THE ROMAN MISSAL

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LECTIONARY

Weekday B

Proper of Seasons – Ordinary Time (Weeks 6-34)
Years I and II
Proper of Saints (May 12-December 4)
Commons

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops Ottawa – Canada 1994

LECTIONARY Weekday R

Approved by the National Liturgical Office for use in Canada

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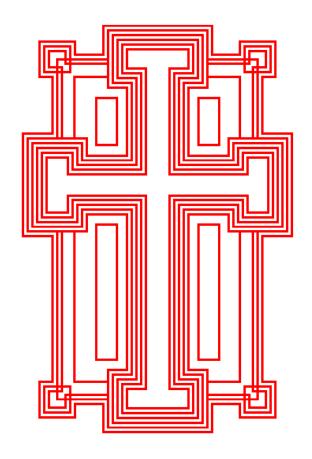
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Year	Cycle of Readings	Ash Wednesday	Easter	Ascension Sunday	Pentecost	First Sunday of Advent
1992	C II	Mar 4	Apr 19	May 31	June 7	Nov 29
1993	A I	Feb 24	Apr 11	May 23	May 30	Nov 28
1994	B II	Feb 16	Apr 3	May 15	May 22	Nov 27
1995	C I	Mar 1	Apr 16	May 28	June 4	Dec 3
1996	A II	Feb 21	Apr 7	May 19	May 26	Dec 1
1997	B I	Feb 12	Mar 30	May 11	May 18	Nov 30
1998	C II	Feb 25	Apr 12	May 24	May 31	Nov 29
1999	A I	Feb 17	Apr 4	May 16	May 23	Nov 28
2000	B II	Mar 8	Apr 23	June 4	June 11	Dec 3
2001	C I	Feb 28	Apr 15	May 27	June 3	Dec 2
2002	A II	Feb 13	Mar 31	May 12	May 19	Dec 1
2003	B I	Mar 5	Apr 20	June 1	June 8	Nov 30
2004	C II	Feb 25	Apr 11	May 23	May 30	Nov 28
2005	A I	Feb 9	Mar 27	May 8	May 15	Nov 27
2006	B II	Mar 1	Apr 16	May 28	June 4	Dec 3
2007	C I	Feb 21	Apr 8	May 20	May 27	Dec 2
2008	A II	Feb 6	Mar 23	May 4	May 11	Nov 30
2009	B I	Feb 25	Apr 12	May 24	May 31	Nov 29
2010	C II	Feb 17	Apr 4	May 16	May 23	Nov 28
2011	A I	Mar 9	Apr 24	June 5	June 12	Nov 27
2012	B II	Feb 22	Apr 8	May 20	May 27	Dec 2
2013	C I	Feb 13	Mar 31	May 12	May 19	Dec 1
2014	A II	Mar 5	Apr 20	June 1	June 8	Nov 30
2015	B I	Feb 18	Apr 5	May 17	May 24	Nov 29
2016	C II	Feb 10	Mar 27	May 8	May 15	Nov 27
2017	A I	Mar 1	Apr 16	May 28	June 4	Dec 3
2018	B II	Feb 14	Apr 1	May 13	May 20	Dec 2
2019	C I	Mar 6	Apr 21	June 2	June 9	Dec 1
2020	A II	Feb 26	Apr 12	May 24	May 31	Nov 29
2021	B I	Feb 17	Apr 4	May 16	May 23	Nov 28
2022	C II	Mar 2	Apr 17	May 29	June 5	Nov 27
2023	A I	Feb 22	Apr 9	May 21	May 28	Dec 3
2024	B II	Feb 14	Mar 31	May 12	May 19	Dec 1
2025	C I	Mar 5	Apr 20	June 1	June 8	Nov 30
2026	A II	Feb 18	Apr 5	May 17	May 24	Nov 29
2027	B I	Feb 10	Mar 28	May 9	May 16	Nov 28
2028	C II	Mar 1	Apr 16	May 28	June 4	Dec 3
2029	A I	Feb 14	Apr 1	May 13	May 20	Dec 2
2030	B II	Mar 6	Apr 21	June 2	June 9	Dec 1



THE SEASON OF THE YEAR

WEEKDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR I

SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

335 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 4.1-15, 25

Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have produced a man with the help of the Lord."
- Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground.
- In the course of time
 Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground,
- and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions.
 - And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering,
- but for Cain and his offering he had no regard.So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.
- The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen?
- If you do well, will you not be accepted?

 And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it."
- Cain said to his brother Abel,
 "Let us go out to the field."
 And when they were in the field,
 Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him.
- Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?"
- And the Lord said, "What have you done?

 Listen; your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground!
- And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.
- When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."

