



Liturgy Cycle C

## **Eighth Sunday Of The Year** **The Plank And The Splinter**

### **Introduction**

**At the start of each Mass we are invited to examine our consciences. This means, of course, examining our own conscience, not the conscience of anyone else. And we must blame no one but ourselves for our sins. Let us confess our sins to God and to one another.**

**I confess to almighty God . . .**

### **First Reading (Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7)**

**Through three picturesque comparisons, the reading makes one point: that a person reveals in his speech the kind of person he or she is.**

### **Second Reading (1 Cor 15:54-58)**

**If we persevere in doing the Lord's work, we need not fear death. When we die we will share in Christ's victory over sin and death.**

### **Gospel (Luke 6:39-45)**

**As Christians we should of course be concerned about others. However, we cannot guide another person unless we see the way clearly ourselves.**

### **Prayer Of The Faithful**

**Let us pray that we may be able to see our own faults, and for the courage and grace to correct them, so that we may guide and help our brothers and sisters.**

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

**For the pope and the bishops: that they may inspire and guide the flock of Christ by word and example. Let us pray to the Lord.**

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

**For all our temporal leaders: that they may fulfil the duties of their office with courage and integrity. Let us pray to the Lord.**

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

**For those who are lost on the road of life and who can find no hope or meaning or direction in life. Let us pray to the Lord.**

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



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**For the grace to be able to accept others as they are, and for the courage not to accept ourselves until we have tried to be as good as we can be. Let us pray to the Lord.  
R: Lord, hear our prayer.**

### **Let us pray:**

**Father, open our hearts to your grace. Restrain us from our human waywardness, and keep us faithful to your commandments. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

### **Communion Reflection**

**In the time when monks lived in the Egyptian desert, one day a certain monk committed what was considered to be a serious fault, and the elders assembled to pass judgement on him. They sent for their abbot to join them.**

**They sent him a message saying:  
'Come, the community is waiting for you.'  
So the abbot arose and started off.  
He took with him an old basket which was full of holes.  
Filling it with fine sand he carried it behind him.  
Naturally, as he went along,  
he left a trail of sand in his wake.**

**The elders came out to meet him  
and asked him what he meant by this.  
And he replied:  
'My sins are running out behind me.  
Everywhere I go I leave a trail of faults behind me,  
only most of the time I don't see them myself.  
And today you want me to sit in judgement on my brother.'**

**On hearing this the elders were ashamed.  
They abandoned the trial,  
and pardoned their brother.**