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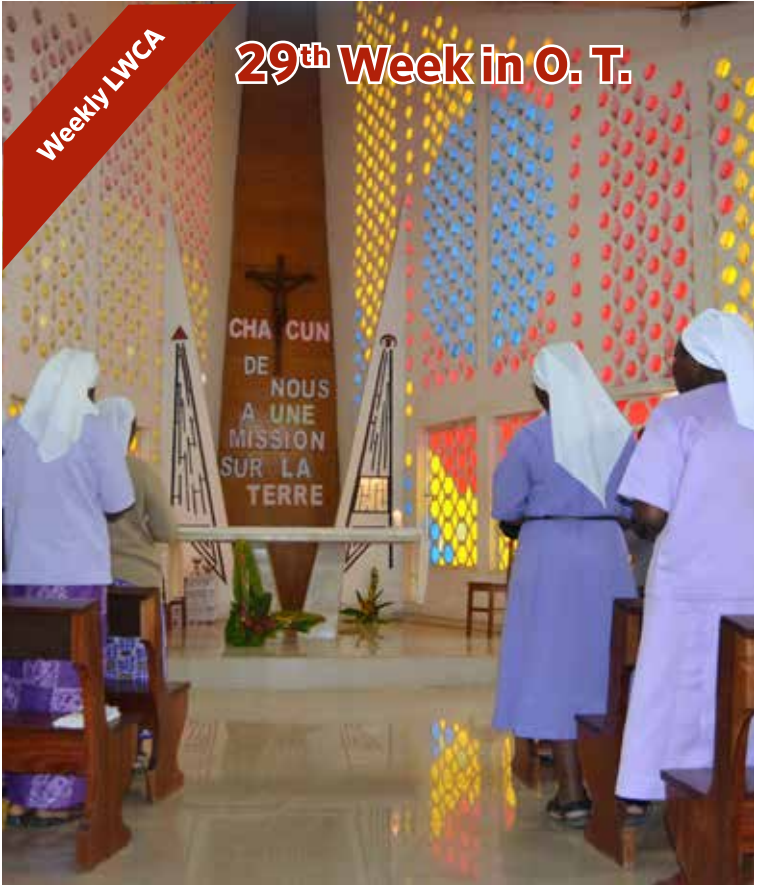
Living with Christ

GROWING UP DAILY WITH THE GOOD NEWS

Weekly LWCA

29th Week in O. T.

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Liturgical texts:

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On our cover: Assumptionist family in prayer at Mary Mother of the church Parich of Daloa, Côte d'Ivoire, 2017

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New Editorial Direction !

On January 23, 2014, Pope Francis called on Catholics to be “digital citizens”. ***“Living With Christ Africa”*** has been working for years mainly through printing to make available to a large number of African readers the riches of the Word of God.

We then wanted to announce to our dear readers a new editorial direction in order to also respond to the call of our bishops “to use communication technologies (...) to nourish our prayers and celebrations. This is a historical change, to bring the Word of God as far as possible. The present and future generations are and will be more and more in the digital space, where they act, beyond the borders, to access information.

Thus, effective October 2022, ***“Living With Christ Africa”*** will be committed to spreading the Word of God only through digital means. You are therefore invited to join us on our **Website : <https://www.livingwithchrist.africa>**, **Facebook: (Living with Christ Africa)**, **TiKtoK (Living with Christ Africa)**, **Whatsapp: +2250594797568 / +254727074304**, **Youtube (Living with christ Africa)**. Together let us use digital means to read, listen and spread the Word of God ! The Lord be with You !



Rev. Fr. François
Nzanzu, a.a.
Nairobi-Kenya

Editorial October 2022



The Pope's Prayer Intention

For a Church open to everyone: We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

Other papal intentions and videos can be found on: <http://apostleshipofprayer.org/>

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

The sacrament of the Eucharist was instituted by Jesus Christ during the Last Supper. Before receiving the first Communion, the candidates must be well prepared so that they may be aware that the Eucharist is different from any other food. It is the body of Jesus Christ. He said: “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day (John 6,54).” Jesus Christ is truly present in the Eucharist. In the sacrament of the Eucharist, Jesus Christ offers himself as the bread of life and spiritual drink. The Eucharist is the sacrament of unity. Those who participate in it are invited to form one body in Christ. The conference of bishops in every country decides the age at which a baptized person can receive Holy Communion for the first time.

