

## **Scriptural Questions for Second Reading Cycle C (Volume II)**

CCC...*Catechism of the Catholic Church* — NAB...*New American Bible*

### **14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Is 66:10-14

Gospel: Lk 10:1-2, 17-20

CCC: 293-301

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Gal 6:14-18**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. About what do people usually boast?
  - b. About what were Paul's enemies boasting (see Gal 6:12-13)?
  - c. What does Paul mean by boasting in the cross (14)?
  - d. What is meant by "through it, the world has been crucified to me and I to the world"?
4.
  - a. Why is circumcision not relevant now (15), (compare Gal 5:6)?
  - b. What does it mean to be "created anew" (compare 2 Cor 5:17; Jn 3:3)?
  - c. What does Paul mean with, "I bear the brand marks of Jesus in my body" (17), (see footnote)?
  - d. What is meant by, "may the favor of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit" (18)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Deut 30:10-14

Gospel: Lk 10:25-37

CCC: 1913-1916

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Col 1:15-20**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. Discuss the meaning of "He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God" (15), (compare Heb 1:3; see also NAB footnote Col 1:15).
  - b. What is meant by, "He is the first born of all creatures"?
  - c. Discuss the meaning of verse 16.
  - d. What is meant by, "In him everything continues in being" (17)?
4.
  - a. Discuss the meaning of, "It is he who is head of the body, the church" (18a), (compare Jn 15:5; Rom 12:4-5; 1 Cor 12:12).
  - b. What is implied by the words, "the first born of the dead" (compare Rom 8:29)?
  - c. What is meant by, "absolute fullness resides in him" (19)?
  - d. How does Jesus "reconcile everything in his person" (20)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Gen 18:1-10a

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Gospel: Lk 10:38-42

CCC: CCC: 2725-2728

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Col 1:24-28**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. How can Paul's suffering benefit his people (24), (compare 2 Cor 4:12)?
  - b. How can suffering be a joy?
  - c. What does Paul mean when he speaks of "What is lacking in the suffering of Christ"?
  - d. For whom is Paul suffering?
4.
  - a. How does this help you to endure hardship or bodily ailment?
  - b. In what sense is it true that not even Jesus can take your place in suffering?
  - c. Discuss the mystery hidden for ages, which Paul now reveals in verse 27.
  - d. How is man made "complete in Christ" (28)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Gen 18:20-32

Gospel: Lk 11:1-13

CCC: 2598-2619; 2734-2741

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Col 2:12-14**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. What is the symbolism of being buried with Christ in baptism (12)?
  - b. What is the grace we receive from this (compare Rom 6:4-6)?
  - c. What does it mean to say that we are "raised to life" with Christ (compare Col 3:1-2; Rom 8:2)?
  - d. From where does this new life come (12)?
4.
  - a. How does faith affect us (compare Rom 5:1-2; Gal 3:26)?
  - b. What is the point being made about our receiving new life "in company with Christ" (13)?
  - c. What is the moment we were "raised up" according to Paul?
  - d. Discuss the meaning of verse 14.
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23

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Gospel: Lk 12:13-21

CCC: 2534-2550 / 1681-1683

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Col 3:1-5, 9-11**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. How can it be said that “you have been raised up in company with Christ” (1)?
  - b. Explain the meaning of “set your heart on what pertains to higher realms”.
  - c. How is it possible to carry out verse 2 without interfering with your earthly responsibilities?
  - d. What is the truth being brought out with “you have died” (compare Rom 6:3-7)?
4.
  - a. What is meant by, “Put to death whatever in your nature is rooted in earth” (5)?
  - b. What does it mean to “put aside our old self” (9)?
  - c. How do you “put on a new man” (10), (compare Col 3:12-14)?
  - d. Discuss the meaning of verse 11.
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Wis 18:6-9

