

Psalm and Readings Thursday 2nd October 2025

Psalm 11

In the Lord I take refuge; how can you say to me,
‘Flee like a bird to the mountains;
for look, the wicked bend the bow,
they have fitted their arrow to the string,
to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart.
If the foundations are destroyed,
what can the righteous do?’

The Lord is in his holy temple;
the Lord’s throne is in heaven.
His eyes behold, his gaze examines humankind.
The Lord tests the righteous and the wicked,
and his soul hates the lover of violence.
On the wicked he will rain coals of fire and
sulphur;
a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup.
For the Lord is righteous;
he loves righteous deeds;
the upright shall behold his face.

Wisdom 8:5–18

If riches are a desirable possession in life,
what is richer than wisdom, the active cause of all
things?
And if understanding is effective,
who more than she is fashioner of what exists?
And if anyone loves righteousness,
her labours are virtues;
for she teaches self-control and prudence,
justice and courage;
nothing in life is more profitable for mortals than
these.
And if anyone longs for wide experience,
she knows the things of old, and infers the things
to come;
she understands turns of speech and the
solutions of riddles;
she has foreknowledge of signs and wonders
and of the outcome of seasons and times.

Therefore I determined to take her to live with
me,
knowing that she would give me good counsel
and encouragement in cares and grief.
Because of her I shall have glory among the
multitudes and honour in the presence of the
elders, though I am young.

I shall be found keen in judgement,
and in the sight of rulers I shall be admired.
When I am silent they will wait for me,
and when I speak they will give heed;
if I speak at greater length,
they will put their hands on their mouths.
Because of her I shall have immortality,
and leave an everlasting remembrance to those
who come after me.
I shall govern peoples,
and nations will be subject to me;
dread monarchs will be afraid of me when they
hear of me;
among the people I shall show myself capable,
and courageous in war.
When I enter my house, I shall find rest with her;
for companionship with her has no bitterness,
and life with her has no pain, but gladness and
joy.
When I considered these things inwardly,
and pondered in my heart
that in kinship with wisdom there is immortality,
and in friendship with her, pure delight,
and in the labours of her hands, unfailing wealth,
and in the experience of her company,
understanding,
and renown in sharing her words,
I went about seeking how to get her for myself.

Mark 12:1–12

Then he began to speak to them in parables. ‘A
man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it,
dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watch-
tower; then he leased it to tenants and went to
another country. When the season came, he sent
a slave to the tenants to collect from them his
share of the produce of the vineyard. But they
seized him, and beat him, and sent him away
empty-handed. And again he sent another slave
to them; this one they beat over the head and
insulted. Then he sent another, and that one they
killed. And so it was with many others; some they
beat, and others they killed. He had still one
other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them,
saying, “They will respect my son.” But those
tenants said to one another, “This is the heir;
come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be

ours." So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this scripture:

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes"?'

When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

The Collect of the Day

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your
love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in
service;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.