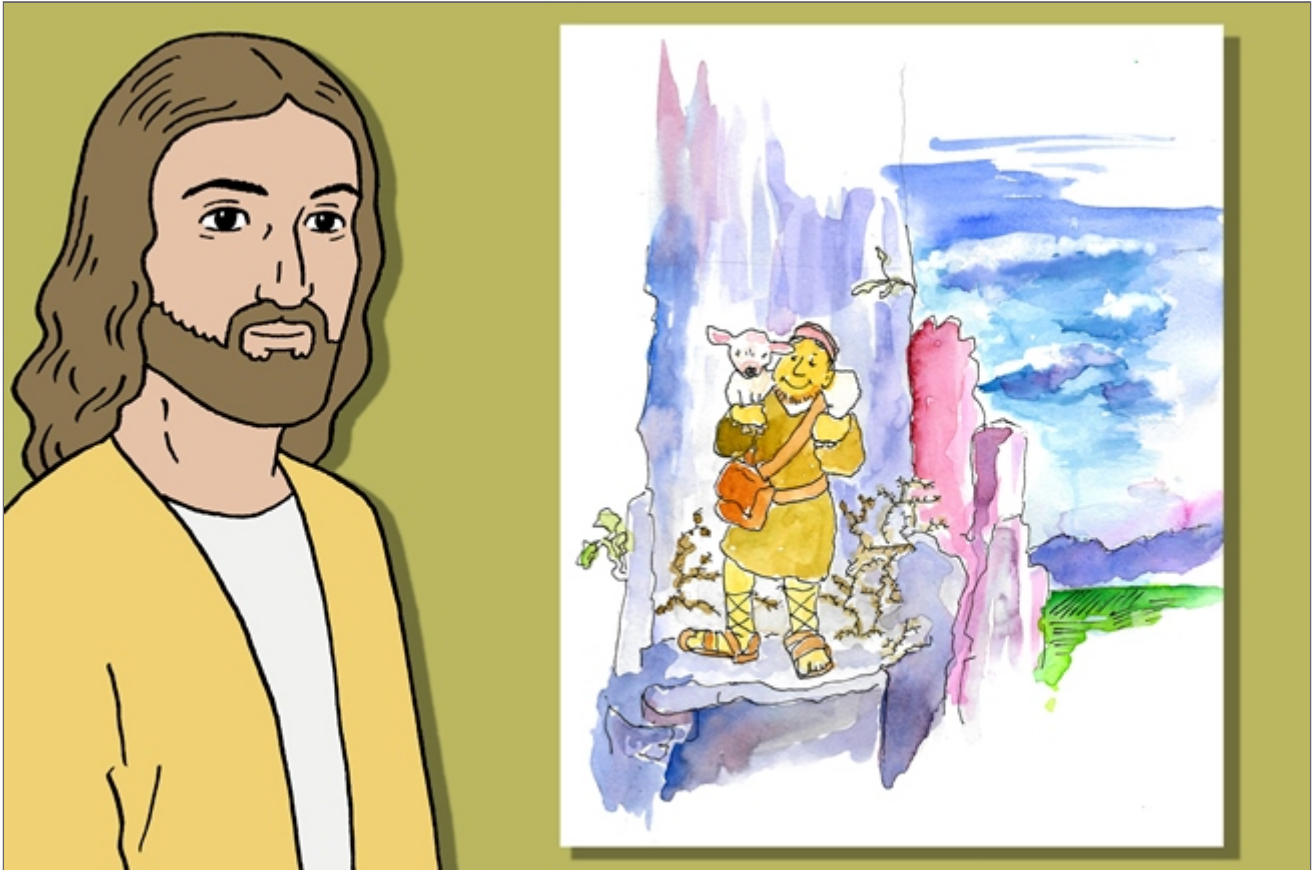


# Thursday of the Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time

**Gospel text (Lk 15:1-10): "I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance."**



**Illustration:** Fr. Lluís Raventós Artés

Today, the "Parable of the lost sheep" transmits us comfort and hope, because... who has not been lost in this life? It is surprising that the Pharisees and scribes complained (behind Jesus' back) by muttering: "This man welcomes sinners." Apparently, those guys would have never been lost. Never! They were perfect! This is what they believed; although, actually, they are pitiful: they were blind, by despising others, always with a funerary face...

- God's second name is "Mercy." What a great comfort to know that my Father- God always smiles at me, especially when I get back to Him!