Gospel: Lk 12:32-48

CCC: 27-35

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. Discuss the meaning of faith according to verse 1.
  - b. Why does faith bring God’s approval (2)?
  - c. What was great about Abraham’s faith according to verse 8?
  - d. How is our faith like Abraham’s journey (9-10)?
4.
  - a. How does Sarah’s conception prepare us for Mary’s virginal conception (11-12)?
  - b. How can we imitate our forefathers by remaining “strangers and foreigners on the earth” (13-14)?
  - c. How can we follow their example in not looking back (15-16)?
  - d. What was symbolized when God gave Isaac back to Abraham (19)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Rev 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10a,b

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Gospel: Lk 1: 39-56

CCC: 964-975

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Cor 15: 20-26**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
  
3.
  - a. What is meant by Christ as risen is the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep (20), (see first fruits in Bible Dictionary)?
  - b. When will the rest of the harvest follow Christ (23)?
  - c. Discuss the meaning of “Death came through a man” in verse 21 (compare Rom 5: 12-19).
  
4.
  - a. Discuss the meaning of “hence the resurrection of the dead comes through a man also” (21), (compare 1 Cor 12:27).
  - b. What is referred to with sovereignty, authority and power (24), (compare footnote to Col 1:16)?
  - c. Discuss the meaning of verse 25.
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Is 66:18-21

Gospel: Lk 13:22-30

CCC: 1776-1785

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Heb 12:5-7, 11-13**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
  
3.
  - a. In what sense is the word discipline being used in verses 5-7?
  - b. How should you look upon suffering according to these verses (see NAB footnote)?
  - c. Why might it be difficult to see God’s loving hand in the evil we suffer from others or from mishaps?
  - d. How do the hardships of life correct us?
  
4.
  - a. What are some of the good things that come out of hard times (compare Heb 12:10)?
  - b. What has been your experience of the peace and justice that come to us from them (11)?
  - c. Why should this be a source of encouragement to you (12)?
  - d. Discuss verse 13.
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

Gospel: Lk 14:1, 7-14

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CCC: 2443-2449; 1776-1794; 84-95

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. What is symbolized by the untouchable mountain and blazing fire in verse 18 (see NAB footnote)?
  - b. Why do you think the Old Testament religion is connected with fear?
  - c. Why did the people ask God not to speak to them in verse 19 (compare Ex 20:18-21)?
4.
  - a. What does Mount Zion and the heavenly Jerusalem represent (22)?
  - b. What do the words “festal gathering” tell you about the Church?
  - c. Who are the first-born enrolled in the heavens (23)?
  - d. What do you understand with, “the Spirits of just men made perfect”?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Wis 9:13-18b

Gospel: Lk 14:25-33

CCC: 2464-2474

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. Give the general background and relationship between Philemon and Onesimus (see NAB introduction to this book).
  - b. Who is Paul’s child and what is meant by, “whom I have begotten during the imprisonment” (10), (see NAB footnote)?
  - c. Comment on verse 12.
4.
  - a. When was Paul imprisoned for the Gospel (13), (see NAB introduction to the epistle to the Ephesians, par. 2)?
  - b. Discuss the amount of suffering you or others are willing to endure for the Gospel compared to Paul (compare 2 Cor 11:23-28).
  - c. Discuss the gentle pressure Paul is exerting on Philemon to receive Onesimus cordially (12 & 15-17).
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14

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CCC...*Catechism of the Catholic Church* — NAB...*New American Bible*

Gospel: Lk 15:1-32

CCC: 2777-2785; 599-605

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Tim 1:12-17**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. Discuss Paul's reasons for gratitude to Jesus and compare it to yours (12).
  - b. Discuss Paul's statement, "I did not know what I was doing in my unbelief" (13).
  - c. Of what sinfulness is Paul accusing himself (compare Acts 7:57-58 and Acts 8:1-3)?
4.
  - a. Why is a sense of gratitude, such as Paul's, so important (14)?
  - b. What hope does God's mercy to Paul—the worst of sinners—give you (15)?
  - c. Discuss how perhaps each of us, like Paul, can consider him/herself an "extreme case" towards whom God displayed all patience as an example to others (16).
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Amos 8:4-7

