Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

20th November 2026

First reading

Revelation 10:8-11

'I took the little scroll and ate it.'

I, John, heard a voice from heaven, saying, 'Go, take the scroll that is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land.' So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll. And he said to me, 'Take and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey.' And I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it. It was sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it my stomach was made bitter. And I was told, 'You must again prophesy about many peoples and nations and languages and kings.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 119(118):14, 24. 72, 103. 111, 131. ℟103a

How sweet is your promise to my tongue, O Lord.
I rejoice in the way of your precepts, as though all riches were mine.
See, your decrees are my delight; your statutes are my counsellors.
The law from your mouth means more to me than large quantities of silver and gold.
How sweet is your promise to my tongue, more than honey in the mouth.
Your decrees are my heritage for ever, the joy of my heart.
I have opened my mouth and I sigh, for I yearn for your commands.

Gospel Acclamation **John 10:27**

Alleluia, alleluia.
My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord,
and I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia.

Gospel **Luke 19:45-48**

'You have made the House of God a den of robbers.'

At that time: Jesus entered the Temple and began to drive out those who sold, saying to them, 'It is written, "My house shall be a house of prayer", but you have made it a den of robbers.'
And he was teaching daily in the Temple. The chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people were seeking to destroy him, but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were hanging on his words.

Short reflection on the reading for today

The temple in Jerusalem had been re-dedicated after being desecrated by Antiochus Epiphanes. Then, years later, Jesus cleansed it again, after it was profaned by traders in the temple courts. We might reflect about ways in which our lives and our church could become fully a house of prayer, a temple fit for God's holy presence.
Jesus entered the temple area and drove out the merchants and traders. He was not against the temple rituals but against the abuse of religion for gain by merchants and chief priests, who cared for money more than for genuine worship.
For us, to purify the temple means to let God be central to our lives. All of our dealings and also our politics need to show justice and compassion. Every aspect of our daily lives can be purified and under God's grace. As we renew our faith in him, the words apply to us, "My house is a house of prayer." Every part of life, family, work and play, reflects the sincerity of our worship, with God enthroned in our hearts.