

you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream."

Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the people to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.

The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

And they said, "Barabbas."

Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?"

They all said, "Let him be crucified."

And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?"

But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified."

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."

And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!"

Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head.

And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him.

As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they compelled to carry his cross.

And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots; then they sat down and kept watch over him there.

And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews."

Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lama sa

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

51

R: Have mercy upon us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness: according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences. Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

For I acknowledge my faults and my sin is ever before me. Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight. **R.**

Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence and take not thy holy Spirit from me. **R.**

O give me the comfort of thy help again: and stablish me with thy free Spirit. Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shall shew thy praise. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2

A reading from the second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Brethren: We are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We beseech you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation."

Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 57:2,4; 103:10; 79:8,9

Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee. He shall send from heaven: and save me from the reproof of him that would eat me up. O Lord, deal not with us after our sins: nor reward us according to our wickednesses. O Lord, remember not our old sins, but have mercy upon us, and that soon: For we are come to great misery. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy Name, O Lord: O deliver us and be merciful unto our sins, for thy Name's sake.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: "Beware of practising your piety before men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Thus, when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is

in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The First Sunday of Lent **A**

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 2:7- 9, 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?’”

And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”

But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

51

R: Have mercy upon us, O Lord,
for we have sinned.

Have mercy upon me, O God,
after thy great goodness:
according to the multitude of thy mercies
do away mine offences.
Wash me thoroughly
from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

For I acknowledge my faults
and my sin is ever before me.
Against thee only have I sinned,
and done this evil in thy sight. **R.**

Make me a clean heart, O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence
and take not thy holy Spirit from me. **R.**

the Son of man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

Then the high priest tore his robes, and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?”

They answered, “He deserves death.”

Then they spat in his face, and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?”

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a maid came up to him, and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.”

But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you mean.”

And when he went out to the porch, another maid saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”

And again he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.”

After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.”

Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.”

And immediately the cock crowed.

And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; and they bound him and led him away and delivered him to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that

he was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, “I have sinned in betraying innocent blood.”

They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.”

And throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself.

But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.”

So they took counsel, and bought with them the potter’s field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord directed me.”

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Jesus said, “You have said so.”

But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer.

Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?”

But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge; so that the governor wondered greatly.

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for

even to death; remain here, and watch with me.”

And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, “My Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”

And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.”

And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the Twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people.

Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I shall kiss is the man; seize him.” And he came up to Jesus at once and said, “Hail, Master!” And he kissed him.

Jesus said to him, “Friend, why are you here?” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him.

And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and

drew his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?”

At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But all this has taken place, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.”

Then all the disciples forsook him and fled.

Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered.

But Peter followed him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end.

Now the chief priests and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.’”

And the high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?”

But Jesus was silent.

And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.”

Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see

O give me the comfort of thy help again: and stablish me with thy free Spirit. Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shall shew thy praise. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 5:12, 17-19

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

Brethren: As sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned.

If, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

Then as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to acquittal and life for all men. For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 91

God shall give his Angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

They shall bear thee in their hands, that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.

Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the Most High, shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say unto the Lord: Thou art my hope and my stronghold: my God, in him will I trust.

For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter, and from the noisome pestilence.

He shall defend thee under his wings, and thou shalt be safe under his feathers.

His faithfulness and truth shall be thy shield and buckler: thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by night.

Nor for the arrow that flieth by day, for the pestilence that walketh in darkness, nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noonday.

A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand: but it shall not come nigh thee.

For he shall give his Angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

They shall bear thee in their hands: that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.

Thou shalt go upon the lion and adder, the young lion and the dragon shalt thou tread under thy feet.

Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him up, because he hath known my name.

He shall call upon me, and I will hear him: yea, I am with him in trouble.

I will deliver him and bring him to honour: with long life I will satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:1-11

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time:

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry.

And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is writ-

ten, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”

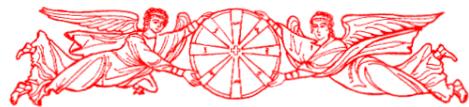
Then the devil took him to the holy city, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will give his angels charge of you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’” Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them; and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Begone, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’”

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and ministered to him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Second Sunday of Lent **A**

THE FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis.

In those days: The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name

great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

33

R. Lord, let thy mercy be upon us,
as we place our trust in thee.

The word of the Lord is true,
and all his works are faithful.
He loveth righteousness and judgment;
the earth is full of the goodness
of the Lord. **R.**

Behold, the eye of the Lord
is upon them that fear him,
and upon them
that put their trust in his mercy;
To deliver their soul from death;
and to feed them in the time of dearth. **R.**
Our soul hath patiently waited
for the Lord;
for he is our help and our shield.
Let thy merciful kindness, O Lord,
be upon us,
like as we do put our trust in thee. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:8-10

A reading from the second Letter of St Paul to Timothy.