There are two ways of receiving holy Communion: on the tongue or in the hands. What matters is the awareness and the reverence with which the body of Christ must

Focus on the Sacraments

be received. If one cannot kneel down while receiving the Communion, he or she is invited to make a gesture of reverence to welcome Jesus Christ. Some circumstances like the pandemic may oblige the conference of bishops of a given country and the local bishop to give practical indications that will help the faithful to avoid the spreading of the pandemic. For instance, communion on the tongue is forbidden these days because of the Covid-19.

Communion creates an intimate relationship between Christ and the faithful who receive it. In John's Gospel, Jesus Christ says: "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him." In the Catholic Church, any baptized person without mortal sin can receive Holy Communion. It is important to know that the Holy Communion is not given to children under the age of reasoning or to people who, through illness, do not have the ability to reason.

The minister of the sacrament of the Eucharist is the priest. He celebrates the Eucharist in the name of Jesus Christ. A deacon cannot celebrate the Eucharist because

he is not ordained to the priesthood. After receiving the Holy Eucharist, the Christian is invited to pray silently. Here is one of the prayers that one can do:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

*Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace You as if you were already there,
and I unite myself wholly to You.*

Never permit me to be separated from You.

(Saint Alphonsus Liguori)

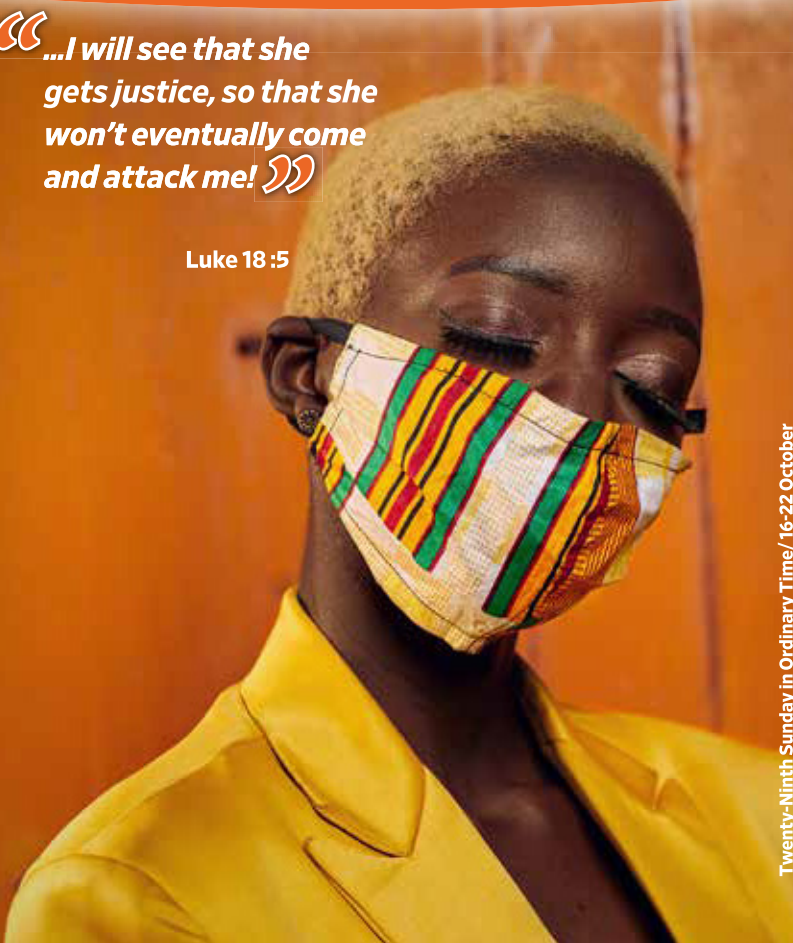
The ordinary ministers of the distribution of the Holy Communion are the bishop, the priest, and the deacon. On some occasions, like during big celebrations, extraordinary ministers can distribute Holy Communion. The extraordinary ministers are the acolyte or any other faithful provided that they are allowed by the competent authorities.

Rev. Fr. Jérôme K. M. Kombi,
Rome-Italy

Image & Verse of the Week

“*...I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!*”

Luke 18 :5





Sunday October 16

29th Sunday In Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13 / Psalm (120) 121:1-2.3-4.5-6.7-8 / 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2 / Luke 18:1-8



“When the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?”



