

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

COLLECT

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, he liveth and reigneth ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16

The word of the LORD came to Elijah, saying, "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." But she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it

for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth." She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

Psalm 146

- 1 Hallelujah!
Praise the LORD, O my soul! *
I will praise the LORD as long
as I live; I will sing praises to
my God while I have my being.
- 2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor
in any child of earth, *
for there is no help in them.
- 3 When they breathe their last,
they return to earth, * and in
that day their thoughts perish.
- 4 Happy are they who have the
God of Jacob for their help! *
whose hope is in the LORD
their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth,
the seas, and all that is in them; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who
are oppressed, * and food to
those who hunger.

7 The LORD sets the prisoners
free; the LORD opens the eyes
of the blind; * the LORD lifts up
those who are bowed down;

8 The LORD loves the righteous;
the LORD cares for the
stranger; * he sustains the orphan
and widow, but frustrates the
way of the wicked.

9 The LORD shall reign for
ever, * your God, O Zion,
throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!

SECOND READING:

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of

Hebrews 9:24-28

the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

GOSPEL:

Teaching in the temple, Jesus said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation." He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich

Mark 12:38-44

people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

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the seas, and all that is in them; *
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