

# SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

TRINITY 17 (YEAR B) PROPER 20

## COLLECT

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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

*Wis 1.16–2.1,12–22*

A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon.

The ungodly by their deeds and words summoned death; considering him a friend, they pined away, and they made a covenant with him, because they are fit to belong to his party.

For they reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves, “Short and sorrowful is our life, and there is no remedy at the death of a human being, and no-one has been known to return from death.

“Let us lie in wait for the righteous man, because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions; he reproaches us for sins against the law and accuses us of sins against our training. He professes to have knowledge of God and calls himself a child of the Lord. He became to us a reproof of our thoughts; the very sight of him is a burden to us, because his manner of life is unlike that of others and his ways are strange. We are considered by him as something base, and he avoids our ways as unclean; he calls the last end of the righteous happy and boasts that God is his father. Let us see if his words are true, and let us test what will happen at the end of his life; for if the righteous man is God’s son, he will help him and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries. Let us test him with insult and torture, that we may find out how

gentle he is and make trial of his forbearance. Let us condemn him to a shameful death for, according to what he says, he will be protected.”

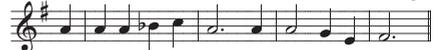
Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray, for their wickedness blinded them, and they did not know the secret purposes of God or hope for the wages of holiness or discern the prize for blameless souls.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*from Ps 54*



**R.** The Lord upholds my life; Give praise to his name. (*All repeat*)



Save me O God | by your name;  
in your might de-fend my cause.  
Hear my | prayer O God;  
give ear to the words | of my mouth. **R.**

For the arrogant have risen | up against me,  
and the ruthless have | sought my life.  
They have no re-lgard for God;  
but God is my helper, he sus-tains my life. **R.**

I will offer you a | free-will sacrifice  
and praise your name for | it is good.  
For you have rescued me from | every  
trouble,  
and my eye has seen the downfall | of my  
foes. **R.**

## SECOND READING

*Jas 3.13–4.3,7–8*

A reading from the letter of James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure,

then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*2 The 2.14*

**Alleluia.**

God has called us through the Gospel: that we may share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Alleluia.**

GOSPEL READING

*Mk 9.30-37*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus and the disciples went on and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first,

he must be last of all and servant of all." And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

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PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, accept the sacrifice which we offer in obedience to your command. We celebrate this Eucharist to pay you the worship that we owe: grant that it may bring us holiness and redemption; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**