

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

26th October 2026

First reading

Ephesians 4:32-5:8

‘Walk in love, as Christ loved us.’

Brothers and Sisters: Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness, nor foolish talk, nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 1:1-2. 3. 4, 6. R Psalm 40(39):5a

Let us be imitators of God, as beloved children.

Blessed indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the path with sinners, nor abides in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the Lord, and who ponders his law day and night.
He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season, and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.
Not so are the wicked, not so! For they, like winnowed chaff, shall be driven away by the wind.
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. John 17:17b, a

Alleluia, alleluia.
Your word is truth, O Lord;
sanctify us in the truth.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 13:10-17

‘Ought not this daughter of Abraham be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?’

At that time: Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, ‘Woman, you are freed from your disability.’ And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, ‘There are six days in which work ought to be done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.’ Then the Lord answered him, ‘You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?’ As he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame, and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Short reflection on the reading for today

The manager of the synagogue allows no work to be done on the Sabbath. But God's work can be done on any day of the week. Healing a woman from her crippling condition was surely God's work. By his word and his healing touch, Jesus restored her health and gave her a new lease of life. Any life-giving work was always lawful and right and there is no day, no time, when it may not be done. He wants each of us to share in releasing people from whatever ails them.

The epistle calls on us to be friendly and kind, forgiving each other as God has forgiven us, loving others as Christ has loved us. In this way we share in the Lord's own life-giving work. The cure of the woman led her to immediate gratitude, for when she straightened up she glorified God.' If we help others, let it also be for the glory of God.