1-13 – **You cannot serve both God and mammon.**

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/091816.cfm>

- CDWDS, *Homiletic Directory*, Appendix
 Respect for the property of others
- CCC, nos. 2407-2414
- Love for the poor**
- CCC, nos. 2443-2449
- No one can serve two masters**
- CCC, nos. 2113, 2424, 2848



One master only. Steve Erspamer.

Catholic Relief Services Homily Resources – an excerpt

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SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

The Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The upshot of this Gospel selection is: “No servant can serve two masters ... You cannot serve God and mammon.” Called to receive the greatest gift there is, the gracious presence and power of God, we are blessed by this endless mercy. But given the reality of life, we are also called to get our priorities straight: money for ourselves or mercy for others—in imitation of how God has treated us. This choice is one that can open or close the **door of mercy**. CRS' projects and programs help individuals walk through previously closed doors and draw others into new lives. When we work with people in need in our communities, we open up doors for others, and help them learn how to provide for others. For all too many, their locked doors are spiritual, reflecting their feelings of not deserving God's love and mercy. Our commitment to them can open the **door of mercy** for them—something money cannot buy.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C LM, no. 138C 25 September 2016	Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C LM, no. 141C 02 October 2016
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Scripture Readings	Scripture Readings
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Lectionary for Mass

Amos 6:1a, 4-7 – Their wanton revelry shall be done away with.
 Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 – (1b) Praise the Lord, my soul!
 1 Timothy 26:11-16 – Keep the commandment until the appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 Alleluia – cf. 2 Corinthians 8:9
Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.
 Luke 16:19-31 – You received what was good, Lazarus what was bad; now he is comforted, whereas you are tormented.

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/092516.cfm>

- CDWDS, Homiletic Directory, Appendix Human solidarity**
- CCC, nos. 1939-1942
- Solidarity among nations; love for poor**
- CCC, nos. 2437-2449
- Hunger in world; solidarity; prayer**
- CCC, no. 2831



Rich man and Lazarus. Steve Erspamer.

Lectionary for Mass

Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 – The just one, because of his faith, shall live.
 Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 – (8) **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**
 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 – Do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord.
 Alleluia – 1 Peter 1:25
 The word of the Lord remains forever.
 This is the word that has been proclaimed to you.
 Luke 17:5-10 – If you have faith!

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/100216.cfm>



Faith the size of a mustard seed. Steve Erspamer.

Diocesan Mission Mass
Wednesday, 05 October 2016
11:00 AM in the Cathedral Church

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary
Time - Year C
LM, no. 144C
09 October 2016

Scripture Readings

Wednesday of the Twenty-Seventh Week
in Ordinary Time

Lectionary for Mass, no. 463

Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14 - They recognized the grace bestowed upon me.

Psalms 117:1bc, 2 - Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.

Alleluia - Romans 8:15bc

You have received a spirit of adoption as sons through which we cry: Abba! Father!

Luke 11:1-4 - Lord, teach us to pray.

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/100516.cfm>

Scripture Readings

Lectionary for Mass

2 Kings 5:14-17 - Naaman returned to the man of God and acknowledged the Lord.

Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 - (cf. 2b) **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**

2 Timothy 2:8-13 - If we persevere we shall also reign with Christ.

Alleluia - 1 Thessalonians 5:18

In all circumstances, give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

Luke 17:11-19 - None but this foreigner has returned to give thanks to God.

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/100916.cfm>

CDWDS, Homiletic Directory, Appendix Christ the healer

- CCC, nos. 1503-1505, 2616

Signs of the Kingdom of God

- CCC, nos. 543-550, 1151



- Contact the diocesan **Office for the Missions** and Victoria Compton for additional help: vcompton@dio.org (217) 698-8500 ext. 120



Jesus cures ten; one returns. Steve Erspamer.

Catholic Relief Services Homily Resources – an excerpt

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Preaching Resources

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The Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospel today invites us to meet some people whom, if we lived at that time, we would have run or driven away from. But even from a distance, Jesus was able to hear the lepers with his **ears of mercy**. He responded to their pleas by sending them on their way to the Temple priests. But one returns to follow Jesus. Jesus blesses his faith and sends him on his new way, to do for others what Jesus did for him—opening **ears of mercy**. In our work with survivors of human trafficking, mostly women, CRS gives special attention to the fact that although survivors may be freed from captivity, they are not yet free of physical, psychological and spiritual traumas, much less shame and rejection. CRS staff listens to their hearts with **ears of mercy**. Although we are inclined to think of human trafficking as a problem in other parts of the world, the reality is that there are thousands of children and adults in the United States who are caught up in this perverse abuse of human dignity. We may want to keep our ears of mercy open to how we may be able to protect and heal them.

<p>Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C LM, no. 147C 16 October 2016</p>	<p>Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C & World Mission Sunday LM, no. 150C 23 October 2016</p>
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Scripture Readings	Scripture Readings
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Lectionary for Mass

Exodus 17:8-13 – As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight.
Psalm 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 – (cf. 2) Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
2 Timothy 3:14--4:2 – One who belongs to God may be competent, **equipped for every good work.**
Alleluia – Hebrews 4:12
The word of God is living and effective, discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart.
Luke 18:1-8 – God will secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him.

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/101616.cfm>

CDWDS, Homiletic Directory, Appendix

- Moses and prayer of intercession
- CCC, nos. 2574-2577
- Prayer of petition
- CCC, nos. 2629-2633
- The Word of God, a source of prayer
- CCC, nos. 2653-2654
- “Thy kingdom come”
- CCC, nos. 2816-2821



Persistence of the widow. Steve Erspamer.

