

SUNDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 2024
14th after Trinity

Collect

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.



1st Readings - Deuteronomy 4.1,2,6-9

Moses spoke to the people; he said: So now, Israel,
give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am
teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter
and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your
ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add
anything to what I command you nor take away
anything from it, but keep the commandments of the
Lord your God with which I am charging you.
You must observe them diligently, for this will show
your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who,
when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this
great nation is a wise and discerning people!' For what
other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord
our God is whenever we call to him? And what other
great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this
entire law that I am setting before you today? But take
care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to
forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let
them slip from your mind all the days of your life;
make them known to your children and your children's
children.

Psalm - Psalm 15

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
Who may rest upon your holy hill?
Whoever leads an uncorrupt life
and does the thing that is right; **℟**
Who speaks the truth from the heart
and bears no deceit on the tongue;
Who does no evil to a friend
and pours no scorn on a neighbour; **℟**
In whose sight the wicked are not esteemed,
But who honours those who fear the Lord.
Whoever has sworn to a neighbour
and never goes back on that word; **℟**
Who does not lend money in hope of gain,
nor takes a bribe against the innocent;
Whoever does these things shall never fall. **℟**



2nd Reading - James 1.17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is
from above, coming down from the Father of lights,
with whom there is no variation or shadow due to
change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth
by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of
first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my
beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak,
slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's
righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness
and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with
meekness the implanted word that has the power to save
your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely
hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of
the word and not doers, they are like those who look at
themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and,
on going away, immediately forget what they were like.
But those who look into the perfect law, the law of
liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but
doers who act - they will be blessed in their doing. If any
think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues
but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.
Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the
Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their
distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Gospel Reading - Mark 7.1-8,14-15,21-23

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had
come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they
noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled
hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees,
and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash
their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;
and they do not eat anything from the market unless they
wash it; and there are also many other traditions that
they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze
kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him,
'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition
of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' Jesus said to
them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as
it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but
their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines." You abandon the
commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'
Then he called the crowd again and said to them,
'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing
outside a person that by going in can defile, but the
things that come out are what defile. For it is from
within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come:
fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness,
deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.
All these evil things come from within, and they defile a
person.'

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful
to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

