

Reading for the Memorial of St Deiniol

11th September 2026

First reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27

‘I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.’

Brothers and Sisters: If I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

For, though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84(83):2-3. 5-6. 12. R2

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts.

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts.

My soul is longing and yearning for the courts of the Lord.

My heart and my flesh cry out to the living God.

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Blessed the people whose strength is in you, whose heart is set on pilgrim ways.

For the Lord God is a sun, a shield; the Lord will give us his favour and glory.

He will not withhold any good to those who walk without blame.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. John 17:17b, a

Alleluia, alleluia.

Your word is truth, O Lord;

sanctify us in the truth.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 6:39-42

‘Can a blind man lead a blind man?’

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable: ‘Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone, when he is fully trained, will be like his teacher. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, “Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye”, when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye.’

Short reflection on the reading for today

Our limited insight into each other makes it hard to lead others in a way that is fair and just. We may be tempted to think that we see so much more clearly what needs to be done.

Jesus suggests that we are all blind to some degree, so it could be like the blind leading the blind rather than the wise leading the foolish. Changing the metaphor, he gives us the comic scenario of someone

trying to take a splinter out of a neighbour's eye while being oblivious of the much larger hazard in his own eye.

The image of dislodging the plank from our own eye warns us be aware of our own defects before judging others. Our own failings can block us from understanding the other person, and this should make us slow to judge and to condemn. He had earlier stated that God, who does see clearly into every heart, is compassionate and merciful to all, even the ungrateful and the wicked. We need to take our lead from God who sees all things clearly, and be merciful on that account.