

## Reading for 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of ordinary time - A

### Reading 1, *First Kings 3:5, 7-12*

<sup>5</sup> At Gibeon Yahweh appeared to Solomon in a dream during the night. God said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.'

<sup>7</sup> Now, Yahweh my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. <sup>8</sup> And here is your servant, surrounded with your people whom you have chosen, a people so numerous that its number cannot be counted or reckoned. <sup>9</sup> So give your servant a heart to understand how to govern your people, how to discern between good and evil, for how could one otherwise govern such a great people as yours?' <sup>10</sup> It pleased Yahweh that Solomon should have asked for this.

<sup>11</sup> 'Since you have asked for this,' God said, 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, <sup>12</sup> here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as no one has had before and no one will have after you.'

**Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130***

<sup>57</sup> My task, I have said, Yahweh, is to keep your word.

<sup>72</sup> The Law you have uttered is more precious to me than all the wealth in the world.

<sup>76</sup> Your faithful love must be my consolation, as you have promised your servant. <sup>77</sup> Treat me with tenderness and I shall live, for your Law is my delight.

<sup>127</sup> So I love your commandments more than gold, purest gold.

<sup>128</sup> So I rule my life by your precepts, I hate all deceptive paths.

<sup>129</sup> Wonderful are your instructions, so I observe them. <sup>130</sup> As your word unfolds it gives light, and even the simple understand.

## **Reading 2, *Romans 8:28-30***

<sup>28</sup> We are well aware that God works with those who love him, those who have been called in accordance with his purpose, and turns everything to their good. <sup>29</sup> He decided beforehand who were the ones destined to be moulded to the pattern of his Son, so that he should be the eldest of many brothers; <sup>30</sup> it was those so destined that he called; those that he called, he justified, and those that he has justified he has brought into glory.

## **Gospel, *Matthew 13:44-52***

<sup>44</sup> 'The kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off in his joy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

<sup>45</sup> 'Again, the kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; <sup>46</sup> when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

<sup>47</sup> 'Again, the kingdom of Heaven is like a dragnet that is cast in the sea and brings in a haul of all kinds of fish.

<sup>48</sup> When it is full, the fishermen bring it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in baskets and throw away those that are no use. <sup>49</sup> This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the upright,

<sup>50</sup> to throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. <sup>51</sup> 'Have you understood all these?' They said, 'Yes.' <sup>52</sup> And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of Heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom new things as well as old.'