Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

25th November 2026

First reading

Revelation 15:1-4

'They sing the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb.'

I, John, saw another sign in heaven, great and amazing, seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is finished.

And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire — and also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,
'Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations!
Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name?
For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you,
for your righteous acts have been revealed.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 98(97):1. 2-3b. 7-9a. 9b-d. ℟ Revelation 15:3b

Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty!

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation.
The Lord has made known his salvation, has shown his deliverance to the nations.
He has remembered his merciful love and his truth for the house of Israel.
Let the sea and all within it thunder; the world, and those who dwell in it.
Let the rivers clap their hands, and the hills ring out their joy.
At the presence of the Lord, for he comes,
He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice,
and the peoples with faithfulness.

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 2:10c

Alleluia, alleluia.
Be faithful unto death, says the Lord,
and I will give you the crown of life.
Alleluia.

Gospel Luke 21:12-19

'You will be hated by all for the sake of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish.'

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'They will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it, therefore, in your minds, not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and sisters, and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. You will be hated by all for my name's sake. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.'

Short reflection on the reading for today

"By your endurance you will gain your souls." It is one of those floating phrases that can apply to many situations. It is echoed earlier in Luke in different context, where the seed bore fruit "through endurance." (Lk 8:15). The term endurance is today expressed by "hanging in there" and denotes perseverance, consistency, dependability. In hard times we must show loyalty to God by endurance. We are helped in this, for Jesus promises "I will give you a wisdom which none of your opponents can contradict." During hard times his love and fidelity will sustain us, so that our efforts can bear good fruit. Those who endure will, says Revelation, join in the victorious song of the people who crossed the Red Sea. Like those who followed Moses over sea and desert, we too may find it hard going at times. The Lord inspires us to push onward and persevere. "Mighty and wonderful are your works … Righteous and true are your ways, O King of the nations!"
The quality of "endurance" that helps us onward towards the promised land, is finely expressed by the Latin translation of Saint Jerome*: in* "By your patience you will possess your souls."