

FIRST READING
Leviticus 19:1–2, 17–18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

The LORD told Moses to say to all of the people of Israel:
Keep yourselves holy.
I am the LORD your God, and I am holy.

Don't secretly hate someone.

Correct anyone who does wrong,
and you won't be guilty of that person's sin.

Don't try to get even.
And don't hold grudges.
You must love others as much as you love yourself.
I am the LORD your God.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103:1–2, 3 & 13

All: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

*With all my heart
I praise the LORD,
and with all that I am
I praise his holy name!
With all my heart
I praise the LORD!
I will never forget
how kind he has been.*

All: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

*The LORD forgives our sins,
heals us when we are sick.
Just as parents are kind
to their children,
the LORD is kind
to all who worship him.*

All: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

SECOND READING
1 Corinthians 3:18–20

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:
Don't fool yourselves!
If any of you think you are wise in the things of this world,
you will have to become foolish before you can be truly wise.
This is because God considers the wisdom of this world to be foolish.

It is just as the Scriptures say,
"God catches the wise when they try to outsmart him."
The Scriptures also say,
"The Lord knows that the plans made by wise people are useless."

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL
Matthew 5:38–48

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

“You know that you have been taught,
‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’

But I tell you not to try to get even
with a person who has done something to you.

“When someone slaps your right cheek,
turn and let that person slap your other cheek.

If someone sues you for your shirt,
give up your coat as well.

If a soldier forces you to carry his pack one mile,
carry it two miles.

When people ask you for something,
give it to them.

When they want to borrow money,
loan it to them.

“You have heard people say,
‘Love your neighbors and hate your enemies.’

But I tell you to love your enemies
and pray for anyone who mistreats you.

Then you will be acting like your Father in heaven.

“He makes the sun rise on both good and bad people.

And he sends rain for the ones who do right
and for the ones who do wrong.

GOSPEL
Matthew 5:38–48

(Continued)

“If you love only those people who love you,
will God reward you for that?
Even tax collectors love their friends.
If you greet only your friends,
what’s so great about that?
Don’t even unbelievers do that?
But you must always act like your Father in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.