

The Following Collect, Epistle & Gospel will be read during the Eucharist today in the personal Chapel of the Presiding Archbishop of the Australian Church of Antioch, The Most Reverend Frank Bugge.

The 18th Sunday after Trinity

Intent - Saintly life

The Collect.

We thank you O Lord for those who number among your saints, and we pray that in the fullness of time we may join their ranks and become leaders of your light, in the name of our Redeemer. Amen.

The Epistle for the 18th Sunday after Trinity is from the Wisdom of the Prophet Enoch.

Listen to these words, for they contain truths within their ranks. I say that blessed are those who rate as Saints, for they shall have their lot glorified. Truly these Saints are existing in the light of the sun. This light is surely the light of everlasting life, and from the time the Saints exist in this light their days of life cannot be numbered, for their peace is now complete and everlasting. For these Saints darkness is forever destroyed, and the love of the Lord God becomes a reality to their consciousness their physical being and their hearts. They are then living in a state of bliss, and ecstasy, with the Lord.

Here Endeth the Epistle.

The Gospel for the 18th Sunday after Trinity is from the Book "The Gifts of the Magician".

A certain very compassionate man of great magic ability looked upon the people of his land, and with love in his heart for all, he decided to help them. He conjured up great lots of gems, gold and silver, and then sent his trusted friend and servant to distribute these to the poor and needy. The local priests of the people were not pleased at this, for as they did not handle the treasure, they missed out on their outrageous fees. These priests said to the people - these gifts are worthless and counterfeit. The people, trusting their church and priests threw the gems, gold and silver away, which of course the greedy priests secretly gathered for themselves. The priests urged the people to beat the servant to drive him from their town. Even while they were beating him, the servant blessed these people and prayed for them, for he knew who was really responsible. The magician was very annoyed when his servant came to him battered and sore. After tending his servant, the magician, with feats of magic put a spell on all the wealth of the land, so that it would turn to worthless junk in the hands of any who did not deserve it. The magician said - I sent my loyal and loving servant to do good, but greed drove him away. But I will always keep room in my mansion for those in need, and any who will learn to rise above the greed and mundane realities of life.

Praise Be to Thee O Christ.