

## Sunday 22 September - Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

### Collect

Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### First Reading: Proverbs 31:10-31

- <sup>10</sup>A capable wife who can find?  
She is far more precious than jewels.
- <sup>11</sup>The heart of her husband trusts in her,  
and he will have no lack of gain.
- <sup>12</sup>She does him good, and not harm,  
all the days of her life.
- <sup>13</sup>She seeks wool and flax,  
and works with willing hands.
- <sup>14</sup>She is like the ships of the merchant,  
she brings her food from far away.
- <sup>15</sup>She rises while it is still night  
and provides food for her household  
and tasks for her servant-girls.
- <sup>16</sup>She considers a field and buys it;  
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
- <sup>17</sup>She girds herself with strength,  
and makes her arms strong.
- <sup>18</sup>She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.  
Her lamp does not go out at night.
- <sup>19</sup>She puts her hands to the distaff,  
and her hands hold the spindle.
- <sup>20</sup>She opens her hand to the poor,  
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- <sup>21</sup>She is not afraid for her household when it snows,  
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
- <sup>22</sup>She makes herself coverings;  
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- <sup>23</sup>Her husband is known in the city gates,

taking his seat among the elders of the land.  
<sup>24</sup>She makes linen garments and sells them;  
she supplies the merchant with sashes.  
<sup>25</sup>Strength and dignity are her clothing,  
and she laughs at the time to come.  
<sup>26</sup>She opens her mouth with wisdom,  
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.  
<sup>27</sup>She looks well to the ways of her household,  
and does not eat the bread of idleness.  
<sup>28</sup>Her children rise up and call her happy;  
her husband too, and he praises her:  
<sup>29</sup>‘Many women have done excellently,  
but you surpass them all.’  
<sup>30</sup>Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,  
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
<sup>31</sup>Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,  
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

## **Psalm 1**

Blessed are they who have not walked  
in the counsel of the wicked, ♦  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.

Their delight is in the law of the Lord ♦  
and they meditate on his law day and night.

Like a tree planted by streams of water  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither, ♦  
whatever they do, it shall prosper. ♦

As for the wicked, it is not so with them; ♦  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgement, ♦  
nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, ♦  
but the way of the wicked shall perish.

## **Second Reading: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a**

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false

to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

<sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

### **Gospel: Mark 9:30-37**

After leaving the mountain <sup>30</sup>Jesus and his disciples went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'