

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5, 7–12

A reading from the first book of Kings

One night at Gibeon, God appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, "Ask me for anything you want."

Solomon answered,
"My LORD and God, I am your servant.
You have made me king in place of my father David.
But I don't know any more about being king than a child would know.
And I must serve your chosen people,
even though they are a great nation
with more people than can be counted.
Please make me wise enough to rule them well
and know the difference between right and wrong.
No one is really able to rule this great nation of yours."

The LORD was pleased that Solomon had asked this, and he said:
"I will answer your prayer.
You will be wise and know more than anyone who has ever lived
or ever will live.
You didn't ask to live a long time or to be rich,
and you didn't ask for your enemies to be destroyed.
All you wanted was to be honest and fair."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119:57 & 72, 127–128

All: *Lord, I love your commands.*

*You, LORD, are my choice,
and I will obey you.
I would rather obey you
than to have a thousand pieces of silver and gold.*

All: *Lord, I love your commands.*

*Your laws mean more to me
than the finest gold.
I follow all of your commands,
but I hate anyone
who leads me astray.*

All: *Lord, I love your commands.*

SECOND READING

Romans 8:28–30

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

We know that God is always at work

for the good of everyone who loves him.

They are the ones God has chosen for his purpose,

and he has always known who his chosen ones would be.

He had decided to let them become like his own Son,

so that his Son would be the first of many children.

God then accepted the people he had already decided to choose,

and he has shared his glory with them.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL
Matthew 13:44–46

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

“The kingdom of heaven is like what happens
when someone finds treasure hidden in a field
and buries it again.

A person like that is happy and goes and sells everything
in order to buy that field.

“The kingdom of heaven is like what happens
when a shop owner is looking for fine pearls.

After finding a very valuable one,
the owner goes and sells everything
in order to buy that pearl.”

The Gospel of the Lord.