

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

22nd September 2026

First reading

Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13

‘To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable than sacrifice.’

The king’s heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.

Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the heart.

To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

Haughty eyes and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, are sin.

The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapour and a snare of death.

The soul of the wicked desires evil; his neighbour finds no mercy in his eyes.

When a scoffer is punished, the simple becomes wise;

when a wise man is instructed, he gains knowledge.

The Righteous One observes the house of the wicked; he throws the wicked down to ruin.

Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 119(118):1, 27. 30, 34. 35, 44. R35a

Guide me, Lord, in the path of your commands.

Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord!

Make me grasp the way of your precepts, and I will ponder your wonders.

I have chosen the way of faithfulness; your decrees I have upheld.

Grant me insight that I may keep your law, and observe it wholeheartedly.

Guide me in the path of your commands, for in them is my delight.

I shall always keep your law, for ever and ever.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are those who hear the word of God

and keep it.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 8:19-21

‘My mother and my brothers and sisters are those who hear the word of God and do it.’

At that time: His mother and his brothers and sisters came to Jesus, but they could not reach him

because of the crowd. And he was told, ‘Your mother and your brothers and sisters are standing outside, desiring to see you.’ But he answered them, ‘My mother and my brothers and sisters are those who hear

the word of God and do it.’

Short reflection on the reading for today

We venerate Jesus as Lord and as Son of God, because so indeed he is. In today’s gospel, however, Jesus identifies those who hear the word of God and put it into practice as his mother and brothers and sisters, as his family. In spite of his unique status and his unique relationship with God, he makes us members of his family. He loves us as his siblings and wants us to relate to him as our brother. For this to become our daily we need to listen to the word of God and put it into practice.

The attention of Jesus was completely focussed on doing the will of God. He heard that word and took it in so completely that it shaped all that he said and did. John's gospel goes so far as to say that Jesus is the Word, the Word made flesh. The essence of our baptismal calling is to hear the word and to live by it. Like the seed that fell on good soil, we are to hear the word and take it to ourselves and yield a harvest of worthy service. If we really listen to the word of God so that it shapes who we are and what we do, then Jesus can delight in us as his true family.