

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:2-5.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 123.

RESPONSE:

Our eyes look to the Lord, till he have mercy upon us.

1. To you have I lifted up my eyes, you who dwell in the heavens. Behold, like the eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. **R**
2. Like the eyes of a servant on the hand of her mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God, till he show us his mercy. **R**
3. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy. We are filled with contempt. Indeed, all too full is our soul with the scorn of the arrogant the disdain of the proud. **R**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has sent me to preach good news to the poor. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-6.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 5 Jul (St Anthony Zaccaria, Pr)

Genesis 28:10-22; Psalm 91; Matthew 9:18-26
Today, go directly to Jesus with your suffering. Have courage! Banish your doubts! He wants to heal you! Take courage from the woman in today's gospel, and take that first leap of faith.

Tue 6 Jul (St Maria Goretti, VM)

Genesis 32:22-32; Psalm 17; Matthew 9:32-38
It can be overwhelming to look deeply into life with a heart moved by God's grace. But our hope as Christians is that God is with us as we try to find ways to respond to those in our midst who are in need.

Wed 7 Jul Liturgy of the Day

Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7.17-24; Psalm 33; Matt 10:1-7
It is easy to call to mind God's good deeds when times are good – but it is even better to remember them when times are tough, for it reminds us of how much our God really loves us, cares for us, and remembers us.

Thu 8 Jul Liturgy of the Day

Genesis 44:18-21.23-29; 45:1-5; Psalm 105; Matt 10:7-15
The story of Joseph illustrates how God often works in our own lives. Too often we are left wondering why something happened, and it is only in hindsight that we get a better glimpse of the reason.

Fri 9 Jul Ss Augustine Zhao Rong, Pr & companions, Ms

Genesis 46:1-7.28-30; Psalm 37; Matthew 10:16-23. Jesus never calls us to do the bare minimum, but rather to live wholeheartedly in our faith. We are called daily to stretch ourselves – in prayer, the sacraments, our parish and with those in need.

Sat 10 Jul Liturgy of the Day

Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26; Psalm 105; Matt 10:24-33
There is just so much that we don't know. No matter how much we pray we will never fully understand the mind of God; no matter how often we read God's word, it always offers something new.

Sun 11 Jul 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Amos 7:12-15; Psalm 85; Mark 6:7-13
God calls us daily to find simple and practical ways of communicating the reality of his love. It is not so much your words, but your life itself that is able to speak most powerfully of God's love. Live it well.

(KEY: **SOLEMNITY**; **FEAST**; **Memorial**; (Optional Memorial)
Pr=Priest; V=Virgin; M=Martyr

Catholic Link

BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year B
Divine Office: Week II • 4 July 2021

A Stranger on the Road

You may remember how, in his letter *Amoris Laetitia – The Joy of Love*, Pope Francis made great use of St Paul's hymn to love in 1 Corinthians 13, and how in *Gaudete et Exultate – Rejoice and be Glad*, he used the Beatitudes to great effect. Pope Francis' teachings are rooted in Scripture. Now, in *Fratelli Tutti*, he takes the story of the Good Samaritan as the key to understanding this letter on fraternity and social friendship.

Having drawn a picture in Chapter One of *Fratelli Tutti* on the dire state of the world, in Chapter Two he proclaims Good News for our times. Indeed, the rest of his letter is simply a teasing out of the implications of the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The parable itself is well known but Luke 10:29-37 must be read prayerfully to allow the Pope's commentary to resonate within us. The central question in the story is the one asked by the lawyer, "And who is my neighbour?"

When I was a child, I was taught to think of a neighbour as someone who lived next door to my home, or people in the same street. This is a narrower meaning of neighbour than was understood in Old Testament times. For the ancient Jews, a neighbour was a fellow Jew – anywhere. But even that definition was still too narrow for Jesus.

The whole point of the parable of the Good Samaritan is that *anyone in need* is my neighbour. The religious insight underlying this understanding is that we are all children of God, all brothers and sisters one to another,

therefore neighbours to one another.

Pope Francis invites us to identify with the different characters in the story. Mostly we would start by asking ourselves, would I stop to help someone I found lying on the ground having just been mugged? Or would I side-step such a person, cross to the other side to avoid such a person?

All of us know the sensation of trying to avoid these incidents. We give ourselves a variety of excuses: I've no time; I don't want to get involved; it might be a trap; I can't stand the sight of blood, and so on.

Pope Francis is adamant, the world is divided into two kinds of people: those who care and those who don't care.

The reality is that we live in a world which

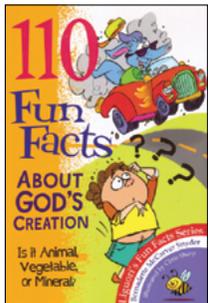
puts personal security and well-being ahead of everything else. It is a world which is torn apart by violence and injustices of every kind. Of particular concern to Pope Francis is the treatment of migrants and strangers in our society. Hence, the enormous importance of expanding the notion of neighbourliness, and the necessity of social friendship within society.

But fraternity and social friendship have to start somewhere – they have to start with us. Pope Francis sees that all of us have within us something of the wounded man, something of the robber, something of the passer-by and something of the good Samaritan.

The Gospel challenge – a challenge to all peoples – is, in the words of the Pope: "Each day we have to decide whether to be good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders."



The Good Samaritan, after Delacroix, by Vincent van Gogh, 1890



This booklet is filled with questions, answers, and fun things to do. Read about eating lunch with grasshoppers and yawning like a hippopotamus. Find out what you might have in common with some very unusual animals, vegetables, and minerals as you explore our amazing planet.

Teachers Love the Fun Facts Series because its vignette

style offers a great daily read-aloud on a variety of topics; and symbols, saints, and Bible stories are presented in terms children understand. **R220 plus postage**

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