

St Boniface (c. 675? – 754), was born in the kingdom of Wessex in Anglo-Saxon England, was a leading figure in the Anglo-Saxon mission to the Germanic parts of the Frankish Empire during the 8th century. He established the first organized Christianity in many parts of Germania. He is the first archbishop of Mainz and the "Apostle of the Germans". He was killed in Frisia in 754, along with 52 others



First Reading: (Col 1:21-23) You, who once were estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, provided that you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which has been preached to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Ps 53:3-4, 6, 8

R. / I have God for my help.

Gospel: (Lk 6:1-5) On a sabbath, while Jesus was going through the grainfields, his disciples plucked and ate some heads of grain, rubbing them in their hands. But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the sabbath?" And Jesus answered, "Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: how he entered the house of God, and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those with him?" And he said to them, "The Son of man is lord of the sabbath."

REFLECTION

The religionists watched Jesus closely to accuse him. Jesus knew their thoughts. Rabbis admitted that human needs take precedence over rules. But the Pharisees had forgotten the claims of mercy because they were immersed in their rules and regulations. **The person comes with no sense of need always misses the deepest meaning of scripture.** When need awakens, the Bible is a new book. The need must be real in order to take precedence over rituals. We must be living closely enough to Him in worship and ministry to sense what should be done.