

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my
persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.
¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious and not what is
worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
²⁰And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Psalms 26:1-8

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what
is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection;

outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag
in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice
in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.
¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospi-
tality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not
curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep
with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one
another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the
lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not
repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what
is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as
it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved,
never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath
of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will
repay, says the Lord." ²⁰Instead, "if your enemies
are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them
something to drink, for by doing this you will heap
burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome
by evil, but overcome evil with good.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus
was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples
that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suf-
fering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and
scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised.
²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him,
saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen
to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get be-
hind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you
are setting your mind not on divine things but on
human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to
come after me, let them deny themselves and take up
their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to
save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life
for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them
if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or
what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in
the glory of his Father, and then he will repay every-
one for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there
are some standing here who will not taste death be-
fore they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Next Sunday's Readings: Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20.

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