

Twenty-Sixth Sunday | Year A

October 01, 2023 (Eze 18:25-28 | Phil 2:1-11 | Matthew 21:28-32)

Ezekiel assures the Israelites that God's grace encompasses everyone, including the wicked who turn to him at the last minutes. Let us today ask God to hear our pleas.

1/ The Lord remembers his mercies and makes known his ways to us. We pray that Pope Francis and pastoral leaders constantly preach the message of God's mercies. Let us pray.

2/ Paul urges the Philippians to humbly regard others as more important than themselves and to look out for the interests of others. For lawmakers, politicians, and those in public offices. We pray that they heed Paul's message and act on it for the well-being of all. Let us pray.

3/ In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus implies that it is not those who keep God on their lips and enter the kingdom of heaven. Rather, it is any one who does the will of God will go into his home. For those whose minds and hearts are closed off, and think that they are good enough. We pray that Jesus's parable inspires them to go out and act on God's will. Let us pray.

4/ Tax collectors and prostitutes will enter the kingdom of heaven before those who regard themselves as righteous and care less about others. For our sisters and brothers who have departed before us. We pray that God count **NOT** their wrongdoings but remember their faith in Jesus Christ, and admit them to heaven. Today we remember [**at 4:30 PM**] Betty Hardesty and Martha Annie Rough; [**at 10:00 AM**] Nick Ford and Martha Annie Rough. Let us pray.

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in your unbounded mercy you have revealed the beauty of your power through your constant forgiveness of our sins. May the power of this love be in our hearts to bring pardon and your kingdom to all those whom we meet. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord.