

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

June 6th 2026

First reading

2 Timothy 4:1-8

‘Do the work of an evangelist.

**I am already being poured out as a drink offering,
and the Lord will award me the crown of righteousness.’**

Beloved: I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfil your ministry.

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71(70):8-9. 14-15b. 16-17. 22. R cf. 15ab

My mouth will tell of your salvation, O Lord.

My mouth is filled with your praise,
with your glory, all the day long.

Do not reject me now that I am old;
when my strength fails do not forsake me.

But as for me, I will always hope,
and praise you more and more.

My mouth will tell of your justice,
and all the day long of your salvation.

I will come with praise of your might, O Lord;

I will call to mind your justice,
yours, O Lord, alone.

O God, you have taught me from my youth,
and I proclaim your wonders still.

So I will give you thanks on the lyre
for your faithfulness, O my God.

To you will I sing with the harp,
to you, the Holy One of Israel.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

‘This poor widow has put in more than everyone.’

At that time: In his teaching Jesus said to the crowd, ‘Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the market-places, and have the best seats in the synagogues, and the places of honour at feasts, who devour widows’ houses, and, for a pretence, make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.’

And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.’

Short reflection on the reading for today

Religion loses its essence if it degenerates into a concern for splendid vestments, guaranteed front seats in synagogues and churches, places of honour at banquets, long prayers.

To correct any such version of religion, Jesus praises the widow who put two small copper coins, worth about a cent, into the collection box. She gave more than all the others; for they contributed from their surplus while she gave from her poverty. This is another way of completing the race. The widow gave herself totally to the Lord.

From this, the expression *the widow’s mite* has come to mean something small given in a generous spirit. The widow gave the little she had to support divine worship and thereby became the patroness of generous giving. Jesus praised her as an example to his disciples, who have much to learn from the goodness of ordinary people.

At this time Jesus was in the Jerusalem, soon to meet his death. This generous, god-fearing widow was a figure of the sacrifice he would make on the cross, giving everything for us. There are saints in our midst, like the widow, whom we may not notice. Generosity of spirit can be shown in very ordinary ways. Even if we have very little to spare, if we are generous in our use of it we are rich in the eyes of the Lord.