

**This Week's Scriptures**  
**October 13, 2019**  
**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**2 Kings 5:14-17 † 2 Timothy 2:8-13 † Luke 17:11-19**



**Reflection by: Mary Lanni, OPA**

Our minds and hearts are directed by these readings to the beautiful virtue of gratitude and maybe even more forcefully to its antithesis, ingratitude. The passage from Luke relates how Jesus, on his journey to Jerusalem, passed through a town and was met by ten lepers begging him to heal them. With great compassion for them he did. When only one of the ten that Jesus healed returned to thank him, he said, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine?"

The "other nine" are all of us when we neglect to express a real sense of gratitude to the God who has given us life and put people in it who love us and cherish us. These great gifts deserve a response from us that is more than a rote prayer or off-hand thank you. Very often when selecting a thank you card we see the wording "You will never know what you did means to me." This is an attempt to express the inexpressible and is the feeling of gratitude that we should develop in our relationship with God.

A grateful heart makes us aware of the need for understanding, kindness, generosity, compassion and acceptance in our world. A grateful, open one can be the source of healing in our world.

*Things must be felt with the heart.*

*Helen Keller*