

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously raise up, O Lord,
those you renew with this Sacrament,
that we may come to possess your redemption
both in mystery and in the manner of our life.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON *Daniel 3:31, 29, 30, 43, 42*

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

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COLLECT

O God, who manifest your almighty power
above all by pardoning and showing mercy,
bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us
and make those hastening to attain your promises
heirs to the treasures of heaven.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING *Ezekiel 18:25–28*

When the sinner renounces sin, he shall certainly live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to
me as follows: 'You object, "What the
Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House
of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not
what you do that is unjust? When the
upright man renounces his integrity to
commit sin and dies because of this, he

dies because of the evil that he himself
has committed. When the sinner
renounces sin to become law-abiding
and honest, he deserves to live. He has
chosen to renounce all his previous sins;
he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 24:4–9 response v 6*

Remember your mercy, Lord.

- 1 Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

- 2 Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.
- 3 The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor.

SECOND READING *Philippians 2:1–11* Shorter form (omitting oblique text): *Philippians 2:1–5*

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything
to you, if love can persuade at all, or
the Spirit that we have in common, or
any tenderness and sympathy, then be
united in your convictions and united
in your love, with a common purpose
and a common mind. That is the one
thing which would make me completely
happy. There must be no competition
among you, no conceit; but everybody
is to be self-effacing. Always consider
the other person to be better than
yourself, so that nobody thinks of his
own interests first but everybody thinks
of other people's interests instead. In
your minds you must be the same as
Christ Jesus.

*His state was divine, yet he did not cling
to his equality with God but emptied
himself to assume the condition of a
slave, and became as men are; and being
as all men are, he was humbler yet, even
to accepting death, death on a cross. But
God raised him high and gave him the
name which is above all other names so
that all beings in the heavens, on earth
and in the underworld, should bend the
knee at the name of Jesus and that every
tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as
Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *John 14:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!

**If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him.
Alleluia!**

OR *John 10:27*

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,
says the Lord.
I know them and they follow me.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL *Matthew 21:28-32*

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

He thought better of it and went.

Tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first,' they

said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, O merciful God,
 that this our offering may find acceptance with you
 and that through it the wellspring of all blessing
 may be laid open before us.
 Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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COMMUNION ANTIPHON *cf Psalm 118:49-50*

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
 by which you have given me hope.
 This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Or 1 John 3:16

By this we came to know the love of God:
 that Christ laid down his life for us;
 so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord,
 restore us in mind and body,
 that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ,
 to whose suffering we are united
 whenever we proclaim his Death.
 Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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