Gospel: Lk 16:1-13

CCC: 1929-1938

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Tim 2:1-8**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. Why do you think St. Paul urges prayers for all people (1), (see also NAB footnote)?
  - b. Why should prayers be specially offered for kings and those in authority (2)?
  - c. Discuss the universal salvific will of God (4) and apply this to the need to pray for Russians and Cubans.
4.
  - a. Discuss the fact that there is only one mediator (5), yet we are called to mediate, intercede (1), for others.
  - b. How is this related to praying to the saints?
  - c. How can this help you to minister to shut-ins in helping them to see the great value of their lives?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

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Gospel: Lk 16:19-31

CCC: 2437-2442

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Tim 6:11-16**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. Discuss the virtues that the man or woman of God is urged to seek (11).
  - b. What is meant by, “Fight the good fight of faith” (12)?
  - c. How does one “take firm hold on everlasting life” (12)?
4.
  - a. What is the “noble profession of faith” being referred to in verse 12?
  - b. What opportunities are given to us to profess our faith?
  - c. What is this “appearance” (15) that is to occur and why is it valuable to keep it in mind?
  - d. Discuss the “unapproachable light” in which God dwells (16).
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Heb 1:2-3; 2:2-4

Gospel: Lk 17:5-10

CCC: 369-373; 1602-1617; 1643-1654

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. Who was Timothy (see NAB introduction to 1 Tim, paragraph 3)?
  - b. What was his relationship to Paul?
  - c. When and where was Paul writing to him (see NAB introduction to 1 Tim, last paragraph)?
  - d. Discuss the meaning of verse 6 (see NAB footnote).
  - e. How do you identify with verse 7?
4.
  - a. When do you tend to be afraid or ashamed of being a witness for Jesus (8)?
  - b. What hardships does the Gospel entail in your life?
  - c. What is the meaning of verse 14?
  - d. How are you called to guard the deposit of faith?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 2 Kgs 5:14-17

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CCC...*Catechism of the Catholic Church* — NAB...*New American Bible*

Gospel: Lk 17:11-19

CCC: 2637-2643; 2402-2406

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Tim 2:8-13**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3. a. What is important about Jesus being a descendant of David (8), (compare 2 Sam 7:11-16 and Gal 4:4-5)?  
b. How does that affect you who likewise belong to a race of mortals?  
c. Comment on the meaning of verse 10 and show how it can encourage you to bear with suffering (compare Col 1:24).
4. a. Explain verse 11 (compare Lk 9:23-24).  
b. What will it be like to reign with Jesus (12), (compare Rev 22:5; Mt 19:28-29; Lk 12:42-44)?  
c. In what ways do we deny Jesus today?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Ex 17:8-13

Gospel: Lk 18:1-8

CCC: 2629-2636; 2742-2745

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Tim 3:14—4:2**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3. a. Talk about your early childhood experiences with the faith (14).  
b. Who were your teachers in this faith?  
c. When were you first introduced to the Bible and what did you get from it (15)?
4. a. What is your experience of Scripture as being the source of wisdom and leading to salvation (15)?  
b. To which part of our present Bible is Paul referring as inspired (16)? When do you use the Scripture to teach, correct, or train in holiness?  
c. How has Scripture made you more competent and equipped for every good work (17)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18

Gospel: Lk 18:9-14

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CCC...*Catechism of the Catholic Church* — NAB...*New American Bible*

