



**St Leo the Great:** Born in Tuscany, he became Pope in the year 440. He was a true father and shepherd of his people. He strenuously worked hard to preserve the integrity of faith, defended the unity of the church, and in every truth he is called the Great.

**First Reading:** (Wis 6:1-11) Listen therefore, O kings, and understand; learn, O judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, you that rule over multitudes, and boast of many nations. For your dominion was given you from the Lord, and your sovereignty from the Most High, who will search out your works and inquire into your plans. Because as servants of his kingdom you did not rule rightly, nor keep the law, nor walk according to the purpose of God, he will come upon you terribly and swiftly, because severe judgment falls on those in high places. For the lowliest man may be pardoned in mercy, but mighty men will be mightily tested. For the Lord of all will not stand in awe of any one, nor show deference to greatness; because he himself made both small and great, and he takes thought for all alike. But a strict inquiry is in store for the mighty. To you then, O monarchs, my words are directed, that you may learn wisdom and not transgress. For they will be made holy who observe holy things in holiness, and those who have been taught

them will find a defence. Therefore set your desire on my words; long for them, and you will be instructed.

**Ps 81:3-4, 6-7**

**R./ Arise, O God, judge the earth.**

**Gospel:** (Lk 17:11-19) On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

## REFLECTION

Obedience to God saves. Obedience is the Way to salvation, the way that brought salvation. Out of obedience to the Father, Jesus the Unique begotten Son freely laid down his life for the salvation of humankind. This historical event took place in Jerusalem two thousand years ago. On his way to Jerusalem, Jesus freed people from leprosy. "Go and show yourselves to the priests". The prompt obedience of the lepers to God makes them whole. They are offered a new beginning in Jesus. **The salvation brought by Jesus Passion, death and resurrection is renewed today for all who dare to obey God's Word.** May our loving obedience fill our hearts with gratitude.