

**iCare Mass August 28, 2021**

**Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

**FIRST READING** Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8,

**A reading from the book of Deuteronomy**

**Moses** said: "People of Israel, listen carefully to the laws and commands that I am teaching you. If you obey them, you will live, and you will take the land that the Lord God of your ancestors is giving you.

I am telling you what the Lord your God has commanded. Don't add anything or take anything away. "By faithfully obeying these commands, you will show other nations how wise and understanding you are.

They will learn about these laws and say, 'This great nation is very wise and understanding.' "No other great nation has a god who is close enough to answer their prayers, as the Lord God does for us. And no other great nation has laws that are as fair as the ones I am giving you today."

**The word of the Lord.**

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** *Psalm 15:2–3a, 3bc & 5ef*

**All: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

*Only those who obey God and do as they should speak the truth and don't spread gossip.*

**All: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

*They treat others fairly and don't say cruel things. Those who do these things will always stand firm.*

**All: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

**SECOND READING:** James 1:17–18, 21b–22

**A reading from the letter of James**

Brothers and sisters: Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father who created all the lights in the heavens. He is always the same and never makes dark shadows by changing. He wanted us to be his own special people, and so he sent the true message to give us new birth.

Be humble and accept the message that is planted in you to save you. Obey God's message! Don't fool yourselves by just listening to it.

**The word of the Lord.**

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL:** Mark 7:1–5, 14–15, 21–23

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

Some Pharisees and several teachers of the Law of Moses from Jerusalem came and gathered around Jesus. They noticed that some of his disciples ate without first washing their hands. The Pharisees and all other Jewish people obey the teachings of their ancestors. They always wash their hands in the proper way before eating. None of them will eat anything they buy in the market until it is washed. They also follow a lot of other teachings, such as washing cups, pitchers, and bowls.

The Pharisees and teachers asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples obey what our ancestors taught us to do? Why do they eat without washing their hands?”

Jesus called the crowd together again and said, “Pay attention and try to understand what I mean. The food that you put into your mouth does not make you unclean and unfit to worship God. The bad words that come out of your mouth are what make you unclean. “Out of your heart come evil thoughts, vulgar deeds, stealing, murder, unfaithfulness in marriage, greed, meanness, deceit, indecency, envy, insults, pride, and foolishness. All of these come from your heart, and they are what make you unfit to worship God.”

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**ALL: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.**