

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

TRINITY 7 (YEAR A) PROPER 12

COLLECT

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

1 Kgs 3.5-12

A reading from the first book of Kings.

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 119.Pe



R. Lord, how I love your law. (*All repeat*)



How wonderful [|] are your statutes; therefore I obey them with [|] all my heart. When your word goes forth [|] it gives light; it gives understanding [|] to the simple. *R.*

I open my mouth [|] and I sigh;
I yearn for [|] your commandments.
Turn to me and [|] show your mercy,
as you ever do to those who [|] love your
name. *R.*

Let my steps be guided [|] by your word;
let no iniquity have do-[|]minion over me.
Rescue me from those [|] who oppress me,
and I will keep [|] your commandments. *R.*

Let your face shine up-[|]on your servant
and teach me [|] your decrees.
My eyes shed [|] streams of tears,
because people do not [|] keep your law. *R.*

SECOND READING

Rom 8.26-39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the
Romans.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things?

If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15.15

Alleluia.

I do not call you servants but friends:
for all that I have heard from my Father

I have made known to you.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Mt 13.31-33,44-52

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ☩ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus put another parable before the crowd, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable. "The

kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, Lord, our offering of the gifts which you yourself have given us. May we obtain from this sacrament the grace to live holy lives here on earth, and gain the everlasting joy of heaven; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**