Beloved: Take your share of suffering for the Gospel in the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not in virtue of our works but in virtue of his own purpose, and the grace which he gave us in Christ Jesus ages ago, and now has manifested

and that followed him shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

And when he entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, “Who is this?” And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

THE PASSION READING

Matthew 26:14 -27:66

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

At that time: One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?”

He said, “Go into the city to such a one, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’”

And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, he sat at table with the twelve disciples; and as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”

And they were very sorrowful, and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?”

He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me, will betray me. The Son of man goes as it is

written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”

Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Is it I, Master?”

He said to him, “You have said so.” Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.”

And he took a chalice, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.”

Peter declared to him, “Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.”

Jesus said to him, “Truly, I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.”

Peter said to him, “Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you.”

And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.”

And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful,

Many dogs are come about me
and the council of the wicked
layeth siege against me.
They pierced my hands and my feet;
I may tell all my bones. **R.**

They part my garments among them
and casts lots upon my vesture.
But be not thou far from me, O Lord:
thou art my succour,
haste thee to help me. **R.**

I will declare thy Name
unto my brethren;
in the midst of the congregation
will I praise thee.
O praise the Lord, ye that fear him :
magnify him,
all ye of the seed of Jacob,
and fear him, all ye seed of Israel. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 2:6-11

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

Christ Jesus, though he was in the
form of God, did not count equality
with God a thing to be grasped, but
emptied himself, taking the form of a
servant, being born in the likeness of
men.

And being found in human form he
humbled himself and became obedient
unto death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted
him and bestowed on him the name
which is above every name, that at the
name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the
earth, and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of
God the Father.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 2:8-9

Christ became obedient for our sakes
unto death, even the death of the Cross.
Wherefore God also hath highly exalt-
ed him: and given him a Name which
is above every name.

THE GOSPEL OF THE ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

For use as required instead of the Pas-
sion Reading at Low Mass when it has
not been read at the Blessing of Palms.

Matthew 21:1-11

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: When they drew near
to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage,
to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus
sent two disciples, saying to them,
“Go into the village opposite you, and
immediately you will find a donkey
tied, and a colt with her; untie them
and bring them to me. If any one says
anything to you, you shall say, ‘The
Lord has need of them,’ and he will
send them immediately.”

This took place to fulfil what was
spoken by the prophet, saying, “Tell the
daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is
coming to you, humble, and mounted
on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a
donkey.”

The disciples went and did as Jesus
had directed them; they brought the
donkey and the colt, and put their gar-
ments on them, and he sat thereon.

Most of the crowd spread their
garments on the road, and others cut
branches from the trees and spread
them on the road.

And the crowds that went before

through the appearing of our Saviour
Christ Jesus, who abolished death and
brought life and immortality to light
through the Gospel.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalms 83:19,14, 60:4.6

Let the nations know that thou, whose
name is the Lord: art only the Most
Highest over all the earth. O my God,
make them like unto a wheel: and as
the stubble before the wind. Thou hast
moved the land, O Lord: and divided
it. Heal the sores thereof: for it sha-
keth. That they may triumph because
of the truth: that thy beloved may be
delivered.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 17:1-9

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus took with him
Peter and James and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain apart.

And he was transfigured before
them, and his face shone like the sun,
and his garments became white as
light. And behold, there appeared to
them Moses and Elijah, talking with
him.

And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is
well that we are here; if you wish, I will
make three booths here, one for you
and one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

He was still speaking, when behold,
a bright cloud overshadowed them,
and a voice from the cloud said, “This
is my beloved Son, with whom I am
well pleased; listen to him.” When the
disciples heard this, they fell on their

faces, and were filled with awe. But
Jesus came and touched them, saying,
“Rise, and have no fear.” And when
they lifted up their eyes, they saw no
one but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the
mountain, Jesus commanded them,
“Tell no one the vision, until the Son of
man is raised from the dead.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Third Sunday of Lent A

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus.

In those days: The people thirsted there
for water, and the people murmured
against Moses, and said, “Why did you
bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and
our children and our cattle with thirst?”

So Moses cried to the Lord, “What
shall I do with this people? They are
almost ready to stone me.”

And the Lord said to Moses, “Pass
on before the people, taking with you
some of the elders of Israel; and take
in your hand the rod with which you
struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will
stand before you there on the rock at
Horeb; and you shall strike the rock,
and water shall come out of it, that the
people may drink.”

And Moses did so, in the sight of
the elders of Israel. And he called the
name of the place Massah and Merib-
ah, because of the fault-finding of the
children of Israel, and because they put

the Lord to the test by saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

95

R. If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord;
let us heartily rejoice
in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence
with thanksgiving,
and shew ourselves glad in him
with psalms. **R.**

O come, let us worship and fall down
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is the Lord our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand. **R.**

Today if ye will hear his voice,
harden not your hearts :
as in the provocation,
and as in the day of temptation
in the wilderness.
When your fathers tempted me,
proved me, and saw my works. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

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

Brethren: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

While we were yet helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man - though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us, in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 9:19,3; 123:1-3

Up Lord, and let not man have the upper hand: let the heathen be judged in thy sight. While mine enemies are driven back: they shall fall and perish at thy presence. Unto thee lift I up mine eyes: O thou that dwellest in the heavens. Behold, even as the eyes of servants: look unto the hand of their masters. And as the eyes of a maiden: unto the hand of her mistress. Even so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God until he have mercy upon us. Have mercy upon us, O Lord: have mercy upon us.

