

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time the disciples came to Jesus saying,

“Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst

of them and said, “Truly, I say to you,

unless you turn and become like children,

you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Whoever humbles himself like this child,

he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Whoever receives one such child in my name

receives me.”

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones;

for I tell you that in heaven their angels always

behold the face of my Father who is in heaven.

What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep,

and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave

the ninety-nine on the mountains

and go in search of the one that went astray?

And if he finds it truly, I say to you,

he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine

that never went astray. So it is not the will of

my Father who is in heaven that one of these

little ones should perish.”

The Gospel of the Lord.