Sunday October 16

Persistence in Prayer

In today's gospel, two points can be highlighted. First, the parable of the persistent widow is a call to the disciples of Jesus in all times and places to be persistent in prayer, a call to pray always and not to lose heart. We all are prone to lose heart in difficult times when it seems that God is not answering our prayers. Jesus tells us about the necessity to pray always without becoming weary. Just like the widow who was persistent in claiming her right to the unjust judge so also the followers of Jesus must be persistent in prayer before God. We should pray tirelessly with faith without losing hope and courage. In the end, in his own time, God will grant our request like the unjust judge who in the end responded positively to the widow's request.

In the second point, Jesus shows how we live in an unjust society where the lowly people are denied their rights and where injustice prevails. In this situation, Jesus gives the widow to us his disciples as an example to imitate to fight for our rights. He encourages us to persevere and endure in our fight against injustice and in the end, we will be successful in our fight. However, Jesus does

Sunday October 16



not say that God is an unjust judge. Unlike this corrupt judge, God grants Justice to those who cry out to him day and night in continual and unceasing prayer.

Rev. Fr. Meso Paluku, Nairobi, Kenya.



Sunday October 16

Entrance Antiphon (*Cf. Psalm (16) 17:6.8*)

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord... **Amen.**

First Reading (*Exodus 17:8-13*)

A reading from the Book of Exodus

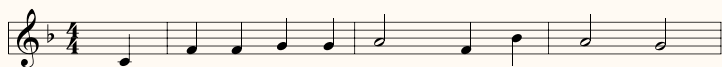
In those days: Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. And Moses said to Joshua, “Choose for us men, and go out, fight with Amalek; tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.” So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek; and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses’ hands grew weary; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat upon it, and Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; so his hands were steady



until the going down of the sun. And Joshua mowed down Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm (120) 121:1-2.3-4.5-6.7-8)



Our help is from the Lord, who made heav'n and



earth.

R. Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains;
from where shall come my help?
My help shall come from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth. R.

He will keep your foot from stumbling.
Your guard will never slumber
No, he sleeps not nor slumbers,
Israel's guard. R.



Sunday October 16

The Lord your guard, the Lord your shade
at your right hand.

By day the sun shall not smite you,
nor the moon in the night. *R.*

The Lord will guard you from evil;
he will guard your soul.

The Lord will guard your going and coming,
both now and forever. *R.*

Second Reading (2 Timothy 3:14-4:2) —————

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved: Continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the Sacred Writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word, be



urgent in season and out of season, convince, rebuke, and exhort, be unfailing in patience and in teaching. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (*Hebrews 4:12*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. The word of God is living and active, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. **Alleluia.**

Gospel (*Luke 18:1-8*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable, to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor regarded man; and there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Vindicate me against my adversary.' For a while, he refused; but afterwards he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow bothers me, I will vindicate her, or she will wear me out by her continual coming.'" And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you; he will vindicate them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man comes, will he find faith on earth?" The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



Sunday October 16

Prayer of the Faithful

The following intentions are suggestions only.

℣. **Lord, listen to our prayer!**

For religious, political and traditional leaders in Africa and in other parts of the world, let us pray to the Lord our God. ℣.

For a closer relationship and personal experience with Christ, let us pray to the Lord our God. ℣.

For those who still do not believe in Christ, for our salvation and the salvation of the world, let us pray to the Lord our God. ℣.

For peace, forgiveness, reconciliation, security, unity and the end of coronavirus pandemic in the world, especially in Africa, let us pray to the Lord our God. ℣.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may



be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon (*Psalm (32) 33:18-19*)

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Or

Mark 10:45

The Son of Man has come to give his life as a ransom for many.

