



**St Giles** (c. 650 – c. 710) was a Greek Christian hermit saint from Athens, whose legend is centered in Provence and Septimania. He is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers. He is the patron saint of beggars.

**First Reading:** (1 Cor 2:10-16) The Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what person knows a man's thoughts except the spirit of the man which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God, that we might understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who possess the Spirit. The unspiritual man does not receive the gifts of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual man judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

**Ps 144:8-14**

**Reflection:** Abuse of the authority is often celebrated in the social media with many 'trolls', 'likes' and 'tags'. It is the all-time favourite of the social media. At the same time people appreciate genuine authority that is rooted in love and service. Jesus has given the authority to the Church to serve, to love and to set captives free. Jesus taught with authority. Where does such authority come from? **Jesus' authority comes from his obedience to the Father. Authority that comes from disobedience to the mind of God is destructive.** Such teachings do not remove the unclean spirits but feed them. Lord, teach us with authority.

**R./ The Lord is just in all his ways.**

**Gospel:** (Lk 4:31-37) Jesus went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the sabbath; and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word was with authority. And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon; and he cried out with a loud voice, "Ah! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. And they were all amazed and said to one another, "What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out." And reports of him went out into every place in the surrounding region.