

# Reflecting On Sunday's Readings

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME —NOVEMBER 8, 2020

## First Reading — Wisdom 6:12-16

<sup>12</sup> Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. <sup>13</sup> She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. <sup>14</sup> He who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for he will find her sitting at his gates. <sup>15</sup> To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and he who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, <sup>16</sup> because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

## Responsorial Psalm PS 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

**R. (2b) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God whom I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory, For your kindness is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you.

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

I will remember you upon my couch, and through the night-watches I will meditate on you: You are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my**

**God.**

---

## Second Reading — 1Thessalonians 4:13-18

<sup>13</sup> But we would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the archangel's call, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first; <sup>17</sup> then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore comfort one another with these words.

## Gospel Reading — Matthew 25:1-13

<sup>1</sup> "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be compared to ten maidens who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup> but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> As the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. <sup>6</sup> But at midnight there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup> Then all those maidens rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup> But the wise replied, 'Perhaps there will not be enough for us and for you; go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup> And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went

## Our Lady of Perpetual Help

in with him to the marriage feast; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> Afterward the other maidens came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup> But he replied, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup> Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

## Our Lady of Perpetual Help

### INVITATION TO PRAY

Pause for a few moments of silence and enter more deeply into the presence of God...

### Proclaim the Scriptures out loud

As you listen to the scriptures be attentive to a word, a phrase, a question, an image, or a feeling that emerges. Reflect on this quietly or share it aloud.

### INVITATION TO REFLECT

### INVITATION TO GROUP SHARING

#### First Reading —

1. Define wisdom from your perspective.
2. How could you apply to your life one or more of the suggestions for acquiring wisdom found in this passage

#### Second Reading —

3. What wisdom does Paul share, to provide light on what is normally viewed as a dark and terrifying event?

#### Gospel Reading —

4. Where do you see yourself in this parable?
5. What are the attitudes that underlie the maidens' behavior?
6. What lesson(s) does this parable teach about wisdom and one's personal spirituality?
7. What is the "oil" you need for your "lamp"?

### INVITATION TO ACT

*Determine a specific action (individual or group) that flows from your sharing. When choosing an individual action, determine what you will do and share it with the group. When choosing a group action, determine who will take responsibility for different aspects of the action. These should be your primary considerations.*

### CLOSING INVITATION TO PRAY

*Give thanks to God (aloud or silently) for new insights, for desires awakened, for directions clarified, for the gift of one another's openness and sensitivity. Conclude with a final prayer.*