Prayer after Communion

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Monday October 17

29th Week in Ordinary Time

Memorial

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr

Entrance Antiphon

(Galatians 2:19-20) **With Christ, I am nailed to the cross, yet I am alive, though it is no longer I, but Christ who is alive in me. I live by faith in the son of God who loved me, and gave himself up for me.**

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, who adorn the sacred body of your Church with the confessions of holy Martyrs, grant, we pray, that, just as the glorious

passion of Saint Ignatius of Antioch which we celebrate today, brought him eternal splendour, so may it be for us unending protection. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading _____ *(Ephesians 2:1-10)*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brethren: he made you alive, when you were dead through the trespasses

and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience. Among these, we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of body and mind, and so we were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming

ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace, you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God — not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm (99) 100:1-2.3.4.5)***

***R. The Lord made us; we
belong to him.***

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve

the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing for joy. *R.*

Know that he, the Lord, is God. He made us; we belong to him. We are his people, the sheep of his flock. *R.*

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with songs of praise. Give thanks to him, and bless his name. *R.*

Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age. *R.*

Acclamation *(Matthew 5:3)*

Alleluia. Alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **Alleluia.**

Gospel ————— *(Luke 12:13-21)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: One of the multitudes said to Jesus, “Teacher, bid my brother divide the inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or divider over you?” And he said to them, “Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down

my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all and my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry'. "But God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be? So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

May this oblation and our homage be pleasing to you, O Lord, just as you accepted Saint Ignatius, the wheat of Christ, made pure bread through his martyrdom and passion. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (33) 34:11) **I am the wheat of Christ to be ground by the teeth of beasts, that I may be found to be pure bread.**

Prayer after Communion

May the heavenly Bread we have received on Saint Ignatius' day, O Lord, renew

us, we pray, and make us Christians in name and in deed. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Commentary

Parable of the Rich Fool

Luke 12:13-21

Sometimes we are too attached to our material wealth and belongings. We become covetous and greedy. We want to get wrongfully what another possesses or to begrudge what God gave us. Jesus tells us: do not covet. He also states that a person's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions. In today's parable of the fool rich Jesus tells us: "Avoid greed in all its forms." Jesus condemns him for his egoism, selfishness, and greed. Greed is an excessive desire to possess more than one needs or deserves. This man in the parable had lost the capacity to be concerned for others. And so let us grow rich not with material things, but first with following the Gospel of charity with great reverence.

Rev. Fr. Meso Paluku, Nairobi, Kenya.



Tuesday October 18

29th Week in Ordinary Time

Feast

Saint Luke, evangelist

Entrance Antiphon

(Isaiah 52:7) **How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings of peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation!**

The Glory in excelsis *(Glory to God in the highest)* **is said.**

Collect

Lord God, who chose Saint Luke to reveal by his preaching and writings the mystery of your love for the poor, grant that those who

already glory in your name may persevere as one heart and one soul, and that all nations may merit to see your salvation. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading —————
(2 Timothy 4:10-17ab)

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved: Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens

has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you; for he is very useful in serving me. Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds. Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. At my first defence no one took my part; all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength to proclaim the word fully, that all the Gentiles might hear it.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm ⁽¹⁴⁴⁾ 145:10-11,
12-13ab, 17-18)

R. Your saints, O Lord,
make known the glory of
your reign.

All your works shall thank you, O Lord, and all your faithful ones bless you. They shall speak of the glory of your reign, and declare your mighty deeds. R.

To make known your might to the children of men, and the glorious splendour of your reign. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;

your rule endures for all generations. *R.*

The Lord is just in all his ways, and holy in all his deeds. The Lord is close to all who call him, who call on him in truth. *R.*

Acclamation (*John 15:16*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. I chose you from the world that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, says the Lord. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —————
(*Luke 10:1-9*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: The Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every

town and place where he himself was about to come. And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not go from house to house. Whenever

you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you; heal the sick in it and say to them, “The kingdom of God has come near to you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant through your heavenly gifts that we may serve you in freedom of heart, we pray, O Lord, so that the offerings we make

on the feast day of Saint Luke may bring us healing and give us glory. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Luke 10:1.9) **The Lord sent out disciples to proclaim throughout the towns: The kingdom of God is at hand for you.**

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that what we have received from your holy



altar may sanctify us and make us strong in the faith of the Gospel which Saint

Luke proclaimed. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Witnesses to Jesus and his Ministry

Commentary

Luke 10: 1-9

We are celebrating the feast of Luke the evangelist. Saint Luke is a Greek who converted to Christianity and was a companion of Paul during his missionary journeys. In his second letter to Timothy, Paul tells us that while others deserted him, only Luke stayed with him. Today on this feast, we meditate on the gospel of the commissioning of the seventy-two. We see that Jesus did not send only the twelve apostles; he also sent seventy-two of his disciples. The mission of preaching the good news is not reserved for the twelve apostles. The work of preaching the gospel is a joint effort that requires the involvement of all the followers of Christ. Let us all commit ourselves to witness to Jesus.

