

MONDAY 25 AUGUST 2025
MONDAY OF THE 21ST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE VERSE: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all day long.

First Reading: *1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8-10*

PSALM RESPONSE The Lord takes delight in his people.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord, I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

The Gospel: *Matthew 23: 13-22*

COMMUNION VERSE: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

TUESDAY 26 AUGUST 2025
TUESDAY OF THE 21ST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE VERSE: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all day long.

First Reading: *1 Thessalonians 2:1-8*

PSALM RESPONSE: You have searched me, and you know me, Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. Alleluia!

The Gospel: *Matthew 23:23-26*

COMMUNION VERSE: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST 2025

SAINT MONICA

Probably born at Tagaste (Algeria) about 331. Died at Ostia (Italy) in 387. Before her marriage her faith bore fruit in her recovery from a drinking problem and later helped bring her husband and mother in law to Christianity. Undertook many years of penance and prayer for her brilliant but wayward son St. Augustine (28 August) Following his conversion and baptism in Milan, she died at the beginning of her journey home to Africa. Remembered for her parental devotion, her patience, and her persistence in prayer.

ENTRANCE VERSE

Behold a wise woman who has built her house. She feared the Lord and walked in the right path.

First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

PSALM RESPONSE:

You have searched me, and you know me, Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

The Gospel: Matthew 23: 27-32

COMMUNION VERSE:

Whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother, says the Lord.

THURSDAY 28 AUGUST 2025

SAINT AUGUSTINE

Born in Tagaste (Algeria) in 354. Died at Hippo (Algeria) in 430. Though enrolled by his Mother Monica as a catechumen, he renounced the Christian faith and espoused Manicheism. Taught in Carthage, Rome, and Milan. Lived for 15 years with a woman who remains unknown and with whom he had a son, named Adeodatus. Baptised in 387, together with his son, after a long inner struggle and under the influence of St Ambrose and the prayers of his mother, Saint Monica. Bishop of Hippo for thirty four years. Lived a communal life with his clergy and served the many needs of his people at a time of political and cultural collapse. Remembered as a model pastor and as a preacher and writer whose thought has had an enduring influence in Christian history

ENTRANCE VERSE

In the midst of the Church, he opened his mouth, and the Lord filled him with the spirit of wisdom and understanding and clothed him in a robe of glory.

First Reading: ***1 Thessalonians 3:7-13***

PSALM RESPONSE:

Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready.

You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

The Gospel: ***Matthew 24: 42-51***

COMMUNION VERSE:

Thus says the Lord: You have but one teacher, the Christ, and you are all brothers

FRIDAY 29 AUGUST 2025

THE PASSION OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

The execution of John the Baptist is recorded in the gospels (Matthew 14; Mark 6) and is placed by the historian Josephus at the fortress of Machaerus near the Dead Sea. As early as the fifth century, a commemoration of John the Baptist was kept on this day at Jerusalem. It probably marks the anniversary of the dedication of the basilica in his honour at Sebaste (Palestine) where, according to tradition, he was buried.

ENTRANCE VERSE: I spoke O Lord of your decrees before kings, and was not confounded; I pondered your commands and loved them greatly

First Reading: ***Jeremiah 1 : 17-19***

PSALM RESPONSE: I will sing your salvation

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Happy are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Alleluia!

The Gospel: ***Mark 6: 17-29***

COMMUNION VERSE: John answered and said, He must increase; but I must decrease.

SATURDAY 30 AUGUST 2025

SATURDAY OF THE 21ST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE VERSE: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all day long.

First Reading: ***1 Thessalonians 4: 9-11***

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

The Gospel: ***Matthew 25: 14-30***

COMMUNION VERSE: The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.