

## SUNDAY'S GOSPEL

### ALL SAINTS' DAY—MATTHEW 5:1-12a

**Scripture** | Matthew 4 Jesus tempted in the wilderness (1-11) Jesus begins preaching (12-17) Calling of the first disciples (18-22) Peripatetic preaching ministry, spreading fame, gathering crowds (23-25). Matthew 5–7 Sermon on the Mount.

μακάριοι Makarioi, 'blessed'. Those who are thus blessed receive the result of an action by God, given because they possess certain characteristics. There are various kinds of blessings in the OT, esp. in the Wisdom literature, but those blessings are here and now, whereas these Beatitudes are in the future.

πραεῖς praeis, meek, gentle, lowly, humble

ἐλεήμονες elemones, merciful, related to the word for almsgiving; and Kyrie, eleison.

εἰρηνοποιοί eirenopoi-oi, eirene=peace, poieon=to make. Used only in Mt (but elsewhere in Gk literature). To be sons of God (rather than children) is significant because of the allusions to inheritance.

Having seen the crowds [Jesus] went up on the mountain and when he had sat down his disciples came to him. And opening his mouth, he was teaching them, saying:

'**Blessed** the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.

Blessed **those mourning**, for they will be comforted.

Blessed the **meek**, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed those **craving and thirsting for righteousness**, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed the **merciful**, for they will have mercy shown to them.

Blessed the **pure of heart**, for they will see God.

Blessed the **peacemakers**, for they will be called sons of God.

Blessed those having been persecuted on account of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed you, when they shall insult you and shall persecute you shall say all kinds of evil against you, lying on account of me. Rejoice and be full of joy, for your rewards is great in the heavens.

πτωχοὶ τῷ πνεύματι ptochoi to pneumatic, ptochos from ptosso, bent over, in the attitude of a beggar; 'absolute' rather than 'relative' poverty.

πενθοῦντες pen-theountes, to grieve openly, to mourn; they will be comforted, encouraged (see Paraclete)

πεινῶντες peinentes, to hunger, suffer the want or lack of, to crave, to be famished (for...)

καθαροὶ katharoi, the clean, pure, thoroughly so. The 'clean of hands and pure of heart' ascend the mountain of the Lord (Ps 24).

## Jerusalem Bible

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

## Knox Bible

Jesus, when he saw how great was their number, went up on to the mountain-side; there he sat down, and his disciples came about him. And he began speaking to them; this was the teaching he gave. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Blessed are the patient; they shall inherit the land. Blessed are those who mourn; they shall be comforted. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for holiness; they shall have their fill. Blessed are the merciful; they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart; they shall see God. Blessed are the peace-makers; they shall be counted the children of God. Blessed are those who suffer persecution in the cause of right; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Blessed are you, when men revile you, and persecute you, and speak all manner of evil against you falsely, because of me. Be glad and light-hearted, for a rich reward awaits you in heaven.