- Cain said to the Lord,
 "My punishment is greater than I can bear!
- Today you have driven me away from the soil, and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me."
- Then the Lord said to him, "Not so!
 Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance."
 And the Lord put a mark on Cain,
 so that no one who came upon him would kill him.
- Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another child instead of Abel, because Cain killed him."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50.1+8, 16bc-17, 20-21 (R.14a)

- **R.** Offer to God a sacrifice of praise.
- The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me. *R.*
- What right have you to recite my statutes, or take my covenant on your lips?
- For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you. *R*.
- You sit and speak against your kin; you slander your own mother's child.
- These things you have done and I have been silent; you thought that I was one just like yourself.
 But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Mark 8.11-13

Why does this generation ask for a sign?

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- The Pharisees came to Jesus and began to argue with him, asking him for a sign from heaven, to test him.
- And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to this generation."
- And Jesus left them, and getting into the boat again, he went across to the other shore.

The gospel of the Lord.

336 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 6.5-8; 7.1-5, 10

I will blot out the human beings I have created from the earth.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- The Lord saw that the wickedness of humanity was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually.
- And the Lord was sorry that he had made human beings on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.
- So the Lord said,
 "I will blot out from the earth the human beings I have created—
 people together with animals
 and creeping things and birds of the air,
 for I am sorry that I have made them."
- 8 But Noah found favour in the sight of the Lord.
- The Lord said to Noah,
 "Go into the ark, you and all your household,
 for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me
 in this generation.
- Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate;

- and seven pairs of the birds of the air also,
 male and female,
 to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth.
- For in seven days
 I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights;
 and every living thing that I have made
 I will blot out from the face of the ground."
- 5 And Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him.
- And after seven days the waters of the flood came on the earth.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 29.1a+2, 3ac+4, 3b+9b-10 (R.11b)

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

- Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendour. *R.*
- The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the Lord, over mighty waters.
- The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty. **R**.
- The God of glory thunders,
- and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
- The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me, will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Mark 8.14-21

Beware the yeast of the Pharisees and Herod.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

After feeding the crowd, Jesus sent them away and got into the boat with the disciples to return to the other side of the lake.

TUESDAY 933

- Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat.
- And Jesus cautioned them, saying, "Watch out beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod."
- They said to one another, "It is because we have no bread."
- And becoming aware of it, Jesus said to them, "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened?
- Do you have eyes, and fail to see?
 Do you have ears, and fail to hear?
 And do you not remember?
- When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?" They said to him, "Twelve."
- "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?" And they said to him, "Seven."
- Then Jesus said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"
 The gospel of the Lord.

337 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 8.6-13, 20-22

Noah looked and saw that the face of the ground was drying.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- At the end of forty days

 Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made
- 7 and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth.
- Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground;
- but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him.

- Noah waited another seven days, 10 and again he sent out the dove from the ark;
- and the dove came back to him in the evening, 11 and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth.
- Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove: 12 and it did not return to him any more.
- In the six hundred first year, 13 in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying.
- Then Noah built an altar to the Lord. 20 and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.
- 21 And when the Lord smelled the pleasing odour, the Lord said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of human beings, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.
- As long as the earth endures, 22 seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 116.12-13, 14-15, 18-19 (R.17)

- **R.** To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 12 What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?
- 13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. R.
- 14 I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.
- 15 Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones. R.

- I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,
- in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Ephesians 1.17-18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

GOSPEL Mark 8.22-26

The sight of the man who was blind was restored and he saw everything clearly.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus and the disciples came to Bethsaida. Some people brought to Jesus a man who was blind and begged Jesus to touch him.
- Jesus took the man who was blind by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Can you see anything?"
- And the man looked up and said, "I can see people, but they look like trees, walking."
- Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and the man looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.
- Then Jesus sent the man away to his home, saying, "Do not even go into the village."

The gospel of the Lord.

338 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 9.1-13

I have set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Noah left the ark with his wife and his sons and his sons' wives, and offered a burnt offering to the Lord.

- God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.
- The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of the earth, and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the ground, and on all the fish of the sea; into your hand they are delivered.
- Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you; and just as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything.
- 4 "Only, you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.
- For your own lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning: from every animal I will require it and from human beings, each one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life.
- Whoever sheds the blood of a human, by a human shall that person's blood be shed; for in his own image God made humanity.
- "And you, be fruitful and multiply, abound on the earth and multiply in it."
- Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him,
- "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you,
- and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.
- I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth."

- God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations:
- I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 102.15-17, 18-20, 28+21-22 (R.19)

- **R.** From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.
- The nations will fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth your glory.
- For the Lord will build up Zion; he will appear in his glory.
- He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer. **R**.
- Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord:
- that he looked down from his holy height, from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,
- to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die. **R**.
- The children of your servants shall live secure; their offspring shall be established in your presence,
- so that the name of the Lord may be declared in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem,
- when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the Lord. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6.63b, 68b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.