Rev. Fr. Meso Paluku, Nairobi, Kenya.



Wednesday October 19

29th Week in Ordinary Time

Ferial

or **Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, priests, and Companions, martyrs**

or **Saint Paul of the Cross, priest**

Entrance Antiphon

(Psalm (16) 17:6.8) **To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

(Ephesians 3:2-12)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brethren: I assume that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery

of Christ; which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; that is, how the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel, I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; that through the Church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known

to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose which he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and confidence of access through our faith in him.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
 (Isaiah 12:2-3.4bcde.5-6)***

**R. With joy, you will draw
 water from the wells of the
 Saviour.**

“Behold, God is my salvation: I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

With joy, you will draw water from the wells of salvation. R.

“Give thanks to the Lord, / call upon his name; make known his deeds among the nations, proclaim that his name is exalted.” R.

“Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known on all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Sion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.” R.

Acclamation (*Matthew 24:42a.44*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Watch, therefore, and be ready; the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —————
(*Luke 12:39-48*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, “Know this, that if the householder had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would have been awake and would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for all?” And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and wise steward, whom his master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master when he comes will

find so doing. Truly I tell you, he will set him over all his possessions. But if that servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed in coming' and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants, and eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that servant will come a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will punish him, and put him with the unfaithful. And that servant who knew his master's will, but did not make ready and act according to his will, shall receive a severe beating. But he who did not know, and did what deserved a beating, shall receive severe beating. Everyone to whom much is given, of him, much will

be required, and of him to whom men commit much they will demand the more." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (32) 33:18-19)

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Prayer after Communion

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that, benefitting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this

present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Commentary

Be ready

Luke 12:39-48

In today's gospel, Jesus emphasizes the readiness for the return of the Lord and invites us to be vigilant and faithful servants. He wants us to be always prepared to welcome our master, Jesus. Jesus can come at any time when we are not prepared to welcome him. Since we do not know the moment of his coming, vigilance or watchfulness and faithfulness must characterize us his followers at every moment of our lives. Just like the master of the house who watches over his house not knowing at what time a thief can come, so also we must be vigilant since we do not at what time Jesus our master will come.

Rev. Fr. Meso Paluku, Nairobi, Kenya.



Thursday October 20

29th Week in Ordinary Time

Ferial

or **Blessed Daudi Okelo and Jildo Irwa, martyrs**

Entrance Antiphon

(Psalm (16) 17:6.8) **To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

(Ephesians 3:14-21)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians.

Brethren: I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded

in love, may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm (32) 33:1-2.4-5.11-12.18-19)

R. The Lord's merciful love fills the earth.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for the upright. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp; with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. R.

For the word of the Lord is faithful, and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right, and his merciful love fills the earth. R.

The designs of the Lord stand forever, the plans of his heart from age to age. Blessed the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his heritage. R.

Yes, the Lord's eyes are on those who fear him, who

hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. *R.*

Acclamation (*Philippians 3:8-9a*)

Alleluia. Alleluia. I count everything as refuse, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —————
(*Luke 12:49-53*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, “I came to cast fire upon the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how I am constrained until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to

give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division; for henceforth in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against her mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (32) 33:18-19)

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Prayer after Communion

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that, benefitting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Jesus Sets the Fire in his love

Commentary

Luke 12:49-53

Does Jesus bring division into the world? No. The Gospel of Jesus is not to divide people but to bring them together. Rather than being a cause of division, Jesus is a cause of unity. He says, "I have come to set the earth on fire ..." What kind of fire does He have in mind? Fire is used for domestic purposes such as baking, and cooking. In the bible, fire is associated with God's presence and his action in the world and in the lives of his people. Today Jesus tells us that he wants to bring the fire of His love and presence which burns away all the impurities of sin in our lives.

Rev. Fr. Meso Paluku, Nairobi, Kenya.



