

# 151 THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## FIRST READING

Malachi 1.14 - 2.2, 8-10

*You have turned aside from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your instruction.*

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

- 14 “I am a great King,” says the Lord of hosts,  
“and my name is revered among the nations.
- 1 “And now, O priests, this command is for you.  
2 If you will not listen,  
if you will not lay it to heart to give glory to my name,”  
says the Lord of hosts,  
“then I will send the curse on you  
and I will curse your blessings;  
indeed I have already cursed them,  
because you do not lay it to heart.
- 8 “You have turned aside from the way;  
you have caused many to stumble by your instruction;  
you have corrupted the covenant of Levi,”  
says the Lord of hosts,  
9 “and so I make you despised and abased before all the people,  
inasmuch as you have not kept my ways  
but have shown partiality in your instruction.”
- 10 Have we not all one father?  
Has not one God created us?  
Why then are we faithless to one another,  
profaning the covenant of our ancestors?
- The word of the Lord.

*A period of silence is observed after the reading.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 131.1, 2, 3(R.see 2)

- R.** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.
- 1 O Lord, my heart is not lifted up,  
my eyes are not raised too high;  
I do not occupy myself with things  
too great and too marvellous for me. **R.**

- 2 But I have calmed and quieted my soul,  
like a weaned child with its mother;  
my soul is like the weaned child  
that is with me. **R.**
- 3 O Israel, hope in the Lord  
from this time on and forevermore. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 2.7-9, 13

We are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God,  
but also our own selves.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

- 7 Though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ,  
we were gentle among you,  
like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children.
- 8 So deeply do we care for you  
that we are determined to share with you  
not only the gospel of God but also our own selves,  
because you have become very dear to us.
- 9 You remember our labour and toil,  
brothers and sisters;  
we worked night and day,  
so that we might not burden any of you  
while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.
- 13 We also constantly give thanks to God for this,  
that when you received the word of God  
that you heard from us,  
you accepted it not as a human word  
but as what it really is, God's word,  
which is also at work in you believers.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 23.9, 10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia.  
If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

You have one Father, your Father in heaven;  
You have one teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ!

## GOSPEL

Matthew 23.1-12

The scribes and Pharisees do not practice what they teach.

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

1 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples,  
2 “The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ chair;  
3 therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it;  
but do not do as they do,  
for they do not practice what they teach.  
4 They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear,  
and lay them on the shoulders of others;  
but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them.  
5 They do all their deeds to be seen by others;  
for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long.  
6 They love to have the place of honour at banquets  
and the best seats in the synagogues,  
7 and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces,  
and to have people call them rabbi.  
8 “But you are not to be called rabbi,  
for you have one teacher,  
and you are all students.  
9 And call no one your father on earth,  
for you have one Father—the one in heaven.  
10 Nor are you to be called instructors,  
for you have one instructor, the Messiah.  
11 The greatest among you will be your servant.  
12 All who exalt themselves will be humbled,  
and all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

The gospel of the Lord.