

The Lord giveth sight to the blind.
The Lord helpeth them that are fallen.
The Lord careth for the strangers,
he defendeth the fatherless
and widow. **R.**

The Lord careth for the righteous;
as for the way of the ungodly,
he turneth it upside down.
The Lord thy God, O Sion,
shall be King for evermore:
and throughout all generations. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

A reading from the Letter of St James.

Be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it until it receives the early and the late rain. You also be patient.

Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

Do not grumble, brethren, against one another, that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the doors. As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 80:2-8

Show thyself, O Lord, thou that sittest upon the Cherubim : stir up thy strength and come. Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel : thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep. Alleluia. Alleluia. Stir up thy strength, O Lord: and come and help us. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 11:2-11

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In those days: When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?"

And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is he who takes no offence at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind? Why then did you go out? To see a man dressed in soft robes? Behold, those who wear soft robes are in kings' houses. Why then did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way before thee.' Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to thee, O Christ.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

John 11:25

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

[or

O Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the pains of hell and from the depths of the pit: deliver them from the lion's mouth that hell devour them not, that they fall not into darkness: but let the standard-bearer, Saint Michael, bring them into the holy light: which of old thou didst promise unto Abraham and his seed. We offer unto thee, O Lord, sacrifices of prayer and praise: do thou receive them for the souls of those whose memory we this day recall: make them, O Lord, to pass from death unto life. Which of old thou didst promise unto Abraham and his seed.]

OFFERTORY HYMN

Christ enthroned in highest heaven,
Hear us, crying from the deep
For the faithful ones departed,
For the souls of all that sleep;
As thy kneeling Church entreateth,
Hearken, Shepherd of the sheep.

King of glory, hear our voices,
Grant the faithful rest, we pray;
We have sinned and may not bide it,
If thou mark our steps astray,
Yet we plead that saving Victim,
Which for them we bring today.

That which thou thyself hast offered
To thy Father, offer we:
By thy sacrifice, O Jesu,
From sin's burden set them free;
Hear us, loving friend of sinners,
Merciful and gracious be.

They are thine, O take them to thee;
Thou their hope, O raise them high;
In thy mercy ever trusting,
Confident we make our cry
That the souls which thou hast purchased
May unto thy heart be nigh.

Let thy plenteous loving-kindness
On them evermore be poured;
Let them through thy boundless mercy
Be to boundless life restored,
And within thy Father's mansions
Give to each a place, O Lord.

Where the saints, thy throne surrounding,
Join in the angelic song,
Where thy Mother, raised in glory,
Leads the great redeemed throng,
Grant that we, with souls departed,
May through grace at length belong.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

We beseech thee, O Lord, favourably to assist our prayers for the souls of thy servants and handmaids for whom we offer unto thee this sacrifice of praise; that it may be profitable for their healing in eternity. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

2 Esdras 2:35

May everlasting light shine upon them, O Lord with thy saints for evermore, for thou art gracious. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them with thy saints for evermore, for thou art gracious.

KONTAKION OF THE DEPARTED

If there is a choir, the Russian Kontakion of the Departed may be sung as the people begin to receive Holy Communion.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servants with thy saints: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servants with thy saints: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

COMMUNION HYMN

Jesu, Son of Mary,
Fount of life alone,
Here we hail thee present
On thine Altar-throne.
Humbly we adore thee,
Lord of endless might,
In the mystic symbols
Veiled from earthly sight.

Think, O Lord, in mercy
On the souls of those
Who, in faith gone from us,
Now in death repose.
Here 'mid stress and conflict
Toils can never cease;

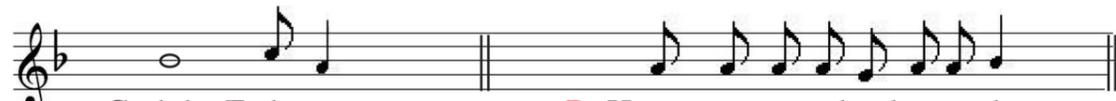
LITANY OF THE DEPARTED

This litany is sung in procession around the church, the people kneeling.



v. Lord, have mercy.
v. Christ, have mercy.
v. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.



v. God the Father,
v. God the Son,
v. God the Holy Spirit,
v. Holy Trinity, one God,

R. Have mercy on the departed.

There, the warfare ended,
Bid them rest in peace.

