

## Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2026

### First reading

Amos 7:10-17

#### **‘Go, prophesy to my people.’**

In those days: Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, ‘Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

“Jeroboam shall die by the sword,  
and Israel must go into exile  
away from his land.” ’

And Amaziah said to Amos, ‘O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.’

Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, ‘I was no prophet, nor a prophet’s son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. But the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, “Go, prophesy to my people Israel.” Now, therefore, hear the word of the Lord.

“You say, ‘Do not prophesy against Israel,  
and do not preach against the house of Isaac.’ ”

Therefore thus says the Lord:

“Your wife shall be a prostitute in the city,  
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,  
and your land shall be divided up with a measuring line;  
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,  
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.” ’

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 19(18):8. 9. 10. 11. R 10b or John 6:63c**

*The judgements of the Lord are true;  
they are, all of them, just.*

The law of the Lord is perfect; it revives the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are steadfast; they give wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right; they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear; it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure, abiding for ever.

The judgements of the Lord are true; they are, all of them, just.

They are more to be desired than gold, than quantities of gold.

And sweeter are they than honey, than honey flowing from the comb.

### Gospel Acclamation

**2 Corinthians 5:19**

Alleluia, alleluia.

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself,  
and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Alleluia.

## **Gospel**

### **Matthew 9:1-8**

**‘They glorified God, who had given such authority to men.’**

At that time: Getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.’ And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, ‘This man is blaspheming.’ But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, ‘Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, “Your sins are forgiven,” or to say, “Rise and walk”? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’ — he then said to the paralytic — ‘Rise, pick up your bed and go home.’ And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

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

We need the faith of others to help us when we are in real need. That is why people often ask others to pray for them. They may find it hard to pray for themselves and, so, they ask others to pray for them. In the gospel today, a paralysed man is carried to Jesus by the faith of his friends. Nothing is said about the faith of the paralysed man. The gospel says that when Jesus saw their faith—the faith of those who carried the paralytic—he said to the paralytic, “Courage, my child, your sins are forgiven,” and then went on to cure his paralysis.

We have all had times when we were carried to the Lord by the faith of others. It was the faith of our parents, and of our grandparents, that took us to the font for baptism. As babies, we had no faith of our own at that time. We begin our lives as Christians carried by the faith of others. In the course of our lives, we find ourselves still needing the faith of others to keep our own relationship with the Lord alive. Indeed, we are always very interdependent when it comes to our relationship with the Lord. As I grow towards the Lord, I help others to do so as well. As I grow away from him, I make it more difficult for others to grow towards him. In a very profound sense, we depend on each other on the pilgrimage of life. In that sense our own relationship with the Lord, or lack of it, while very personal is never purely private; it always impacts on others.