

## 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

| Headings                                   | Gospel (Mark 5:21 - 43)   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading (Wisdom 1:13 -15; 2:23 -25)  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading (2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13 - 15)   |
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| <b>Context</b>                             | This passage describes two miracles – the raising of a young girl to life and the healing of a woman from an illness that had lasted for years. The key to both miracles was faith – the faith of the father of the young girl and the faith of the woman. Their faith in the power of Jesus was extraordinary.   | The book of Wisdom is probably the last book of the Old Testament to be written. It was written for Jews who were living among Gentiles and were tempted to abandon their ancestral faith. It seems the author had in mind Jews living in a Greek culture and attracted by it.   | This section of the letter deals with a collection of money that Paul and his helpers took up among Gentile Churches during his third missionary journey. It was gathered to help poor Christians in Jerusalem. Paul urges the Christians at Corinth to be generous to poor Christians in their time of need.                               |
| <b>Key verse</b>                           | <b>“My daughter’, he said ‘your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.’”</b>  | <b>“Yet God did make man imperishable. He made him in the image of his own nature”.</b>  | <b>“Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty”.</b>  |
| <b>Key themes/ messages</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The father of the girl had a lively faith and would not allow it to be undermined.</li> <li>• The woman was convinced that Jesus could heal her but was afraid to proclaim publicly that she had been healed.</li> <li>• Faith is both a gift of God and a human act that requires commitment to Jesus.</li> </ul>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul states that in Christ “are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col 2:3)</li> <li>• The author of the Book of Wisdom says that ‘death was not God’s doing’.</li> <li>• God’s plan was that human beings would not die. It was the devil’s envy that brought death into the world.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paul’s aim is to build unity among Christians by asking them to support each other in practical ways.</li> <li>• The key reason for this is because Jesus Christ became poor to make us rich.</li> <li>• Paul is hoping that by helping each other equality will be created among them.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Questions/ application to our lives</b> | Contrast the attitude of the messengers with that of the father of the young girl. In the story what did Jesus ignore? What might God advise you to ignore in order to grow in faith? What attitude did the woman have to the power of Jesus? Is this surprising in light of her experience of doctors over many years? What can her attitude teach you about your faith? | The reading says that God made man in his own image. How would you explain that to another person? The church makes a distinction between physical and spiritual death. Is this helpful in understanding what happens at death? How does the message of this reading link with the story of the raising of a young girl to life by Jesus?                | According to Paul, what is the main reason why Christians in Corinth should help poor Christians in Jerusalem? Why is it the responsibility of those who are prosperous to help those in need? Has your parish/group arrangements in place to share resources with others?  |
| <b>Further reading</b>                     | Catechism 646, 994, 2616  | Catechism 413, 1008 - 09   | Catechism 517, 1351, 2407, 2546, 2833   |