

Reading for 33rd Sunday of ordinary time – A

Reading 1, *Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31*

¹⁰ The truly capable woman -- who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. ¹¹ Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. ¹² Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. ¹³ She selects wool and flax, she does her work with eager hands. ¹⁹ She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. ²⁰ She holds out her hands to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. ³⁰ Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who fears Yahweh is the one to praise. ³¹ Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5*

¹ [Song of Ascents] How blessed are all who fear Yahweh, who walk in his ways! ² Your own labours will yield you a living, happy and prosperous will you be.

³ Your wife a fruitful vine in the inner places of your house. Your children round your table like shoots of an olive tree.

⁴ Such are the blessings that fall on those who fear Yahweh.

⁵ May Yahweh bless you from Zion! May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of your life,

Reading 2, *First Thessalonians 5:1-6*

¹ About times and dates, brothers, there is no need to write to you ² for you are well aware in any case that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. ³ It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that sudden destruction falls on them, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there is no escape. ⁴ But you, brothers, do not live in the dark, that the Day should take you unawares like a thief. ⁵ No, you are all children of light and children of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, ⁶ so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel, *Matthew 25:14-30*

¹⁴ 'It is like a man about to go abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one, each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. ¹⁷ The man who had received two made two more in the same way. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ Now a long time afterwards, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." ²¹ His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have shown you are trustworthy in small things; I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." ²² Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with two

talents; here are two more that I have made." ²³ His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have shown you are trustworthy in small things; I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." ²⁴ Last came forward the man who had the single talent. "Sir," said he, "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you had not sown and gathering where you had not scattered; ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." ²⁶ But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? ²⁷ Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have got my money back with interest. ²⁸ So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but anyone who has not, will be deprived even of what he has. ³⁰ As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him into the darkness outside, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."