

Reading for Fourth Sunday of ordinary time - B

Reading 1, *Deuteronomy 18:15-20*

¹⁵ Yahweh your God will raise up a prophet like me; you will listen to him. ¹⁶ This is exactly what you asked Yahweh your God to do -- at Horeb, on the day of the Assembly, when you said, "Never let me hear the voice of Yahweh my God or see this great fire again, or I shall die." ¹⁷ Then Yahweh said to me, ¹⁸ "What they have said is well said. From their own brothers I shall raise up a prophet like yourself; ¹⁹ I shall put my words into his mouth and he will tell them everything I command him. Anyone who refuses to listen to my words, spoken by him in my name, will have to render an account to me. ²⁰ But the prophet who presumes to say something in my name which I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet must die."

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9*

¹ Come, let us cry out with joy to Yahweh, acclaim the rock of our salvation. ² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving, acclaim him with music.

⁶ Come, let us bow low and do reverence; kneel before Yahweh who made us! ⁷ For he is our God, and we the people of his sheepfold, the flock of his hand.

If only you would listen to him today! ⁸ Do not harden your hearts as at Meribah, as at the time of Massah in the desert, ⁹ when your ancestors challenged me, put me to the test, and saw what I could do!

Reading 2, *First Corinthians 7:32-35*

³² I should like you to have your minds free from all worry. The unmarried man gives his mind to the Lord's affairs and to how he can please the Lord; ³³ but the man who is married gives his mind to the affairs of this world and to how he can please his wife, and he is divided in mind. ³⁴ So, too, the unmarried woman, and the virgin, gives her mind to the Lord's affairs and to being holy in body and spirit; but the married woman gives her mind to the affairs of this world and to how she can please her husband. ³⁵ I am saying this only to help you, not to put a bridle on you, but so that everything is as it should be, and you are able to give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel, *Mark 1:21-28*

²¹ They went as far as Capernaum, and at once on the Sabbath he went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²² And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. ²³ And at once in their synagogue there was a man with an unclean spirit, and he shouted, ²⁴ 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' ²⁵ But Jesus rebuked it saying, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' ²⁶ And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. ²⁷ The people were so astonished that they started asking one another what it all meant, saying, 'Here is a teaching that is new, and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' ²⁸ And his reputation at once spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.