GOSPEL Mark 8.27-33

Peter answered: You are the Messiah. Jesus said: The Son of Man must suffer much.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus went with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"
- And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."
- Jesus asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah."
- And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.
- Then Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.
- He said all this quite openly.
 - And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.
- But turning and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan!
 For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The gospel of the Lord.

339 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 11.1-9

Let us go down and confuse their language.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- The whole earth had one language and the same words.
- And as people migrated from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there.
- And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly."

And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar.

- Then they said,
 "Come, let us build ourselves a city,
 and a tower with its top in the heavens,
 and let us make a name for ourselves;
 otherwise we shall be scattered abroad
 upon the face of the whole earth."
- The Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built.
- And the Lord said, "Look, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.
- Come, let us go down, and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech."
- So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city.
- Therefore it was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (R.12)

- **R.** Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.
- The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
- The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. *R*.
- Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all human beings. *R*.
- From where he sits enthroned God watches all the inhabitants of the earth—
- he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.15b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

GOSPEL Mark 8.34-38 - 9.1

Those who lose their life for my sake and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
- For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.
- For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?
- Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?
- "Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."
- And Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

The gospel of the Lord.

340 SATURDAY

FIRST READING
Hebrews 11.1-7

By faith we understand that the world was prepared by the word of God.

A reading from the book of Hebrews.

- Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
- Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.
- By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

- By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain's. Through this he received approval as righteous, God himself giving approval to his gifts; he died, but through his faith he still speaks.
- By faith Enoch was taken so that he did not experience death; 5 and "he was not found, because God had taken him." For it was attested before he was taken away that "he had pleased God."
- And without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.
- By faith Noah, warned by God about events as yet unseen, respected the warning and built an ark to save his household; by this he condemned the world and became an heir to the righteousness that is in accordance with faith.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145.2-3, 4-5, 10-11 (R. see 1)

R. I will praise your name for ever, Lord.

- 2 Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. **R.**
- 4 One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.
- On the glorious splendour of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. **R**.
- 10 All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.
- 11 They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Mark 9.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:

This is my beloved Son, hear him.

GOSPEL Mark 9.2-13

Jesus was transfigured before the three disciples.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them,
- and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.
- 4 And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.
- Then Peter said to Jesus,
 "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here;
 let us make three tents
 one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."
- 6 Peter did not know what to say, for they were terrified.
- Then a cloud overshadowed them,and from the cloud there came a voice,"This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"
- Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.
- As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
- So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.
- Then they asked him, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"
- Jesus said to them,
 "Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things.
 How then is it written about the Son of Man,
 that he is to go through many sufferings
 and be treated with contempt?
- But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

SEVENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

341 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 1.1-10

Wisdom was created before all other things.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- All wisdom is from the Lord, and with him it remains forever.
- The sand of the sea, the drops of rain, and the days of eternity—who can count them?
- The height of heaven, the breadth of the earth, the depth of the abyss, and wisdom
 —who can search them out?
- Wisdom was created before all other things, and prudent understanding from eternity.
- The source of wisdom is God's word in the highest heaven, and her ways are the eternal commandments.
- The root of wisdom—to whom has it been revealed? Her subtleties—who knows them?
- 7 The knowledge of wisdom—to whom was it manifested? And her abundant experience—who has understood it?
- There is but one who is wise, greatly to be feared, seated upon his throne—the Lord.
- It is he who created her; he saw her and took her measure; he poured her out upon all his works,
- upon all the living according to his gift; he lavished her upon those who love him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 93.1ab, 1c-2, 4c-5 (R.1a)++

- **R.** The Lord is king, he is robed in majesty.
- The Lord is king, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, he is girded with strength. *R*.

The Lord has established the world; it shall never be moved;

- Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting. *R*.
- ⁴ Majestic on high is the Lord!
- Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1.10b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Mark 9.14-29

Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

Jesus, Peter, James and John, came down the mountain to rejoin the other disciples.

- When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them.
- When the whole crowd saw Jesus, they were immediately overcome with awe, and they ran forward to greet him.
- He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?"
- Someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak;
- and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so."
- Jesus answered them, "You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you?
 How much longer must I put up with you?
 Bring him to me."
- And they brought the boy to him.

 When the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth.

- 21 Jesus asked the father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood.
- 22 It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us."
- Jesus said to him, 23 "If you are able! —All things can be done for the one who believes."
- Immediately the father of the child cried out, 24 "I believe; help my unbelief!"
- 25 When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!"
- 26 After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead."
- But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, 27 and he was able to stand.
- When Jesus had entered the house, 28 his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"
- He said to them, "This kind can come out 29 only through prayer and fasting."

The gospel of the Lord.

