

## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

November 3, 2019

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 11:22–12:2 † 2 Thessalonians 1:11–2:2 † Luke 19:1-10

Reflection by: Sister Elise Redmerski, OP



*When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said,  
"Zacchaeus, come down quickly,  
for today I must stay at your house."  
And he came down quickly and received him with joy.  
When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying,  
"He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner."*

For a moment, let's reverse the story. On Sundays, Jesus invites us to his house. Do we run ahead to get a good place to see Jesus? And are we looking for Jesus in just the bread and wine? Or do we see Jesus in the assembled guests of the gathered 'sinners'? There is Derrick, back from prison. Patty, who is homeless and makes a great deal of noise carting around her treasures. Then there is Lisa, who is married and having an affair, and Craig, the gossiper. Not to mention my own sinfulness. Am I as happy as Zacchaeus just to get a glimpse of Jesus in each one of us? Look, he has invited these people to his house and freely gives of himself to them. Who am I to question their presence and not see the face of Jesus? Or am I just a part of the grumbling crowd?