

NOVEMBER 8, 2015
TWENTY-FOURTH
SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

taking⁺ faith home

God cares for the poor and needy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Mark 12:38-44	The widow's generous offering
Monday	Psalms 10:12-18	God defends the oppressed
Tuesday	Deuteronomy 10:12-19	God defends the widow
Wednesday	Acts 6:1-7	The church cares for widows
Thursday	1 Timothy 5:1-8	Take care of widows in need
Friday	James 1:27 - 2:8	Look after orphans and widows
Saturday	Psalms 41:1-3	God blesses those who care for the poor
Sunday	Mark 13:1-8	Signs of the end of the age

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

The Lord watches over the outsiders who live in our land. God takes good care of children whose fathers have died. The Lord takes good care of widows. Psalm 146:9

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, thank you for watching over us. Please take care of all who are in need. Amen. (Psalm 146:7-10)

Mealtime Prayer:

Happy are those who hope in God. The Lord feeds the hungry and cares for the poor. Praise the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord! (Psalm 146:1,5,7-10)

A Blessing to Give:

May God provide you with everything you need. May God's care for you inspire you to care for others. Amen.

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you needed someone else to help you. What happened?
- Identify the people in your community who are poorer than others. What are some reasons for this?
- Psalm 146:7 says that God *"stands up for those who are beaten down and gives food to hungry people."* As God's people, how can we care for those who are poor?

DEVOTIONS

Look out for news stories this week about people who are poor or in need. Make a point of praying for these people as part of your home devotion times this week. You may also wish to use the following "Prayer for the Poor."

Jesus, You are the Word - to be spoken; The Truth - to be told; The Way - to be walked; The Light - to be shone; The Joy - to be shared; The Bread of Life - to be given; The Hungry - to be fed; The Naked - to be clothed; The Homeless - to be taken in; The Sick - to be healed; The Lonely - to be loved; The Unwanted - to be wanted; The Little One - to be embraced.

Lord Jesus, you are with the poor and needy around us. Help us to be your hands, feet and voice to them. Amen.

SERVICE

This Sunday's Gospel reading tells us about a widow who gave two small coins, sometimes called mites. A mite box is used to save coins for charitable purposes. Set up a jar or box in your home as your household mite box. Throughout the year, place your loose change. Talk together about where you will donate what is collected.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

November 11 is observed as Veterans Day in the USA, and Remembrance Day or Armistice Day in other countries. On this day, 94 years ago, World War I officially ended. It is tradition to observe a minute of silence in memory and honor of those who lost their lives in military conflicts. Gather as a household and observe a minute of silence. Pray for the relatives of those who have lost loved ones in wars and for peace between nations.



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