



Liturgy Cycle A

# Sixth Sunday Of The Year

## Our Inner Sins

### **Introduction**

Many people, who confess their sins, confess only the things they have done wrong. But Christ tells us that we can sin even if we never commit the external act. We can sin our thoughts, desires, motives and attitudes. Sin comes from within, and it has deep roots in each of us.

### **First Reading (Eccles 15: 15-20)**

God wants us to be good, not evil. Nevertheless, he leaves us free to choose one or the other. With the help of his grace, however, we can choose the good.

### **Second Reading (1Cor 2: 6-10)**

Paul says a beautiful thing, which should fill us with joyful hope. He says: 'No eye has seen, no ear has heard all that God has prepared for those who love him.'

### **Gospel (Matthew 5: 17-37)**

The Scribes and Pharisees were considered to be models of virtues. Yet Christ said: 'Unless your virtue goes deeper than that of the Scribes and Pharisees, you will not see the Kingdom of Heaven.'

### **Prayer of the faithful**

It is from inside a person that evil springs, from the mind and the heart. Let us pray to God for cleanness of mind and purity of heart.

R: Lord, hear our pray.

For all followers of Christ: that they may be able to renew their thoughts and desires so that they may taste the freedom of the children of God. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our pray.



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**For all in positions of responsibility: that they may strive to keep their motives pure so that all their deeds may be good. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Lord, hear our pray.**

**For all those who are unaware of their hidden sinfulness, and who deceive themselves like the Pharisees. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Lord, hear our pray.**

**That we may have the courage to look beneath the surface of our lives in order to face the secret pride, hidden resentments, and sinful desires that lurk there. We pray to the Lord.**

**R: Lord, hear our pray.**

#### **Communion Reflection**

**Sin is not only outside us but also inside us.**

**It is in the heart.**

**How can one describe or sum up the heart?**

**Darkness of heart is the blackest night of all.**

**A heavy heart is the most wearisome burden of all.**

**A cold-hearted person is like a fireplace without a fire.**

**The heart is like a wellspring.**

**All our thoughts, words and deeds flow from there like water from a hidden spring.**

**If a spring is polluted,**

**then the water that flows from it will also be polluted.**

**But if the spring is pure and clear,**

**then the water that flows from it will clean and wholesome.**

**'Blessed are the clean of heart, they shall see God,' Christ said.**