CCC: 2683-2691; 430-435

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. What is a libation (6), (see NAB footnote)?
  - b. How can you, like Paul, consider your life as a Christian a fight or a race (7)?
  - c. What is the merited crown Paul awaits (8), (compare NAB footnote)?
4.
  - a. What is “that Day” (8)?
  - b. How can we dispose ourselves to await Jesus’ appearance with eager longing (8)?
  - c. Discuss how God’s presence can replace loneliness and strengthen us (16-17).
  - d. What brings out the urgency of preaching in our day (17)?
  - e. What is “the lion’s mouth”?
  - f. How can Paul speak of being rescued by God when he is so sure of being put to death (18)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Wis 11:22—12:2

Gospel: Lk 19:1-10

CCC: 976-983; 1822-1829

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Thes 1:11—2:2**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. Give examples from the life of Jesus that prayer for others is efficacious (11), (compare Mt 8:5-13; Mt 15:21-28; Mt 17:14-18, etc.).
  - b. What call is being referred to in verse 11 (compare Eph 4:1-6; Mt 4:18-22)?
  - c. What does it mean to be worthy of God’s call?
  - d. Discuss the meaning of “that God may fulfill by his power every honest intention and work of faith”.
4.
  - a. How can you glorify the name of Jesus (12)?
  - b. How are you glorified in him?
  - c. Discuss the meaning of the coming of Jesus and our being gathered in him (2 Thes 2:1).
  - d. What is the day of the Lord and what must happen before it will come (2), (see NAB footnote and verses 3-4)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 2 Mac 7:1-2, 9-14

Gospel: Lk 20:27-38

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CCC...*Catechism of the Catholic Church* — NAB...*New American Bible*

CCC: 2566-2589; 1621-1654; 2443-2449

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Thes 2:16—3:5**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. What is this eternal consolation and hope referred to in verse 16?
  - b. What consolation do you get from God (17)?
  - c. How have you experienced God's strengthening you for every good work and word?
  - d. What does it mean for the word of God to make progress (1)?
4.
  - a. Why do you think Paul values prayers so highly (1-2)?
  - b. Discuss the meaning of "the Lord keeps faith" (3).
  - c. What is your awareness of the evil one?
  - d. How do you know whether the Lord rules your heart (5)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Mal 3:19-20a

Gospel: Lk 21:5-19

CCC: 1038-1041; 2729-2733

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Thes 3:7-12**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. To what extent can you invite your children to imitate you (7)?
  - b. What would you exclude?
  - c. To what example is Paul referring (7-8)?
  - d. What sort of "disorder" can be found among believers today (7)?
4.
  - a. What abuses was Paul trying to correct (10), (see NAB footnote 2 Thes 3:6-15)?
  - b. Discuss Lk 6: 30 in view of 2 Thes 3:10.
  - c. What are some factors we need to consider in giving to those who ask for a handout (see verses 10 and 12)?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?

### **CHRIST THE KING**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 2 Sm 5:1-3

Gospel: Lk 23:35-43

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CCC...*Catechism of the Catholic Church* — NAB...*New American Bible*

CCC: 2471-2492; 2855-2856; 651-674

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Col 1:12-20**

1. What word, phrase, or sentence strikes you in this reading?
2. What do you find difficult to understand or need clarified?
3.
  - a. What is your sense of sharing the lot of the saints in light (12), (compare Jn 1:4; Jn 8:12; Acts 26:18; 1 Pt 2:9; Eph 5:8-15)?
  - b. What is this power of darkness from which we have been rescued (13), (compare Lk 22:53; Jn 3:19-21; Eph 6:12; 1 Thes 5:4-8)?
  - c. Discuss the meaning of verse 15 (see NAB footnote and compare Heb 1:3).
4.
  - a. Discuss verse 16 (compare Jn 1:3 and NAB footnote).
  - b. Discuss verse 17 (compare Acts 17:28).
  - c. Discuss verses 18-19 (compare Col 2:9).
  - d. What is the impact of all of these verses concerning the exalted nature of Jesus?
5. What is the good news for you in this reading? How will you apply it to your life and share it with others?