

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

27th October 2026

First reading

Ephesians 5:21-33

‘This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the Church.’

Brothers and Sisters: Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the Church, his body, and is himself its Saviour. Now as the Church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the Church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the Church to himself in splendour, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the Church, because we are members of his body. ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the Church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R1a

Blessed are all who fear the Lord.

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be blessed and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;

your children like shoots of the olive around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed the husband who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Sion. May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of your life!

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,

you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 13:18-21

‘It grew and became a tree.’

At that time: Jesus said, ‘What is the kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.’

And again he said, ‘To what shall I compare the kingdom of God? It is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, until it was all leavened.’

Short reflection on the reading for today

These two images are about surprising potential. Each of them compares something very small to what it can become. A mustard seed is tiny but grows into a tree where birds can nest. A tiny piece of leaven transforms a whole basin of flour into rising dough.

The kingdom of God is like that, where very small things can grow to become very significant. Even our smallest acts of kindness can have a good effect beyond what we might imagine. Small acts of service can create an opening for the grace of God. It's mistaken to think that unless our efforts are big and impressive they don't really count for much. It is everyday kindness, small initiatives, things may go unnoticed, that contribute to building up the kingdom of God.