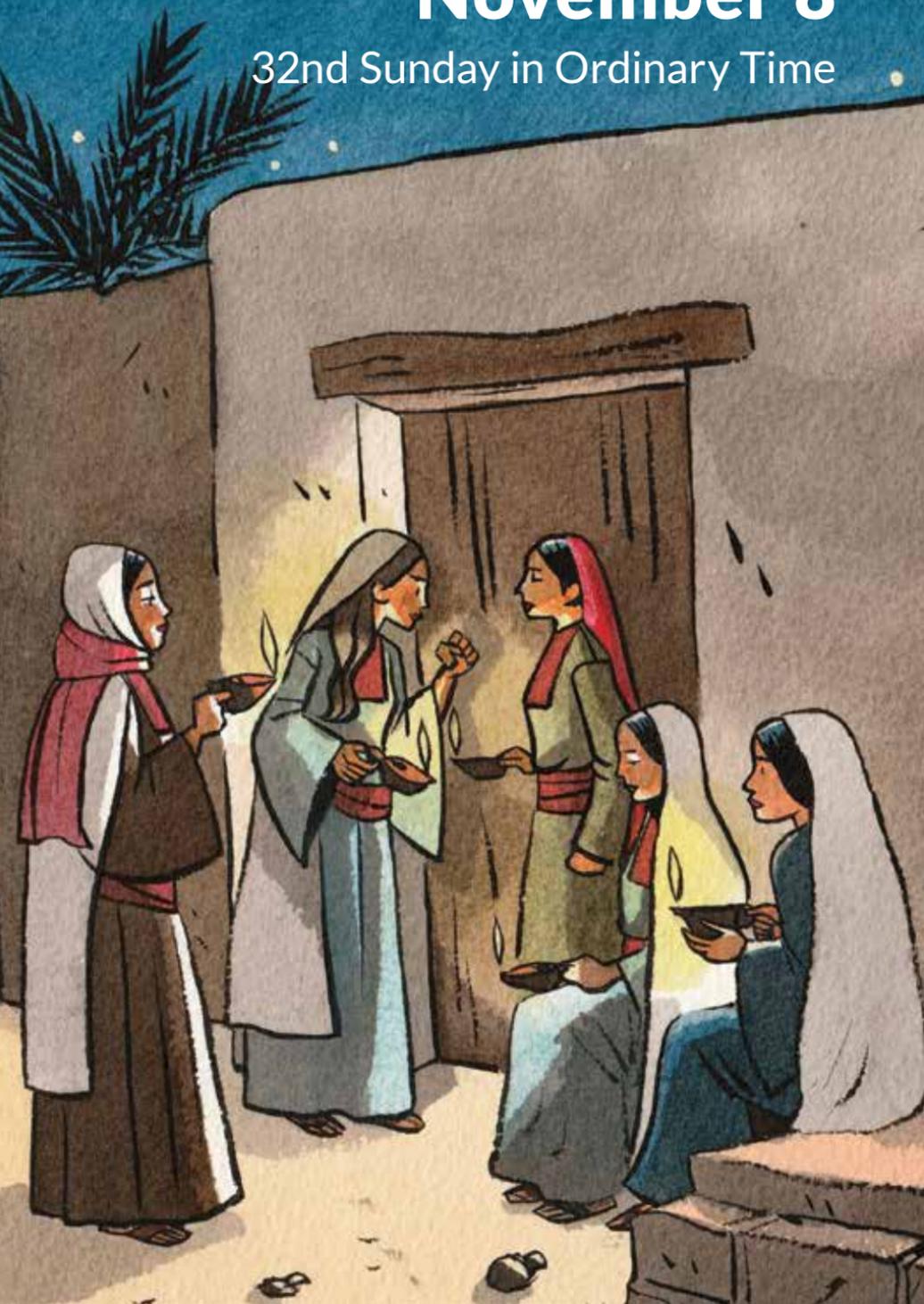


# November 8

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



**First Reading** (Wisdom 6:12-16)

Resplendent and unfading is wisdom,  
 and she is readily perceived by those who love her,  
 and found by those who seek her.  
 She hastens to make herself known in anticipation  
 of their desire;  
 whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed,  
 for he shall find her sitting by his gate.  
 For taking thought of wisdom is the perfection of prudence,  
 and whoever for her sake keeps vigil  
 shall quickly be free from care;  
 because she makes her own rounds, seeking those worthy  
 of her,  
 and graciously appears to them in the ways,  
 and meets them with all solicitude.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm** (Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8)

**R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek;  
 for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts  
 like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water. R.

Thus have I gazed toward you in the **sanctuary**  
 to see your power and your glory,  
 for your kindness is a greater good than life;  
 my lips shall glorify you. R.

Thus will I bless you while I live;  
 lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.  
 As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul  
 be satisfied,  
 and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you. R.

I will remember you upon my couch,  
 and through the night-watches I will meditate on you:  
 you are my help,  
 and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy. R.

**Second Reading** (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

*The shorter version ends at the asterisks.*

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

\* \* \*

Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel** (Matthew 25:1-13)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their **lamps** and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and **trimmed** their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with

him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Key Words

The **Book of Wisdom** was written not long before Jesus was born. It urges us to make good decisions in life. It teaches about justice and fairness.

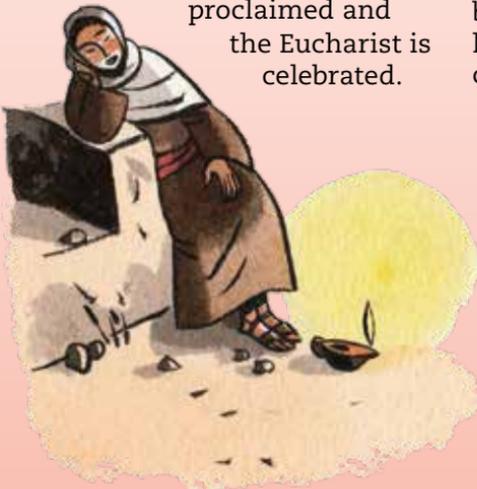
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The **sanctuary** is the holiest part of the Jewish temple (from the Latin word *sanctus* that also gives us the word "saint"). In a church, the sanctuary is the place where the word of God is proclaimed and the Eucharist is celebrated.

In the time of Jesus, wedding ceremonies were held at night. Therefore, the bridesmaids needed to have **lamps** ready to light the way when they went to meet the bridegroom. If their lamps went out, there was no other source of light until morning.

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The bridesmaids used oil lamps with wicks. The wicks needed to be **trimmed** properly before lighting so that the lamps would burn brightly, cleanly, and not too quickly.



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