**SEVENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME 23 February 2020**

**INTRODUCTION** Jesus tells us that God loves all of his children, deserving and undeserving. And he urges us to imitate this all-embracing love of God. We know how difficult love can be, especially in relation to people we don’t like. Jesus not only shows us how to love but helps us to love. [Pause]

**PRIEST** Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God’s kingdom: Lord, have mercy.

 You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us and make us holy: Christ, have mercy.

 You will come in glory with salvation for your people: Lord, have mercy.

**INTRODUCTION TO** Love your neighbour as yourself.

**FIRST READING**

(Lv 19:1-2.17-18*)*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** The Lord is kind and merciful.

**INTRODUCTION TO** What is wise with the world, is

**SECOND READING** absurd with God.

(1 Cor 3:16-23)