Lectionary for Mass

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18 – The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds.
Psalm 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 – (7a) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 – From now on, the crown of righteousness awaits me.
Alleluia – 2 Corinthians 5:19
God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, and entrusting to us the message of salvation.
Luke 18:9-14 – The tax collector, not the Pharisee, went home justified.

USCCB link to Lectionary Texts:
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/102316.cfm>

CDWDS, Homiletic Directory, Appendix

- Humility as the foundation of prayer**
- CCC, nos. 588, 2559, 2613, 2631
- Adoration as the attitude of man who knows he is a creature**
- CCC, no. 2628



Steve Erspamer.

Bulletin Shorts for 23-30 Ordinary Time – page 1 of 3

**FDLC Mystagogy on Mass Texts.**

The Collect and the Prayer after Communion are rich sources for our Christian life. These reflections may be downloaded and printed for free. A link for the September-October Ordinary Time booklet is:

<http://www.dio.org/worship/mystagogy.html>



 Download the *Merciful Like the Father* graphic to include with the bulletin announcement.

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 04 September 2016

Surely he doesn't mean it! I mean, hating my relatives to be a disciple! Really? In order to be a disciple today, Jesus says, give up what holds you back, carry your own cross, follow me and not someone else. To be a disciple today, Jesus says, will take a consuming dedication plus relentless mercy, love, and compassion. Jesus wants disciples. Jesus wants me.

- To what, to whom am I hanging on too tight?
- What is the cross I must pick up?

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 11 September 2016

Lost sheep. Lost coin. Lost child. Losing a possession is one thing. Losing one's way is something else. Today's examples: (1) The people of Exodus so lost their way to God, they turned to a molten calf of their own design. Worshiping something that is not God is idolatry, is deep down infidelity, is mistrust of God. Moses pleads for these stiff-necked people. And God relents; God does not punish. (2) The prodigal son thought owning things and going far off was the way to live. He comes to his senses and returns home and finds his father – filled with compassion – running to embrace him. The point: it is God's very nature to relent, to exude compassion, to run to us, to love.

- How can I be like God today?
- For whom will I plead today?
- Whom will I run to embrace?

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 18 September 2016

Not enough. A personal relationship with God is important. But it is not enough. Not if we listen well to the spoken Word of God. From Amos and the People of the Old Testament, we learn this: do not be greedy, do not cheat, do not beat down the poor. From Luke, we learn this: own your possessions and use them for good. Do not let them own you. Do not – because we are mere stewards of what belongs to another. It really all belongs to God the Creator of all.

- If I look at all I have, what can I give away?
- How will I serve God by serving others?
- This week, I will _____.

More >>>

Bulletin Shorts for 23-30 Ordinary Time – page 2 of 3



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Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 25 September 2016

An awful thought. A scary reality. I can be good tomorrow, we say. I can deal with that injustice next week, next month, next year, when the time is right, we say. The poor and hungry can surely wait. Well, Amos and Luke say otherwise. God is filled to the brim with pardon and mercy, with compassion, they say. All people that God loves are bound together, they say. The truth is, it is possible to run out of time to do good, God says. Do not be indifferent! So,

- What good will I do today?
- What injustice can I address this week?

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 02 October 2016

“Increase our faith.” This request of the apostles is ours as well. We want more faith. I want more faith. One would think Jesus would surely comply – here it is, more faith. But, no, today he talks of mustard seed faith. Less about thoughtful prayer or silent meditation, important as they are. More about action, more about waiting tables, more about attending to other’s needs first.

- How can my prayer and meditation prepare me to serve?
- Whom shall I wait on, whom shall I serve?
- In what little ways can I act?

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 09 October 2016

Always on the lookout. Elisha looks out for Naaman (2 Kings 5:14-17). Jesus looks out for the ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19). Both teach us to always attend, always respond to the needs of others. In the Collect today we pray: “make us always determined to carry out good works.” I need to be on the lookout. The need for good works abounds.

- Who is in need?
- Who needs me?
- What will I do?

[More >>>](#)

Bulletin Shorts for 23-30 Ordinary Time – page 3 of 3



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 [Download the *Merciful Like the Father* graphic to include with the bulletin announcement.](#)

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 16 October 2016

Persistent prayer. You know that person, don't you? One so relentless, he does not yield, he does not back down? She makes the case and does not let it drop? Persistence personified. God invites us, invites me to take this attitude to prayer. "Pray always without becoming weary." Pray not just for myself. Pray, too, for the needs of others. Do not give up.

- For what shall I pray today?
- For whom shall I pray this week?
- Can I put it all in God's care – and with my helping hands?

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 23 October 2016

Who am I kidding? If I would do all the right things for the wrong reasons, would they still count? Probably not. Would God care? Most likely, yes! The Gospel paints this picture. The boasting person at prayer: I fast, I pray, I tithe, I am faithful – I am not like "him"...(and everyone see this about me). But the humble one prays: I am far from perfect, I sin – be full of mercy. The Old Testament reading sheds more light. Be like God, Sirach says. Attend to the poor, the widow, the orphan (anyone in need), God says. Look to them. Care for them. It is right and just behavior.

- How will I boast, not in myself, but in the Lord?
- How will I behave? Whom will I help?

The Works of Mercy

<p style="text-align: center;">Corporal Works of Mercy</p> <p>These are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs. The corporal (bodily) works of mercy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed the hungry • Give drink to the thirsty • Shelter the homeless • Clothe the naked • Visit the sick • Visit the prisoners • Bury the dead • Give alms to the poor 	<p style="text-align: center;">Spiritual Works of Mercy</p> <p>These are actions that help our neighbor in their spiritual needs. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counseling the doubtful • Instructing the ignorant • Admonishing the sinner • Comforting the sorrowful • Forgiving injuries • Bearing wrongs patiently • Praying for the living and the dead <p style="text-align: right;"><i>United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, pages 508 and 529</i></p>
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