

Lectio Divina

- **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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November 5th 2017 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A - Matthew 23:1 - 12

In today's gospel we see the Pharisees laying down endless rules for the people. We see them emphasise their robes for prayer, not for the reason they were made, which was to have the Word of God close to them because it was strapped on. But they were using these things to mark them out as very important. A purpose they were not created for. They put heavy loads on people while not lifting a finger to help them. They liked to make themselves look important in order to attract attention.

Are there times in your life when you do not live up to the expectations you put on others.

Prayer:

Lord thank you for all the people who set up places to help those less fortunate than themselves. They are a sign to us that we are not only called to obey Your laws but to help others to bear their burdens.

Forgive us Lord for the times we felt important and in control because of our positions of authority rather than remembering our first duty is to be at the service of others in a humble way.

Lord help us as followers of Jesus to be servants of the oppressed, helping them to realise they are very special and equal in the eyes of Jesus.

