

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;  
turn your ear to me; hear my words.  
Guard me as the apple of your eye;  
in the shadow of your wings protect me.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant that we may always conform our will to yours  
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

**FIRST READING** Exodus 17:8-13

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, "Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand." Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses' arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM** Psalm 120

**RESPONSE:** *Our help is in the name of the Lord  
who made heaven and earth.*

1. I lift up my eyes to the mountains:  
from where shall come my help?  
My help shall come from the Lord  
who made heaven and earth. **R.**
2. May he never allow you to stumble!  
Let him sleep not, your guard.  
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,  
Israel's guard. **R.**
3. The Lord is your guard and your shade;  
at your right side he stands.  
By day the sun shall not smite you  
nor the moon in the night. **R.**
4. The Lord will guard you from evil,  
he will guard your soul.  
The Lord will guard your going and coming  
both now and for ever. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:2

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy.

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.  
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
The word of God is something alive and active;  
it can judge secret emotions and thoughts.  
Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL** Luke 18:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. "There was a judge in a certain town", he said, "who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, 'I want justice from you against my enemy!' For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, 'Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death.'"

And the Lord said, "You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Grant us, Lord, we pray,  
a sincere respect for your gifts,  
that, through the purifying action of your grace,  
we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*Behold, the eyes of the Lord  
are on those who fear him,  
who hope in his merciful love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.*

Or

*The Son of Man has come  
to give his life as a ransom for many.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, O Lord, we pray,  
that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things,  
we may be helped by what you give in this present age  
and prepared for the gifts that are eternal.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*



29<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
of  
Ordinary  
Time

**First Reading**

*Exodus 17:8-13*

Joshua and the Israelites defeat Amalek with the help of God and his servant, Moses.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 121:1-2,3-4,5-6,7-8*

The Lord is the Guardian of Israel.

**Second Reading**

*2 Timothy 3:14-4:2*

Paul exhorts Timothy to continue to preach the word Timothy received from his teachers.

**Gospel Reading**

*Luke 18:1-8*

Jesus urges his disciples to pray and not lose heart, for God hears and answers prayers.

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

This is the first of two parables that Jesus tells in Luke 18 about prayer. (The second will be read at Mass next Sunday.) This first parable is a lesson in persistence in prayer. (Next Sunday's parable will address attitude in prayer.) While the parable seems to present prayer as nagging God for what we want, such a reading misses the point. God is not like the judge in the parable, worn down by requests and coerced to respond. The key is found in the description of the judge as corrupt and unjust. Since God can be neither, we must understand Jesus to be saying that if even an unjust judge responds to the persistence of the widow, how much more so will God listen to our prayers. God truly wants to hear our needs and respond generously. It is the final lament of Jesus that gets to the point of the parable. The lesson is about the persistence of the one who prays. God wants us to be like the persistent widow, staying in relationship with God, confident that God hears and answers prayers. Then Jesus laments, "Will such faith be found when the Son of Man comes?" In this lament, Jesus notes how easy it can be for us to lose heart.

