

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

24th September 2020

THE COLLECT

O almighty God,
whose blessed Son called Matthew the
tax-collector to be an apostle and
evangelist:
give us grace to forsake the selfish
pursuit of gain
and the possessive love of riches
that we may follow in the way of your
Son Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Proverbs 3. 13-18

- ¹³Happy are those who find wisdom,
and those who get understanding,
¹⁴for her income is better than silver,
and her revenue better than gold.
¹⁵She is more precious than jewels,
and nothing you desire can compare
with her.
¹⁶Long life is in her right hand;
in her left hand are riches and honour.
¹⁷Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.
¹⁸She is a tree of life to those who lay
hold of her;
those who hold her fast are called
happy.

At the end the reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the
Church

All Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 119.65-72

**Refrain: The Law of the Lord is
dearer to me than Gold and
silver.**

- 65 You have dealt graciously with your
servant,
according to your word, O Lord.
66 O teach me true understanding and
knowledge,
for I have trusted in your
commandments.
67 Before I was afflicted I went astray,
but now I keep your word.
68 You are gracious and do good;
O Lord, teach me your statutes.
**R: The Law of the Lord is dearer to
me than Gold and silver.**
69 The proud have smeared me with
lies,
but I will keep your
commandments with my whole
heart.
70 Their heart has become gross with fat,
but my delight is in your law.
71 It is good for me that I have been
afflicted,
that I may learn your statutes.
72 The law of your mouth is dearer to
me
than a hoard of gold and silver.

**R: The Law of the Lord is dearer to
me than Gold and silver.**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4.1-6

¹Since it is by God's mercy that we are
engaged in this ministry, we do not lose
heart. ²We have renounced the
shameful things that one hides; we
refuse to practise cunning or to falsify
God's word; but by the open statement
of the truth we commend ourselves to
the conscience of everyone in the sight
of God. ³And even if our gospel is
veiled, it is veiled to those who are
perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this
world has blinded the minds of the
unbelievers, to keep them from seeing
the light of the gospel of the glory of
Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For
we do not proclaim ourselves; we
proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and
ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.
⁶For it is the God who said, 'Let light
shine out of darkness,' who has shone
in our hearts to give the light of the
knowledge of the glory of God in the
face of Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 9.9-13

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a
man called Matthew sitting at the tax
booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.'
And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house,
many tax-collectors and sinners came
and were sitting with him and his
disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw
this, they said to his disciples, 'Why
does your teacher eat with tax-
collectors and sinners?' ¹²But when he
heard this, he said, 'Those who are well
have no need of a physician, but those
who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this
means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice."
For I have come to call not the
righteous but sinners.'