Often they were wounded
In the deadly strife,
Heal them, good Physician,
With the balm of life.
Every taint of evil,
Frailty and decay,
Good and gracious Saviour,
Cleanse and purge away.

Rest eternal grant them,
After weary fight:
Shed on them the radiance
Of thy heavenly light.
Lead them onward, upward,
To the holy place,
Where thy Saints made perfect
Gaze upon thy face.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we beseech thee, almighty and merciful God: that this sacrifice may bring peace and forgiveness to our brothers and sisters departed this life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Third Sunday of Advent A

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:1-6,10

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the lily it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

145

R. O Lord, come and save us.

The Lord keepeth his promise for ever;
Who helpeth them to right
that suffer wrong;
who feedeth the hungry.
The Lord looseth men out of prison. R.

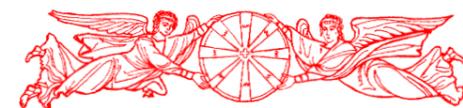
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair, and a leather girdle around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey.

Then went out to him Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit that befits repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

72

R. In his time shall the righteous flourish:
yea, and abundance of peace

Give the King thy judgements, O God
and thy righteousness
unto the King's son.
Then shall he judge thy people
according unto right:
and defend the poor. **R.**

In his time shall the righteous flourish:
yea, and abundance of peace,
so long as the moon endureth.
His dominion shall be also
from the one sea to the other;
and from the flood
unto the world's end. **R.**

For he shall deliver the poor
when he crieth:
the needy also,
and him that hath no helper.
He shall be favourable
to the simple and needy:
and shall preserve
the souls of the poor. **R.**

His name shall endure for ever:
his name shall be continued
as long as the sun:
and men shall be blessed in him:
all nations shall call him blessed. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-9

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by

the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written, "Therefore I will praise thee among the Gentiles, and sing to thy name."

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 50:2,3,5; 122:1

Out of Sion hath God appeared: in perfect beauty. Gather my saints together unto me, those that have made a covenant with me with sacrifice. Alleluia. Alleluia. I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of the Lord. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:37-44

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:



v. Holy Mary, Mother of *God*
v. Holy Angels of *God*,
v. Holy Patriarchs and *Prophets*,
v. Holy Apostles and *Evangelists*,
v. Holy *Martyrs*,
v. Holy Bishops and *Confessors*,
v. Holy *Doctors*,
v. Holy *Virgins*,
v. All holy Saints of *God*,

R. Pray for the departed.



v. O Lord, remember not the sins of thy servants departed this life; spare them O Lord; spare thy people whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious *blood*,



v. From all *evil*,
v. From the valley of the shadow of *death*,
v. By thy holy *birth*,
v. By the life thou hast lived among us,
v. By thy fasting and *temptation*,
v. By thy suffering and *death*,
v. By thy glorious resurrection and *ascension*,
v. By the coming of the Holy *Spirit*,

R. Save them, O Lord.



v. We pray for our departed parents,
loved ones and *friends*,
v. We pray for those departed
who are forgotten on *earth*,
v. We pray that all who rest in Christ
may have refreshment, light and *peace*,
v. Through the prayers of thy Church
and the offering of the Holy Sacrifice
may they come to everlasting *joy*,

R. Hear us, O Lord.



- v. May every tear be wiped away
from their *eyes*,
- v. May the vision of Jesus strengthen them,
and the glorious light of his cross
shine *upon* them,
- v. May thy holy angels bring them safely
to heaven, and the glorious Queen of
Saints present them before thy *throne*,

Priest: Let us pray. O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers for our brothers and sisters departed this life and grant them light, joy and peace in the fellowship of blessed Mary and all thy saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

