

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

May 30th 2026

First reading

Jude 17, 20b-25

**‘God is able to keep you from stumbling
and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory.’**

You must remember, beloved, the predictions of the Apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. Building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and for ever. Amen.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6. R2b

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.

For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water.

I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.

Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise.

I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Colossians 3:16a, 17c

Alleluia, alleluia.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly;
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 11:27-33

‘By what authority are you doing these things?’

At that time: Jesus and his disciples came again to Jerusalem. And as he was walking in the Temple, the chief priests and the scribes and the elders came to him, and they said to him, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?’ Jesus said to them, ‘I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. Was the baptism of John from heaven or from man? Answer me.’ And they discussed it with one another, saying, ‘If we say, “From heaven”, he will say, “Why then did you not believe him?” But shall we say, “From man”?’ — they were afraid of the people, for they all held that John really was a prophet. So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And Jesus said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.’

Short reflection on the reading for today

Jesus was required to offer some justification for his startling act of clearing the merchants out of the temple. It was a daring and dangerous thing to do, without permission from the temple authorities. He had no official right to regulate things in the temple, so their complaint is perfectly understandable, "What authority have you for acting like this?"

This episode happened towards the end of Jesus' ministry. At the start of his ministry, according to Mark, the general public were impressed by the moral authority with which Jesus spoke and acted. Far from contesting his claim to authority, as the leaders did, they accepted it as genuine. They kept asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching, with authority."

Christians believe that Jesus spoke and acted with the authority of God. For those with eyes to see and ears to hear, it was a true and liberating authority. We all need empowerment of some sort to live with nobility and purpose. The real issue is where to seek that empowerment. Faith assures us that Jesus has the authentic authority of God, enabling us to be fully human and fully alive.