THE GOSPEL READING

John 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

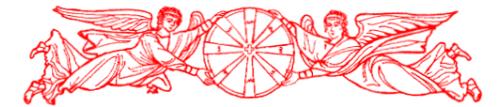
The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to John.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.

Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a



Palm Sunday

ABC

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-7

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him that is weary.

Morning by morning he wakens, he wakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I turned not backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I hid not my face from shame and spitting. For the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been confounded; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

22

R. My God, my God,
why hast thou forsaken me

All they that see me laugh me to scorn:
they shoot our their lips,
and shake their heads, saying,

He trusted in God,
that he would deliver him:

let him deliver him,

if he will have him. **R.**

shall never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."

Jesus therefore was deeply moved in spirit and troubled; and he said, "Where have you laid him?"

They said to him, "Lord, come and see."

Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb; it was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odour, for he has been dead four days."

Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone.

And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this on account of the people standing by, that they may believe that you have send me."

When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out."

The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with bandages, and his face wrapped with a cloth.

Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

in his word is my trust.
My soul fleeth unto the Lord:
before the morning watch, I say,
before the morning watch. **R.**

O Israel, trust in the Lord,
for with the Lord there is mercy,
and with him is plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel :
from all his sins. **R.**

THE SECOND READING
Romans 8:8-11

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

Brethren: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh, you are in the Spirit, if the Spirit of God dwells in you. Any one who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

But if Christ is in you, although your bodies are dead because of sin, your spirits are alive because of righteousness.

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit which dwells in you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Psalm 143:9,10; 18:49; 129:1-4

Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies: teach me to do the thing that pleaseth thee. It is the Lord that delivereth me from my cruel enemies, and setteth me up above mine adversaries: thou shalt deliver me from the wicked man. Many a time have they fought against me: from my youth up. May Israel now say: yea, many a time have

they vexed me from my youth up. But they have not prevailed against me: the plowers ploughed upon my back. And made long furrows: but the righteous Lord hath hewn the snares of the ungodly in pieces.

THE GOSPEL READING
John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to John.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time: The sisters of Lazarus sent to Jesus, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness is not unto death; it is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by means of it."

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that he was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go into Judea again."

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary sat in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me

woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?"

Jesus said to her, "Every one who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

"Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship."

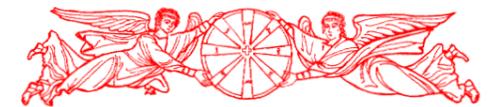
Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things."

Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony. So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Fourth Sunday
of Lent A

THE FIRST READING
1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

A reading from the first Book of Samuel.

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, "Fill your horn with oil, and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is before him." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel.

And Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen these." And Samuel

said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?"

And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he comes here."

And he sent, and brought him in.

Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.

And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is he." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

23

R. The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.

The Lord is my shepherd,
therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture
and lead me forth

beside the waters of comfort. **R.**

He shall convert my soul,
and bring me forth

in the paths of righteousness,
for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff comfort me. **R.**

Thou shalt prepare a table before me
against them that trouble me:
thou hast anointed my head with oil,
and my cup shall be full. **R.**

But thy loving-kindness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell

in the house of the Lord for ever. **R.**

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

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

Brethren: Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it is said, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 122:1,7; Psalm 125:1-2

I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of the Lord. Peace be within thy walls: and plenteousness within thy palaces. They that put their trust in the Lord, shall be even as the mount Sion: which may not be removed, but standeth fast for ever. The hills stand about Jerusalem: even so standeth the Lord round about his people, from this time forth for evermore.

THE GOSPEL READING

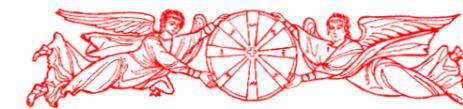
John 9:1, 6 -9, 13-17, 34-38

The Continuation of the Holy Gospel according to John.

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that time:

As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth.



The Fifth Sunday of Lent **A**

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37 : 12 - 14

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: "Behold, I will open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you home into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken, and I have done it, says the Lord."

This is the Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

130

R. With the Lord there is mercy
and plenteous redemption.

Out of the deep

have I called unto thee, O Lord:
Lord, hear my voice.

O let thine ears consider well
the voice of my complaint. **R.**

If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme
to mark what is done amiss,
O Lord, who may abide it?
For there is mercy with thee;
therefore shalt thou be feared. **R.**

I look for the Lord;
my soul doth wait for him:

And he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes.

The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them.

So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?"

He said, "He is a prophet."

They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?"

He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"

Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you."

He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.