

# 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year C

*You have turned my mourning into dancing,  
you have stripped off my sackcloth  
and clothed me with joy. (Ps 29:12)*



## First Reading

*1 Kings 17:17-24*

The son of the mistress of the house fell sick; his illness was so severe that in the end he had no breath left in him. And the woman said to Elijah, "What quarrel have you with me, man of God? Have you come here to bring my sins home to me and to kill my son?" "Give me your son," he said, and taking him from her lap, carried him to the upper room where he was staying and laid him on his own bed. He cried out to the Lord, "Lord my God, do you mean to bring grief to the widow who is looking after me by killing her son?" He stretched himself on the child three times and cried out to the Lord, "Lord my God, may the soul of this child, I beg you, come into him again!" The Lord heard the prayer of Elijah and the soul of the child returned to him again and he revived. Elijah took the child, brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. "Look," Elijah said "your son is alive." And the woman "Now I know you are a man of God and the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth itself."

## Second Reading

*Galatians 1:11-19*

The fact is, brothers and sisters, and I want you to realise this, the Good News I preached is not a human message that I was given by men, it is something I learnt only through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You must have heard of my career as a practising Jew, how merciless I was in persecuting the Church of God, how much damage I did to it, how I stood out among other Jews of my generation, and how enthusiastic I was for the traditions of my ancestors. Then God, who had specially chosen me while I was still in my mother's womb, called me through his grace and chose to reveal his Son in me, so that I might

preach the Good News about him to the pagans. I did not stop to discuss this with any human being, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to see those who were already apostles before me, but I went off to Arabia at once and later went straight back from there to Damascus. Even when after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him for fifteen days, I did not see any of the other apostles; I only saw James, the brother of the Lord.

## **Gospel**

*Luke 7:11-17*

Jesus went to a town called Nain, accompanied by his disciples and a great number of people. When he was near the gate of the town it happened that a dead man was being carried out for burial, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable number of the townspeople were with her. When the Lord saw her he felt sorry for her. "Do not cry" he said. Then he went up and put his hand on the bier and the bearers stood still, and he said, "Young man, I tell you to get up." And the dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everyone was filled with awe and praised God saying, "A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people." And this opinion of him spread throughout Judaea and all over the countryside.

## **Meditation**

*In the raising of the young man of Nain, Luke presents Jesus as a great prophet. There are striking similarities to the miracles of Elijah and Elisha who also raised the sons of widows. Scribe of the divine compassion, Luke arranges his account in such a way as to show Jesus' pity for this widow mourning for her only son. Jesus fulfils the messianic hope that the blind will recover their sight, cripples walk, and the dead be raised to life. Death retreats before the one who is the resurrection and the life. God alone is the master of life and death. Therefore, Luke gives Jesus the title "Lord", which in the Greek version of the Old Testament is the title of God.*

*The marvellous raising of the widow's son inspires us with great hope in the face of death. It hints at our future resurrection, which will be more than mere resuscitation. Transformed, we will participate in the very life of God.*