

## YEAR 2, PROPER 18, THURSDAY: MASS

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

### **A Reading from the**

### **First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” “Knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. If any one imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if one loves God, one is known by him. Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through being hitherto accustomed to idols, eat food as really offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For

*The Reader concludes*    The Word of the Lord.

*The Reader says*

*(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)*

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1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13; PSALM 139:1-9\*; LUKE 6:27-38

- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, \*  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before \*  
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; \*  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? \*  
where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; \*  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning \*  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me \*  
and your right hand hold me fast.

*Please turn the page to lead the Gospel Acclamation.*

## **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \*  
proclaim the good news of his salvation  
from day to day.

*People* Alleluia.

*The Reader returns to his or her seat.*

## **The Holy Gospel**

*The Minister says* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Minister* ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord  
Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus continued to say to the great crowd of his disciples, "I say to you that hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and of him who takes away your goods do not ask

them again. And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.