



## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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FIRST READING: *Sirach 28:2-7*

*This is a reading from the book of Sirach.*

Our God says,

“Forgive people when they have hurt you.  
Then when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.  
How can you say you won’t forgive someone else  
and then ask God to forgive you?  
You are a sinner, too, so have mercy on other people.

“Remember the commandments, and don’t hate people.  
Remember the promises of God, and forgive others.”

*The Word of the Lord.*

RESPONSE: *Psalm 103*

My God, my God, have mercy on me, for all my hope is in you.

*Verses:*

1. You call us to remember the promises you gave us.
2. As parents love their children, you love your faithful people.
3. You love us and forgive us; you always show us mercy.

*(Repeat Response after each Verse.)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

“You must forgive with all your heart:  
Seventy times, seventy times seven,” says Jesus. Alleluia, alleluia!

*(After Gospel, repeat last line of Acclamation.)*

GOSPEL: *Matthew 18:21-35*

*This is a reading from the Gospel of Matthew.*

One day Peter asked Jesus,

“How many times do I have to forgive someone  
who hurts me? As many as seven times?”



Jesus said to him,

“No, not only seven times, but seventy times seven!”

Then Jesus told the disciples this story:

“Once there was a king who had many people working for him.  
One of the workers owed him a lot of money  
but couldn’t pay it back.

The king was angry and told the guards  
to sell the worker and his wife and children as slaves  
to pay what the man owed.

But the man fell on his knees and begged the king,

‘Please, be patient with me,  
and I will pay you everything I owe you!’

“The king felt sorry for the man and forgave him.  
He even said the man didn’t have to pay back the money he owed.  
Now, when that same worker was leaving, he saw another man  
who owed him only a little bit of money. He grabbed him and said,

‘Pay me what you owe me!’

“The man fell on his knees and said,

‘Please be patient with me,  
and I will pay you everything I owe you!’

“But the man who had been forgiven said, ‘No!’  
And he had the man put into prison.

“Now when the other workers saw what happened,  
they went to the king and told him the whole story.  
The king sent for the man he had forgiven and said to him,

‘You wicked man! I forgave you and even forgot about  
what you owed me because you begged me for mercy.  
And then you wouldn’t do the same for someone else!’

“So the king sent the man to prison to be punished.

“And that’s the way it will be with you.  
If you want God to forgive you,  
you must forgive other people with all your heart.”