

This Sunday, the 26th in Ordinary Time, the Introit invites us to acknowledge our failings and to give glory to God, and the Collect therefore prays for the grace we need to avoid our falls to become “heirs to the treasures of heaven”, that is the beatific vision, our ultimate end. In the first reading the Prophet Ezekiel invites us to examine whether our own lives are in order and whether we need conversion, so as to avoid spiritual death. Psalm 24 then underlines our need for God’s merciful love and to learn humility. St Paul in the epistle warns the Ephesians against selfishness and self-conceit and gives us the example of Our Lord’s emptying himself to take the form of a servant and to be born “in the likeness of men”, that is the Incarnation of the Word as Our Lord took on human form for our salvation through His obedience and death.

St Matthew in the Holy Gospel of today, through the story of the two sons of the owner of a vineyard, further underlines the need for obedience, conversion and faith.

Let us therefore turn to Our Lady and ask Her for the grace we need for our conversion, to practise humility with orthodoxy and to strengthen our faith.