

Thoughts on the Daily Word:

33rd Week of Year. Friday 20th November. Readings of Day: Apoc. 10:8-11; Psalm: 118; Gospel: Luke 19:45-48.

In the vision of John, the heavenly Temple is revealed. In his actions cleansing the Temple in Jerusalem Jesus reveals his mission. The Jerusalem Temple represented all of creation in relationship with God, a healed and restored creation. The abuse of the Temple for profit challenges us in our world today. The environment that we damage through our desire for profit is the reality that the Temple symbolises. The damage is not just the external or physical damage, but it stems from the brokenness of our humanity. The Lamb is the healer of the whole person. The scroll represents firstly the plan of God, the Word, but it also reveals the mystery of history itself in all its meaning. The power to unravel and use that mystery is given to John who represents Christ and his Church. What awesome authority and power is given to us! Can we use it wisely or do we fall back into the failures of the past, defiling the Temple with our own machinations? This is why the Apocalypse is such a powerful vision and challenge and is placed before us as we come to the end of our liturgical journey. The coming feast of Christ the King is not the end but prepares us for a new beginning.