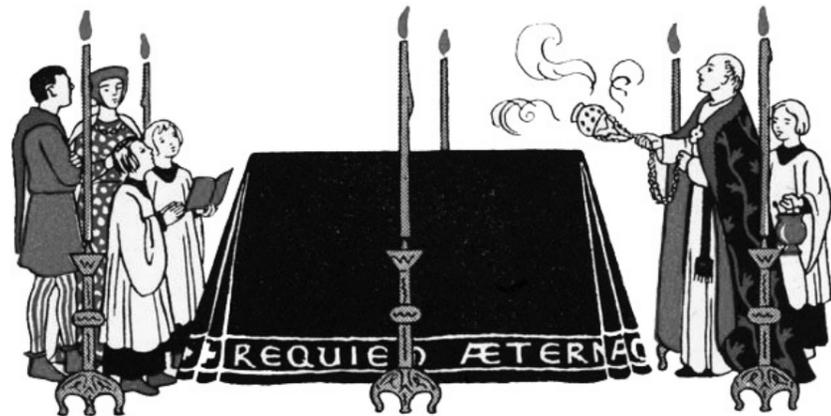
(Said:)

- v. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.
R. And let light perpetual shine upon them.

The people **STAND**

All sing:

May flights of angels lead you on your way
To paradise and heaven's eternal day;
May martyrs greet you after death's dark night,
And bid you enter into Sion's light;
May choirs of angels sing you to your rest
With once poor Laz'rus, now for ever blest!



The Second Sunday of Advent **A**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 11.1-10

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

On that day: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the girdle of his waist, and faithfulness the girdle of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall feed; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The sucking child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the peoples; him shall the nations seek, and his dwellings shall be glorious.

me thy ways, O Lord : and grant us thy salvation. Alleluia, alleluia. Show us thy mercy, O Lord : and teach me thy paths. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:37-44

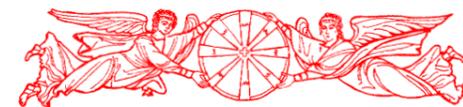
The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, "As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man. Then two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left.

"Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the householder had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The First Sunday of Advent **A**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The word which Isaiah, the son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

122

R. We will go rejoicing
into the house of the Lord.

I was glad when they said unto me :
we will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates:
O Jerusalem. **R.**

Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity in itself :
For thither the tribes go up,
even the tribes of the Lord,
to testify unto Israel, to give thanks
unto the Name of the Lord :
For there is the seat of judgment,
even the seat of the house of David. **R.**

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem :
they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls :
and plenteousness within thy palaces. **R.**

For my brethren and companions' sakes :
I will wish thee prosperity.
Yea, because of the house
of the Lord our God :
I will seek to do thee good. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Brethren: You know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand.

Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy.

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 25:3-4; 85:8

For all they that look for thee shall not be ashamed, O Lord. Make known to

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8th December

INTROIT

Isaiah 61:10; Psalm 30:1

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall be joyful in my God: for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation: he hath covered me with the robe of justice, as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. **Ps.** I will magnify thee, O Lord, for thou hast set me up: and not made my foes to triumph over me. Glory be.

COLLECT

O God, who through the immaculate Conception of the Virgin didst prepare an habitation meet for thy Son: we beseech thee; that as thou, foreseeing the death of the same thy Son, didst preserve her from all stain, so by her intercession thou wouldest suffer us also to attain in purity to thee. Through the same Jesus Christ thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Judith 13:18; 15:9; Song of Sol 4:7

Blessed art thou, O Virgin Mary, of the Most High God, above all women upon the earth. Thou art the exaltation of Jerusalem, thou art the great glory of Israel, thou art the great rejoicing of our nation. Alleluia, alleluia. Thou art all fair, O Mary; there is no spot of sin in thee. Alleluia.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Cf. Luke 1:28,42

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with

thee; blessed art thou among women, alleluia.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Receive, O Lord, this saving victim which we offer unto thee on the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and grant that as we confess her through thy preventing grace to be free from all stain; so by her intercession we may be delivered from all our sins; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Luke 1:48,49

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O Mary, for he that is mighty hath magnified thee.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May this Sacrament which we have received, O Lord our God, heal us from the wounds of our sins by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.



Votive Requiem Mass

INTROIT

Psalm 65

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them. **Ps.** Thou, O God, art praised in Sion, and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem: thou that hearest the prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come. Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them.

