Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

23rd November 2026

First reading

Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5

'The name of Christ and his Father's name written on their foreheads.'

I, John, looked, and behold, on Mount Sion stood the Lamb, and with him one hundred and forty-four thousand who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been redeemed from the earth. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as first fruits for God and the Lamb, and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. ℟ cf. 6

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world, and those who dwell in it.
It is he who set it on the seas; on the rivers he made it firm.
Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place?
The clean of hands and pure of heart, whose soul is not set on vain things.
Blessings from the Lord shall he receive, and right reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the people who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 24:42a, 44

Alleluia, alleluia.
Stay awake and be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.
Alleluia.

Gospel **Luke 21:1-4**

'He saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.'

At that time: Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, 'Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.'

Short reflection on the reading for today

The widow who gives her all to support the temple reminds us of how Jesus who went on to give all he had, his very life, for others. Although what she gave had little monetary value, her gift meant more than the larger gifts of others, because she gave all she had.

Generosity of spirit is not easy to measure. People who seem to be doing little may actually be making more effort than others who seem to be doing a lot. At the end of the day, only the Lord can measure generosity, because he alone knows what each is capable of giving. Whereas we can measure only what is tangible and visible, God looks deeper, into the heart. The widow's coins would make little impression on those who saw them, but her gift so impressed Jesus that he singled her out as an example. Even when we feel we have little to offer, actually giving that little is what the Lord wants of us.