

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

2nd September 2026

First reading

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

‘We are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.’

Brothers and Sisters: I could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? For when one says, ‘I follow Paul’, and another, ‘I follow Apollos’, are you not being merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labour. For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33(32):12-13. 14-15. 20-21. R12b

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen as his heritage.

Blessed the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his heritage.

From the heavens the Lord looks forth; he sees the whole human race.

From the place where he dwells he gazes on all the dwellers on the earth,
he who shapes the hearts of them all, and considers all their deeds.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. He is our help and our shield.

In him do our hearts find joy. We trust in his holy name.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor;
to proclaim liberty to the captives.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 4:38-44

‘I must preach to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.’

At that time: Jesus arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them.

Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. And demons also came out of many, crying, ‘You are the Son of God!’ But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, but he said to them, ‘I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose.’ And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

Short reflection on the reading for today

The first part of today's gospel is very instructive. Jesus learns that Simon Peter's mother-in-law is sick with a high fever. What followed was told over and over again, and Luke has reduced it to its bare bones as follows: 1) the mother-in-law is critically ill; 2) friends ask Jesus to bless her; 3) He commands the fever to leave her; 4) she gets up and begins to serve them, presumably with food.

It is remarkable that, as soon as she felt cured, that woman "got up immediately and served them." The family setting is enhanced when we hear that the people around Jesus "interceded with him for her." They showed a warm sense of community.

Such community spirit is not found everywhere, even among believers. Paul's converts were no shining example of it, but often seemed to fall into disunity. He calls them "infants," not adults, not yet ready for solid food. Like children they were quarrelling over petty matters. Such quarrels contrasted with true devotion for Jesus. They were split apart into cliques, each following a different leader. Their jealousies led to ridiculous bickering. Paul reminds them that every church leader was God's co-worker and that the church is nobody's private property, or rather, "you are God's garden." Many church problems would almost solve themselves if we all shared that sense of belonging to God.