

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1,4-6

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says YHWH to the anointed one, Cyrus,
whom I have taken by the right hand,
for whom I have subdued nations,
stripped the loins of monarchs,
and thrown open all doors
so that even the town gates cannot be shut:
For the sake of Leah and Rachel and Jacob, my Servant,
For the sake of Israel, my chosen one,
I called you by name,
conferring on you an honored title,
even though you do not know me.
I am YHWH, and there is no other,
there is no God besides me.
It is I who arm you, though you know me not,
that nations may know
from the rising to the setting of the sun that
there is no one besides me.
I am YHWH, there is no other.

The Word of God. R. Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

The beginning of the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

From Paul, Silas and Timothy, to the people
of the church in Thessalonica, who belong
to Abba God and our Savior Jesus Christ:

May grace and peace be yours.

We always thank God for all of you and
remember you in our prayers. We call to
mind before our God and Creator how you
are proving your faith by your actions,

laboring in love, and showing constancy of
hope in our Savior Jesus Christ.

We know, sisters and brothers beloved of God,
that you have been chosen. Our preaching of
the Gospel was not a mere matter of words. It
was done in the power of the Holy Spirit, and
with complete conviction. You know very well
the sort of life we led when we were with you,
which was for your sake.

The Word of God. R. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA!

ALLELUIA!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Then the Pharisees went off and began to plot how they might trap Jesus by his speech. They sent their disciples to Jesus, accompanied by sympathizers of Herod, who said, “Teacher, we know you are honest and teach God’s way sincerely. You court no one’s favor and do not act out of respect for important people. Give us your opinion, then, in this case. Is it lawful to pay tax to the Roman emperor, or not?” Jesus recognized their bad faith, and said to them,

“Why are you trying to trick me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that is used to pay the tax.” When they handed Jesus a small Roman coin, Jesus asked them, “Whose head is this, and whose inscription?”

“Caesar’s,” they replied.

At that, Jesus said to them, “Then give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, but give to God what is God’s.”

The Good News of Salvation!
R. Glory and praise to our Savior Jesus Christ!