

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(YEAR A)**

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
(55:1-3)

Thus says the Lord:

Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty;
though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat,
and, at no cost, wine and milk.
Why spend money on what is not bread,
your wages on what fails to satisfy?
Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to
eat and rich food to enjoy.
Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live.
With you I will make an everlasting covenant
out of the favours promised to David.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 144:8-9. 15-18. R v.16)

**R. You open wide your hand, O Lord,
You grant our desires.**

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

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live. R

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts. R

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
(8:35. 37-39)

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ,
even if we are troubled or worried, or being
persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being
threatened or even attacked. These are the trials
through which we triumph, by the power of him who
loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no
angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to
come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any
created thing, can ever come between us and the love
of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation (Lk 19:38)

R Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the
Lord!

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

R Alleluia!

Or: (Mt 4:4)

R Alleluia, alleluia!

Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

R Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
(14:13-21)

When Jesus received the news of John the
Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place
where they could be by themselves. But the people
heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him
on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large
crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and
said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped
by; so send the people away, and they can go to the
villages to buy themselves some food'. Jesus replied,
'There is no need for them to go: give them something
to eat yourselves.' 'But they answered, 'All we have
with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here
to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were
to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves
and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said
the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed
them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds.
They all ate as much as they wanted, and they
collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full.
Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to
say nothing of women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.