
October 26th 2025 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year C - Luke 18:9-14

¹⁸⁻⁹And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ¹⁰Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. ¹¹The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. ¹²I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. ¹³And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel. ➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.	➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition. ➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).
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In this Sunday's gospel we read about the Pharisee and the tax collector. Verse 14 Jesus says the tax collector went home again at rights with God, the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted. This saying occurs twice in the St. Luke's gospel which indicates that it is a favourite saying of Jesus or of the early Church. We could interpret this parable as journey from sin to grace. We have all acted as the Pharisee and the tax collector at different times in our lives. Who are the people in our lives who have brought us to a state of humility by their words and actions?

Prayer:

Lord thank you for the people like Jesus who remind us that we can never pride ourselves for being virtuous and that we cannot afford to despise anyone.

Forgive us Lord for the times that we are like the Pharisee, proud that we are virtuous and despising all others because of their faults and failings instead of remembering that we too are sinners with the great need of God's mercy and love.

Help us Lord at all times to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8).

