

Reading for the Memorial of St Boniface

June 5th 2026

First reading

2 Timothy 3:10-17

‘All who desire to live a godly life in Christ will be persecuted.’

Beloved: You have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra — which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 119(118):157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168. R165a

The lovers of your law have great peace, O Lord.

Though my foes and oppressors are countless,

I have not swerved from your decrees.

Truth is the sum of your word;

all your just judgements are eternal.

Though princes oppress me without cause,

my heart reveres your word.

The lovers of your law have great peace;

no stumbling block for them.

I await your salvation, O Lord;

I fulfil your commands.

I obey your precepts and decrees;

all my ways are before you.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia.

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,

and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 12:35-37

‘How can they say that the Christ is the son of David?’

At that time: As Jesus taught in the Temple, he said, ‘How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared, “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.’ ” David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?’ And the great throng heard him gladly.

Short reflection on the reading for today

Our formation comes first from home and then from our circle of teachers and friends, reinforced by our worship in church. Paul refers to this background when writing to Timothy, "From your infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures." Earlier he praises the sincere faith of Timothy's grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice. A good and respectful home life prepared Timothy for his later apostolic ministry. By contrast today's gospel, the predominant sense is of regret. The scribes have turned the temple into a place for controversy. How easily this can happen if church people are more concerned with unanswerable questions rather than on the basic virtues of love, patience, forgiveness, generosity, and prayer.

Lord and Son – The scribes oppose Jesus for many reasons. But the main reason is that he teaches as though he were the Messiah, with the authority of God. How close they are to the truth! From the Scriptures, he argues that somehow the Messiah will be both son and Lord of David. He invites them to rise to the level of faith, as he had once said to his own mother – "I must be about my Father's work" (Luke 2:49). Jesus was born as a human child, but by origin and mission he is the Lord, the Son of the Most High.