Sunday 15th November 2026
Safeguarding Sunday

Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute.
Proverbs 31:8

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
Whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil
And to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
Grant that we, having this hope,
May purify ourselves even as he is pure;
That when he shall appear in power and great glory
We may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
Where he is alive and reigns with you,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God now and forever. Amen

FIRST READING

Proverbs 31:1-9

1. The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him:

2. No, my son! No, son of my womb!
No, son of my vows!

3. Do not give your strength to women,
your ways to those who destroy kings.

4. It is not for kings, O Lemuel,
it is not for kings to drink wine,
or for rulers to desire strong drink;

5. or else they will drink and forget what has been decreed,
and will pervert the rights of all the afflicted.

6. Give strong drink to one who is perishing,
and wine to those in bitter distress;

7. Let them drink and forget their poverty,
and remember their misery no more.

8. Speak out for those who cannot speak,
for the rights of all the destitute.

9. Speak out, judge righteously,
D1efend the rights of the poor and needy.

PSALM

Psalm 91

R *Keep me as the apple of your eye*

1.You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

2. Will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress;
My God in whom I trust.'

3. For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;

4. He will cover you with his wings and you shall be safe under his feathers;
His faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.

5. You will not be afraid of any terror by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

6. Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.

7. Though a thousand fall at your side,
and ten thousand at your right hand,
yet it shall not come near you.

9. Your eyes have only to behold
to see the reward of the wicked.

10. Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your stronghold,

11. Then shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your tent.

12. For he shall give his angels charge over you,
to keep you in all your ways

13. They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

14. You shall tread on the lion and adder, the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.

15. Because they have set their love upon me, therefore will I deliver them; I will lift them up, because they know my name.

16. They will call upon me and I will answer them;
I am with them in trouble, I will deliver them and bring them to honour.

17. With long life will I satisfy them and show them my salvation.

R: Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy and, as you have bound us to yourself in love, leave us not who call upon your name, but grant us your salvation, made known in the cross of Jesus Christ our Lord.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or a sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.
And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

POST COMMUNION

God of peace, we thank you that by sharing bread and wine, we are more aware of your love for us and for all humanity. Guide us when encountering those in distress, loving as you love, and being prompted to action. May we share in keeping your precious ones safe and cared for.