



“Teach us, we pray, humility of heart, so that we may be counted among the little ones of the Gospel to whom the Father promised to reveal the mysteries of His Kingdom.”

St. John Paul II

SCRIPTURE  
of the DAY

Ecclesiasticus 35: 12-14,  
16-19

Psalms 33: 2-3, 17-19, 23

2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18

Luke 18: 9-14

If anyone would be a model for prayer, a Pharisee was a likely candidate. In contrast, Jesus offers the tax collector as a model for prayer. Tax collectors were collaborators with the Roman authorities in a system that allowed the tax collectors to line their own pockets by charging in excess of the defined taxes. Yet, in this parable, Jesus offers the humility of the tax collector as a model for the prayer of a disciple. The parable reminds us that when we pray, we must remember our need for God in our lives. **If we are too full of ourselves, there is too little room for God's grace to work in us.** (Extract from Loyola Press website)

This parable reminds me of the many instances when I am quick to judge others based by their appearance. From the way they behave, the way they dress, the way they pray, I make a judgement as to whether their relationship with God is in good standing. And I recalled an incident when the person I judged to be “unworthy”, surprised me when she responded without hesitation to a difficult situation that we should pray and seek God's wisdom. It knocked me off my arrogance. So I have to consciously check myself when my ego starts judging others.

Let us pray that we might come to understand as St. Teresa of Kolkata, *“God has not called me to be successful; He has called me to be faithful.”*

Especially in a world of disarray, we are more than ever called to be a light in the world, to shine brightly for others, to point others to Christ and to spread the good news. ✚

# NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time | 26 Oct 2025

CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE

MONTHLY FOCUS & RATIONALE:

SOCIETY (PROPHETIC)

CALLED TO REINFORCING GOSPEL VALUES

## A Faith That Shines Through Humility

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus addresses attitude in prayer. In contrasting the prayer of the Pharisee with the prayer of the tax collector, Jesus teaches his disciples to pray in humility before God. Jesus again surprises his listeners by showing the tax collector as the example of faith, rather than the Pharisee.

