

October 24, 2010
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

FIRST READING

Sirach 35:12b-14,
16-17

A reading from the book of Sirach

The Lord doesn't have favorites,
and you can't bribe him to cheat the poor.
But he hears the prayers of all who have been mistreated.
The Lord listens carefully to the prayers of orphans
and the concerns of widows.

If you gladly obey God,
your prayers will reach beyond the clouds.
The prayers of the humble go right through the clouds,
and they are never satisfied
till their prayers reach God.

The word of the Lord.

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Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 34:1-2, 17-18

All: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

I will always praise the LORD.

With all my heart,

I will praise the LORD.

Let all who are helpless

listen and be glad.

All: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

When his people pray for help,

he listens and he rescues them

from their troubles.

The LORD is there to rescue

all who are discouraged

and have given up hope.

All: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

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SECOND READING

2 Timothy 4:6-8

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy

Now the time has come for me to die.
My life is like a drink offering being poured out on the altar.
I have fought well.
I finished the race,
and I have been faithful.

So a crown will be given to me for pleasing the Lord.
He judges fairly,
and on the day of judgment
he will give a crown to me
and to everyone else
who wants him to appear with power.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus told a story to some people
who thought they were better than others
and who looked down on everyone else:

"Two men went into the temple to pray.
One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

"The Pharisee stood over by himself and prayed,
'God, I thank you that I am not greedy, dishonest,
and unfaithful in marriage like other people.
And I am really glad that I am not like
that tax collector over there.
I go without eating for two days a week,
and I give you one tenth of all I earn.'

"The tax collector stood off at a distance
and did not think he was good enough
even to look up toward heaven.
He was so sorry for what he had done
that he pounded his chest and prayed,
'God, have pity on me!
I am such a sinner.'"

Then Jesus said, "When the two men went home,
it was the tax collector and not the Pharisee
who was pleasing to God.
If you put yourself above others,
you will be put down.
But if you humble yourself,
you will be honored."

The Gospel of the Lord.