Friday October 21

29th Week in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

(Psalm (16) 17:6.8) **To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

(Ephesians 4:1-6)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brethren: I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one

Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of us
all, who is above all and
through all and in all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm (23) 24:1-2.3-4ab.5-6)

R. These are the people who
seek your face, O Lord.

The Lord's is the earth
and its fullness, the world,
and all who dwell in it. It is
he who set it on the seas;
on the rivers, he made it
firm. *R.*

Who shall climb the
mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy
place? The clean of hands
and pure of heart, whose
soul is not set on vain
things. *R.*

Blessings from the Lord
shall he receive, and right
reward from the God who
saves him. Such are the
people who seek him, who
seek the face of the God of
Jacob. *R.*

Acclamation
(Matthew 11:25)

Alleluia. Alleluia. Blessed
are you, Father, Lord of
heaven and earth, that you
have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the king-
dom. **Alleluia.**

Gospel —————
(Luke 12:54-59)

**A reading from the holy
Gospel according to Luke**

At that time: Jesus said to
the multitudes, “When you

see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, 'A shower is coming'; and so, it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky; but why do you not know how to interpret the present time? "And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison. I tell you; you will never get out till you have paid the very last copper."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (32) 33:18-19)

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Prayer after Communion

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that, benefitting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped

by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Attention to the Signs of God's Presence

Commentary

Luke 12:54-59

In this gospel, Jesus talks about the signs of the times. Sometimes we are not attentive to what goes on around us. God is always communicating with us through different signs in our lives but we don't realize it. Jesus wants us to be wise enough to be able to interpret the signs of the times and get the message he is conveying to us. Unlike the people of his time who failed to accept what was right before their eyes, we are called to make an effort to open our eyes to the signs of God's presence in our daily life.

Rev. Fr. Meso Paluku, Nairobi, Kenya.



Saturday October 22

29th Week in Ordinary Time

Ferial

or **Saint John Paul II, pope**

Entrance Antiphon

(Psalm (16) 17:6.8) **To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading ————— *(Ephesians 4:7-16)*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Brethren: Grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said, "When he ascended on high, he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower

parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors, and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ; so that we may no longer be children, tossed back and forth and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the cunning of men, by their craftiness

in deceitful wiles. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and upbuilds itself in love.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm —
(Psalm (121) 122:1-2.3-4ab
.4cd-5)***

***R. Let us go rejoicing to the
house of the Lord.***

I rejoiced when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.” And

now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R.*

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. *R.*

For Israel's witness it is to praise the name of the Lord. There were set the thrones for judgement, the thrones of the house of David. *R.*

Acclamation

(Ezekiel 33:11)

Alleluia. Alleluia. I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, says the Lord, but that he turns from his way and live. **Alleluia.**

Gospel ————— *(Luke 13:1-9)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

There were some present at that very time who told Jesus of the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered thus? I tell you, No; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who dwelt in

Jerusalem? I tell you, No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Behold these three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down; why should it use up the ground?’ And he answered him, ‘Let it alone, sir, this year also, till I dig about it and put on manure. And if it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Psalm (32) 33:18-19)

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Prayer after Communion

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that, benefitting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped

by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are

eternal. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A call to Repentance

Commentary

Luke 13:1-9

The message of Jesus in today's gospel is a call to repentance. To repent is to turn away from evil and to return to God who is good. In a world full of calamities and tragedies, Jesus tells us how we should behave in the face of all tragic events. Tragic events of violence and massacres perpetrated by politicians, accidental deaths, and other tragedies do not happen because the people involved are guilty of sin or are being punished by God. If we fail to repent, we shall face the mercy seat of God and perish by missing our final destiny in his kingdom.

Rev. Fr. Meso Paluku, Nairobi, Kenya.



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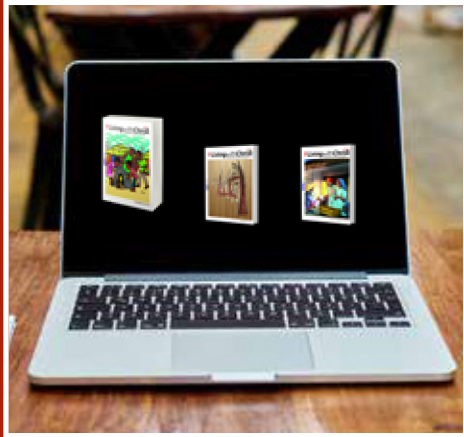
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