



Twenty-First Sunday in ordinary Time- Year B (P708)- 26/8:2018

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me, save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

FIRST READING 24:1-2,15-18 Page 709

A reading from the book of Joshua.

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: "If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord."

The people answered, "We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for his is our God."

✠ The word of the Lord. ✠

Responsorial Psalm

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.



SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians. 5:21-32 page 710

This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and Church.

★ Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything.

Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water in a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no peck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts.

For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church. ★ ✠ **The word of the Lord.** ✠

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life - Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Page 711 6:60-69

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Lord, whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life.

★ After hearing the doctrine many of followers of Jesus said, "This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?" Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, "Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? ***It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.***

But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, "This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him." After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Jesus said to the Twelve, "What about you, do you want to go away too?" Simon Peter answered, "Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God." ★

◆ The Gospel of the Lord. ◆



COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you.

◆ Through Christ our Lord. ◆

