

15th Sunday Ordinary Time

- Today's readings remind us of what we already know –
Yet it is something we need to be reminded of over and over again
- In DT Moses talks about God's law – we need to know:
 - God's law is a reflection of God's desire to keep us near to Him
 - *Because we are His beloved children*
 - The law, like it's giver, is near
 - It's not hidden – not far away
 - It's not up in the sky or hidden under the sea
 - DT "It is something very near, **already in your mouths** and **in your heart** – you have only to carry it out"
- *The Lawyer knows this – He's a Lawyer – He studies the law all day – yet*
Lawyer asks Jesus 'What must I do to gain eternal life?'
- You can almost hear Jesus sigh
 - What is written in the law (what is right in front of you)? DUH
 - Jesus has no new revelation – it's been in script for centuries
 - "Love the Lord your God and Love your neighbor" (from DT)
- **But Jesus makes it new** with the parable of the Good Samaritan
The Lawyer asks the question – Who is my neighbor?
What do I need to do to ***get by?***
Jews hated Samaritans – they were considered rejects
- *Jews intermarried with Gentiles, abandoned Jewish customs, 5 books of bible*
- *yet it was the Samaritan who helped the beaten Jew*
WHO IS YOUR SAMARITAN:
 1. That person we dislike
 2. That person against whom we are prejudiced
 3. The person we're afraid of
 4. The person of another race or religion
 - The Samaritan, like God's law, is not distant – but right in front of us
 - The lawyer asks who is my neighbor – I ask, who is your Samaritan?Remember this story?:
My Chicago Experience

GOD DEMANDS WE LOVE
 - Both our friends and our enemies
 - Both the lovable and unlovable
 - AND DO IT with the same passion – as our love of God**NB It's not hard – its already in your heart – you have only to carry it out (our nature)**
How will they know we are Christian – by our love for one another
How will they know we are Christian – by our love for our enemies
Who is your neighbor Who is your Samaritan
We are called to love them both

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading 1 [Dt 30:10-14](#)

Moses said to the people:

"If only you would heed the voice of the LORD, your God, and keep his commandments and statutes that are written in this book of the law, when you return to the LORD, your God, with all your heart and all your soul.

"For this command that I enjoin on you today is not too mysterious and remote for you. It is not up in the sky, that you should say, 'Who will go up in the sky to get it for us and tell us of it, that we may carry it out?' Nor is it across the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross the sea to get it for us and tell us of it, that we may carry it out?' No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out."

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37](#)

R. (cf. 33) Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

I pray to you, O LORD, for the time of your favor, O God!

In your great kindness answer me with your constant help.

Answer me, O LORD, for bounteous is your kindness: in your great mercy turn toward me.

R. Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

I am afflicted and in pain; let your saving help, O God, protect me. I will praise the name of God in song, and I will glorify him with thanksgiving. Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live. "See, you lowly ones, and be glad; you who seek God, may your hearts revive!

For the LORD hears the poor, and his own who are in bonds he spurns not."

R. Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

For God will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah.

The descendants of his servants shall inherit it, and those who love his name shall inhabit it.

R. Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

Reading 2 [Col1:15-20](#)

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For in him were created all things in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he himself might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile all things for him, making peace by the blood of his cross through him, whether those on earth or those in heaven.

Alleluia [Cf. Jn 6:63c, 68c](#)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel [Lk 10:25-37](#)

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test Jesus and said, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?"

He said in reply,

*"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,
with all your being, with all your strength,
and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."*

He replied to him, "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live."

But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied,

"A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction, 'Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.' Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."