

January 24 Tuesday

Reading 1 HEB 10:1-10

Brothers and sisters: Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of them, it can never make perfect those who come to worship by the same sacrifices that they offer continually each year. Otherwise, would not the sacrifices have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, once cleansed, would no longer have had any consciousness of sins? But in those sacrifices there is only a yearly remembrance of sins, for it is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats take away sins. For this reason, when he came into the world, he said: *Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, As is written of me in the scroll, Behold, I come to do your will, O God.* First he says, *Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in.* These are offered according to the law. Then he says, *Behold, I come to do your will.* He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the Body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Responsorial Psalm PS 40:2 AND 4AB, 7-8A, 10, 11

R. (8a and 9a) **Here am I Lord; I come to do your will.**

I have waited, waited for the LORD,
and he stooped toward me.

And he put a new song into my mouth,
a hymn to our God.

R. **Here am I Lord; I come to do your will.**

Sacrifice or oblation you wished not,
but ears open to obedience you gave me.
Burnt offerings or sin-offerings you sought not;
then said I, "Behold I come."

R. **Here am I Lord; I come to do your will.**

I announced your justice in the vast assembly;
I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know.

R. **Here am I Lord; I come to do your will.**

Your justice I kept not hid within my heart;
your faithfulness and your salvation I have spoken of;
I have made no secret of your kindness and your truth
in the vast assembly.

R. **Here am I Lord; I come to do your will.**

Alleluia MT 11:25

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel MK 3:31-35

The mother of Jesus and his brothers arrived at the house. Standing outside, they sent word to Jesus and called him. A crowd seated around him told him, "Your mother and your brothers and your sisters are outside asking for you." But he said to them in reply, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking around at those seated in the circle he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Reflection:

Doing God's will enables a person to become a member of God's loving family: his brother or sister or mother. To become a member of God's chosen race or His family is a privilege given to the one who is open to His Spirit. This grace is universal and not exclusive, given once and for all to everyone, every caste, culture, nation and colour. Jesus remains as a perfect example of the one who did what God wanted. Let us earnestly beg of the Lord that we may realize the indwelling spirit and its strength that guides and heals our infirmities and makes us to become part of His loving family.