

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

30th October 2026

First reading

Philippians 1:1-11

‘He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.’

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all, making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 111(110):1-2. 3-4. 5-6. R2a

Great are the works of the Lord.

or: Alleluia.

I will praise the Lord with all my heart, in the meeting of the just and the assembly.

Great are the works of the Lord, to be pondered by all who delight in them.

Majestic and glorious his work; his justice stands firm for ever.

He has given us a memorial of his wonders. The Lord is gracious and merciful.

He gives food to those who fear him; keeps his covenant ever in mind.

His mighty works he has shown to his people by giving them the heritage of nations.

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,

and I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 14:1-6

‘Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not pull him out?’

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, ‘Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?’ But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. And he said to them, ‘Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?’ And they could not reply to these things.

Short reflection on the reading for today

Jesus was sitting at a meal at which other Pharisees and other devout folk were also present. Maybe the man with the open wound was deliberately brought in as a way of entrapment, to see if Jesus would heal him on the Sabbath. A sick person would not normally have been there as a guest. But Jesus was more than happy to take the bait, if that is what it was. He immediately healed the man and sent him on his way.

What should we learn from this? While being in other ways religious, some people show little respect for others in their hour of need. Our Lord's outlook is always to treat others with love and respect regardless of the circumstances. We are called to take our lead from him; his way of relating to others must be ours too, and it can be with the help of the Holy Spirit that he pours into our hearts. That's in line with what Paul says about the "goodness Christ Jesus produces in us for the glory of God."