

This Week's Liturgy Calendar.

Ordinary Season of the Year. (a) Weekdays – Year 2

Sunday 13th September: **Sunday of 24th week of the year.**

Both the first reading and the Gospel today invite us to be merciful and forgiving to each other, as God is towards us. If we nurse anger, how can we expect compassion?

St. Paul, in the second reading to the Romans, tells us the good news that, whether alive or dead, we belong to God.

The Gospel has a sting in its tail. If we fail in forgiveness, we risk being judged according to our own standards. In fact we judge ourselves.

Monday 14th September: **Monday of 24th week of the year.**

Paul calls for respect for the unity of the Eucharist. Many people who gathered ended up arguing and causing divisions.

Jesus moves to Capernaum and meets the centurion who shows such great faith that Jesus uses him as a model for others to follow.

Tuesday 15th September: **Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows.**

Within the octave of the feast of the birth of Our Lady, we commemorate her sorrows, above all the sorrow of witnessing her son's death and resurrection on the cross. This feast was first celebrated in the seventeenth century by the members of the Servite Order.

Wednesday 16th September: **Feast of St. Ninian.**

He was born around 360 in Cumbria and was ordained Bishop in Rome in 394. He came to Scotland and made Whithorn in Galloway his base as he preached the gospel in southeast Scotland. He died in 432.

Thursday 17th September: **Thursday of 24th week of the year.**

Today we read the last part of St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians where he speaks about the resurrection of the dead. This is possible because Christ died for our sins, was buried and rose again and we are invited to share in that resurrection.

In the Gospel, Jesus continues to attack those who are quick to judge others especially in making moral judgements. He reminds us that God's mercy is for all and we need to learn to trust in that mercy and put it in to practice in our own lives.

Friday 18th September: **Friday of the 24th week of the year.**

In today's section Paul responds to some who are questioning what he had taught about the resurrection of the dead. He stresses that Jesus did rise from the dead and that, as a result, he can testify and preach.

Jesus continues his journey through the towns and villages preaching and proclaiming the good news. Luke makes mention of the fact that as well as the apostles there were a number of women in the group, including Mary of Magdala.

Saturday 19th September: Saturday of the 24th week of the year.

We come to end of the readings from the New Testament for a while. Some of the doubters were asking questions about the Resurrection and Paul uses a simple parable demonstrate that we will be new types of being. The grain of wheat dies but produces a new and stronger form of life.

On his travels through the towns and villages Jesus stops to tell yet another parable – the seed falling on different ground and its effects. This is how the growth of the kingdom will be influenced.

“As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn’t leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I’d still be in prison.”

- Nelson Mandela