COLLECT

Almighty God, who dost govern all things in heaven and on earth: according to the favour which thou bearest unto thy people, grant that our *brother/ sister N.*, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming, may be blessed with everlasting light and peace, and come into the glorious fellowship of the saints in light : Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

FIRST READING

One of the following:

1

Wisdom 3:1-6, 9

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be an affliction, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace.

For though in the sight of men they were punished, their hope is full of im-

mortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt offering he accepted them. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his elect.

This is the Word of the Lord.

2

Isaiah 25:6a,7-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things, a feast of wine on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wine on the lees well refined. And he will destroy on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death for ever, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

This is the Word of the Lord.

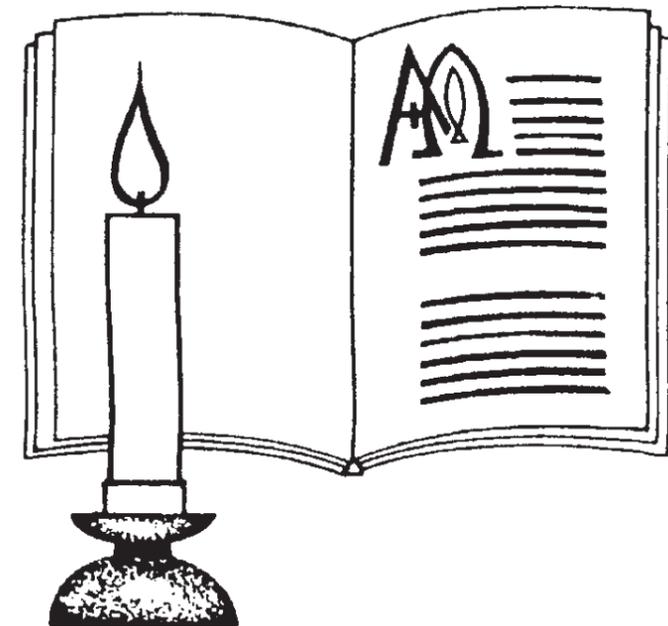
3

Lamentations 3:17-26

A reading from the book of Lamentations.

My soul is bereft of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is; so I say, "Gone is my glory, and my expectation from the Lord." Remember my affliction

Readings from the Word of God



The Three-year Cycle of Sunday Mass Readings (RSV)
together with Responsorial Psalms
based on the Coverdale Psalter
from the Book of Common Prayer

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me. This is the bread which came down from heaven, not such as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live for ever."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

John 11:25

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

We beseech thee, O Lord, to have mercy on the soul of thy servant N. for whom we offer unto thee this sacrifice of our

redemption. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Russian Kontakion
of the Departed

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servants with thy saints: Where sorrow and pain are no more; neither sighing but life everlasting. Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of man: And we are mortal formed from the dust of earth, And unto earth shall we return: for so thou didst ordain, When thou created me saying: "Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; And weeping o'er the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Give rest, O Christ, to thy servants with thy saints: Where sorrow and pain are no more; neither sighing but life everlasting.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Remember thy servant(s), O Lord, according to the favour which thou bearest unto thy people; and grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, *he/she/they* may go from strength to strength in thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



bitterness, the wormwood and the gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

4

Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

All who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together until now; and not only the creation, but we

ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

This is the Word of the Lord.

5

Romans 8:31b-35,37-39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

6

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Lo! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet

will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

7

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

We would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the archangel's call, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first; then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore comfort one another with these words.

This is the Word of the Lord.

8

Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away."

And he who sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the fountain of the water of life without payment."

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

A: Job 19:25-27

Alleluia, alleluia. I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another. Alleluia

or B: 2 Esdr. 2. & Ps. 112

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord: and let light perpetual shine upon them. The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance: he will not be afraid of

any evil tidings. Absolve, O Lord, the souls of all the faithful departed from every bond of sin. And by the help of thy grace may they be worthy to escape the avenging judgment. And enjoy the bliss of everlasting light.

GOSPEL READING

One of the following:

1

Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

2

Luke 24:13-16,28-35

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

That very day [the first day of the

week] two of the disciples were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognising him.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further, but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?"

And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, who said, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"

Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

3

John 6:51-58

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to the crowds: "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh."