

## Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

6<sup>th</sup> October 2026

### First reading

#### Galatians 1:13-24

**‘He was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles.’**

Brothers and Sisters: You have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it. And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were Apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

Then, after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and remained with him for fifteen days. But I saw none of the other Apostles except James the Lord’s brother. In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie! Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. And I was still unknown in person to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. They only were hearing it said, ‘He who used to persecute us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.’ And they glorified God because of me.

### Responsorial Psalm

#### Ps 139(138):1-3. 13-14. 15. R24a

*Lead me, O Lord, in the way everlasting.*

O Lord, you search me and you know me.

You yourself know my resting and my rising; you discern my thoughts from afar.

You mark when I walk or lie down; you know all my ways through and through.

For it was you who formed my inmost being, knit me together in my mother’s womb.

I thank you who wonderfully made me; how wonderful are your works, which my soul knows well.

My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being fashioned in secret and moulded in the depths of the earth.

### Gospel Acclamation

#### Luke 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it.

Alleluia.

### Gospel

#### Luke 10:38-42

**‘Martha welcomed him. Mary has chosen the good portion.’**

At that time: Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, ‘Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.’ But the Lord answered her, ‘Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.’

## **Short reflection on the reading for today**

Jesus was often glad of the hospitality offered to him by others. But when Martha welcomed him to her house it seems that the visit caused her more anxiety than joy. So the Lord said 'Martha, Martha, you worry and fret about so many things.'

It's possible to turn a pleasure into a chore if we are too perfectionist. Martha's sister Mary seems the more retiring of the two, sitting quietly in the background. Yet, this quieter sister sensed how Jesus wanted to be welcomed. Rather than getting into a flutter of activity like Martha, she offered a listening ear, sitting at his feet and taking in his every word.

Jesus appreciated that special kind of welcome. It is often the way in Luke's gospel that the more marginal people are the ones who respond best to the message. On this occasion, Martha had something to learn from her sister Mary, as we all do. Martha was too anxious to feed Jesus, when, really it was he who wanted to nourish her with his word. What he wants from us sometimes is just to sit and listen, letting him feed us with his word and his very presence.