

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

6th July 2008

First Reading

Hos. 11:1-4

A reading from the book of the prophet Hosea

I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love.

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks.

I bent down to them and fed them.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 145

Response: *I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

I will give you glory, O God, my King,

I will bless your name for ever.

I will bless you day after day

and praise your name for ever.

R.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,

slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,

compassionate to all his creatures.

R.

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,

and your friends shall repeat their blessings.

They shall speak of the glory of your reign

and declare your might, O God.

R.

The Lord is faithful in all his words

and loving in all his deeds.

The Lord supports all who fall

and raises all who are bowed down.

R.

Second Reading

Rom. 8:9-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

If by the spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

You are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

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. 11:25-30

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

✠: **Glorify to you Lord Christ.**

I am gentle and humble of heart.

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

For the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ.

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