

# Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

## Sunday, 23 Sep 2018

### FIRST READING

*Wis 2:12, 17-20*

A reading from the book of Wisdom

*Let us condemn him to a most shameful death.*

The godless say to themselves,

‘Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us  
and opposes our way of life,  
reproaches us for our breaches of the law  
and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing.  
Let us see if what he says is true,  
let us observe what kind of end he himself will have.  
If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part  
and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies.  
Let us test him with cruelty and with torture,  
and thus explore this gentleness of his  
and put his endurance to the proof.  
Let us condemn him to a shameful death  
since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.’

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6*

*(R.)* The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;  
by your power, uphold my cause.  
O God, hear my prayers;  
listen to the words of my mouth. *(R.)*
2. For proud men have risen against me,  
ruthless men seek my life.  
They have no regard for God. *(R.)*
3. But I have God for my help.  
The Lord upholds my life.  
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart  
and praise your name for it is good. *(R.)*

## SECOND READING

*Jas 3:16 – 4:3*

A reading from the letter of St James

*Justice is the harvest of peacemakers from seeds sown in a spirit of peace.*

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*See 2 Thes 2:14*

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!