

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:25–28

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel

The LORD says this:
People of Israel, you say,
“The Lord isn’t fair!”
But you are the ones who are wrong.

I am fair,
and if any of you stop doing right and start sinning,
you will die because of your sins.
But if any of you turn from your sins and start doing right,
you will be safe.
You won’t die because of your sins,
if you really think about the things you have done wrong
and turn from them.

Do this, and you will go on living.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25:4–, 6-7, 8–9

All: *Remember your mercies, O Lord.*

*Show me your paths
and teach me to follow;
guide me by your truth
and instruct me.
You keep me safe,
and I always trust you.*

All: *Remember your mercies, O Lord.*

*Please, LORD, remember,
you have always
been patient and kind.
Forget each wrong I did
when I was young.
Show how truly kind you are
and remember me.*

All: *Remember your mercies, O Lord.*

*You are honest and merciful,
and you teach sinners
how to follow your path.
You lead humble people
to do what is right
and to stay on your path.*

All: *Remember your mercies, O Lord.*

SECOND READING
Philippians 2:1–5

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:
Christ encourages you,
and his love comforts you.
God's Spirit unites you,
and you are concerned for others.
Now make me completely happy!
Live in harmony by showing love for each other.
Be united in what you think,
as if you were only one person.

Don't be jealous or proud,
but be humble and consider others more important
than yourselves.
Care about them as much as you care about yourselves
and think the same way that Christ Jesus did.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL
Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said:

"I will tell you a story about a man who had two sons.
Then you can tell me what you think.

"The father went to the older son and said,
'Go work in the vineyard today!'
His son told him that he would not do it,
but later he changed his mind and went.
The man then told his younger son to go work in the vineyard.
The boy said he would, but he didn't go.
Which one of the sons obeyed his father?"

"The older one," the chief priests and leaders answered.

Then Jesus told them:

"You can be sure that tax collectors and bad women
will get into the kingdom of God before you ever will!
When John the Baptist showed you how to do right,
you would not believe him.
But these evil people did believe.
And even when you saw what they did,
you still would not change your minds and believe."

The Gospel of the Lord.