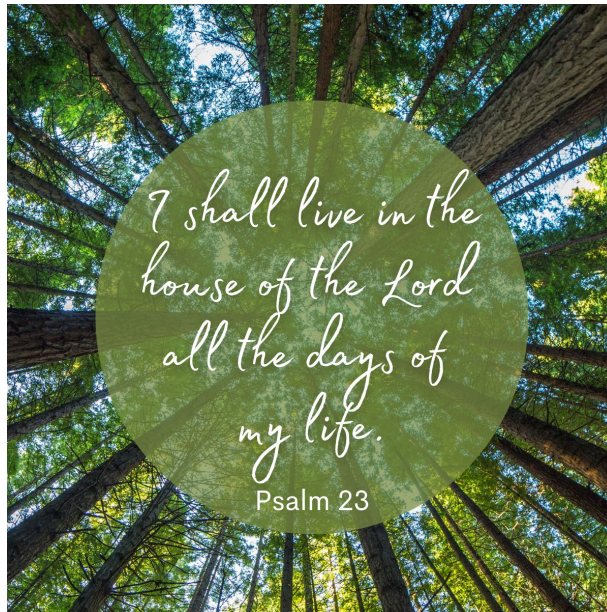


## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

October 11, 2020

Twenty-Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 25:6-10 † Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 † Matthew 22:1-14



**Reflection by: Sister Pat Crowley, OP**

The host (God) invites the religious leaders to the banquet; the response is less than enthusiastic. Some are too busy, can't be bothered. They prefer their own oppressive attitudes, violent approaches to solving social problems, superiority over equality. They are not fit to come. The host angry, extends the invitation, to those eager to do good for others, who live in the house of the Lord, preferring love, forgiveness and equality.

Matthew includes the encounter of the host with one who is not properly dressed. It seems to take away from the wonderful, warm story. The individual is thrown out. As one commentator says: perhaps it is not the dress but a deeper problem, not being willing to receive the Gospel or to live a new life in Christ. The individual is lost for words when asked for an explanation. They are unwilling to adapt themselves and their life to enter the kingdom of heaven.

There is the story of a famous orator invited to recite the 23rd Psalm before a large audience. The crowd applauded his presentation. An old man stood up and made his way to the stage, asking if he could present the Psalm. He was allowed to do so. At the end of his presentation there was no applause but silent, tear-stained faces. The audience had been touched deeply. The orator asked the old man, "*What was different?*" The old man replied, you know the 23rd Psalm, I know the Shepherd!

*To be rooted is perhaps the most  
important and least recognized  
need of the human soul.*

*—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*