

## THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

27th July 2008

### First Reading

1 Kings 3:5-14

**A reading from the first book of Kings**

*He sought to give you wisdom*

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honour all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 119

**Response: Lord, I love your commands.**

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,  
is to obey your word.  
The law from your mouth means more  
to me  
than silver and gold. **R.**

3. That is why I love your commands  
more than finest gold.  
That is why I rule my life by your  
precepts:  
I hate false ways. **R.**

2. Let your love be ready to console me  
by your promise to your servant.  
Let your love come to me and I shall  
live  
for your law is my delight. **R.**

4. Your will is wonderful indeed;  
therefore I obey it.  
The unfolding of your word gives light  
and teaches the simple. **R.**

### Second Reading

Rom. 8:28-31

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans**

*He predestined us to become true images of his son*

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. **Alleluia!**

### Gospel

Mtt 13: 44-52

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

℟: **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

*He sells everything he owns, and buys the field*

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

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