

Cycle A – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Oct. 25, 2026

“Love the Lord thy God”

OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 18)

Leader: I love you, Lord, my strength.

**All: The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer.
My God, my rock in whom I take refuge.**

Leader: I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised.

**All: The Lord lives! Blessed be my rock,
and exalted be the God of my salvation,
Great triumphs God gives to his King,
and shows steadfast love to his anointed.**

*Leader: I love you, Lord, my strength.
Amen.*



Gospel Reading – Matthew 22:34-40

The Law of Moses contained 613 regulations, and in theory, all were to be observed with equal fervor. But religious teachers saw some as more important than others, some being “light” and some being “heavy”. The lawyer who asked Jesus what he regarded as the greatest commandment wanted to know how the Torah (God’s law) is to be put into practice in daily life. Jesus responds by removing the love of God and the love of neighbor from any list of religious laws and observances. He puts love of God and human love on the same plane, making them the background and texture of all teaching and behavior.

1. How do we show our love for God? How would we describe it?
2. How do we think we measure up when it comes to loving our neighbor?
3. How do we define the term “neighbor”?
4. Why is love of God and love for neighbor bound together?
5. Why does Matthew mention law and prophets as being fulfilled by his commandment?

LIVING THE WORD

How will I act upon the Word of God this week? What is God’s challenge for us?

PRAYING THE WORD

Intercession: For all judges, lawyers summoned by God to help bring about the reign of love in our world and for all those who find it hard to love, we pray to the Lord through the intercession of St. Thomas More.

(Invite personal intentions, ending with “Our Father...”)

Concluding Prayer:

Leader: O my God, I love you above all things, with my whole heart and soul.

All: You are all good and worthy of all my love.

Leader: I love my neighbour as myself for love of you.

All: I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

Leader: May God direct our steps and show us how to walk in charity and peace.

Leader: Now let us share with one another that sign of Christ's peace.