342 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 2.1-11

When you serve the Lord, prepare yourself for trials.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- My child, when you come to serve the Lord, prepare yourself for trials.
- Set your heart right and be steadfast, 2 and do not be impetuous in time of calamity.

- Cling to God and do not depart, so that your last days may be prosperous.
- Accept whatever befalls you, and in times of humiliation be patient.
- For gold is tested in the fire, and those found acceptable, in the furnace of humiliation.
- Trust in God, and he will help you; make your ways straight, and hope in him.
- You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; do not stray, or else you may fall.
- 8 You who fear the Lord, trust in him, and your reward will not be lost.
- 9 You who fear the Lord, hope for good things, for lasting joy and mercy.
- Consider the generations of old and see:
 has anyone trusted in the Lord and been disappointed?
 Or has anyone persevered in the fear of the Lord and been forsaken?
 Or has anyone called upon him and been neglected?
- For the Lord is compassionate and merciful; he forgives sins and saves in time of distress.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 37.3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 (R. see 5)

- **R.** Commit your life to the Lord, and the Lord will help you.
- Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. *R*.
- The Lord knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will abide forever;
- they are not put to shame in evil times, in the days of famine they have abundance. **R**.
- Depart from evil, and do good; so you shall abide forever.
- For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his faithful ones. *R*.

39

The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their refuge in the time of trouble.

The Lord helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Galatians 6.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

GOSPEL Mark 9.30-37

The Son of Man is betrayed. Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus and the disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;
- for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."
- But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.
- Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house Jesus asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?"
- But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.
- Jesus sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."
- Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,
- "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The gospel of the Lord.

343 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Sirach 4.11-19

God loves those who love wisdom.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- Wisdom teaches her children 11 and gives help to those who seek her.
- Whoever loves her loves life. 12 and those who seek her from early morning are filled with joy.
- Whoever holds her fast inherits glory, 13 and the Lord blesses the place she enters.
- Those who serve her minister to the Holy One; 14 the Lord loves those who love her.
- Those who obey her will judge the nations, 15 and all who listen to her will live secure.
- If they remain faithful, they will inherit her: 16 their descendants will also obtain her.
- For at first she will walk with them on tortuous paths; 17 she will bring fear and dread upon them, and will torment them by her discipline until they remain faithful in their heart and she will test them with her ordinances.
- Then she will come straight back to them again and gladden them, 18 and will reveal her secrets to them.
- 19 If they go astray she will forsake them, and hand them over to their ruin.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.165+168, 171-172, 174-175 (R.165a)

- **R.** Those who love your law have great peace, O Lord.++
- or: O Lord, great peace have they who love your law.
- 165 Great peace have those who love your law; nothing can make them stumble.
- 168 I keep your precepts and decrees, for all my ways are before you. R.
- My lips will pour forth praise, 171 because you teach me your statutes.

172

- My tongue will sing of your promise, for all your commandments are right. **R**.
- I long for your salvation, O Lord, and your law is my delight.
- Let me live that I may praise you, and let your ordinances help me. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Mark 9.38-40

Whoever is not against us is for us.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- John, one of the disciples, said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."
- But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me.
- Whoever is not against us is for us."

The gospel of the Lord.

344 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 5.1-8

Do not delay to turn back to the Lord.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- Do not rely on your wealth, or say, "I have enough."
- 2 Do not follow your inclination and strength in pursuing the desires of your heart.
- Do not say, "Who can have power over me?" for the Lord will surely punish you.
- Do not say, "I sinned, yet what has happened to me?" for the Lord is slow to anger.

5

Do not be so confident of forgiveness that you add sin to sin.

- Do not say, "His mercy is great, he will forgive the multitude of my sins," for both mercy and wrath are with him, and his anger will rest on sinners.
- Do not delay to turn back to the Lord, and do not postpone it from day to day; for suddenly the wrath of the Lord will come upon you, and at the time of punishment you will perish.
- Bo not depend on dishonest wealth, for it will not benefit you on the day of calamity.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R.40.5a)

- **R.** Happy are they who hope in the Lord.
- Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
- but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. *R.*
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
 In all that they do, they prosper. R.
- The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Thessalonians 2.13

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God.

GOSPEL Mark 9.41-50

It is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- 41 Jesus said to the disciples: "Truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.
- "If any of you put a stumbling block 42 before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.
- "If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; 43 it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.
- 45 And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.
- 47 And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell,
- where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. 48
- 49 "For everyone will be salted with fire, and every sacrifice will be salted with salt.
- 50 Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you restore it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

345 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Sirach 6.5-17

Faithful friends are beyond price.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

My child,

- pleasant speech multiplies friends, and a gracious tongue multiplies courtesies.
- Let those who are friendly with you be many, but let your advisers be one in a thousand.
- When you gain friends, gain them through testing, and do not trust them hastily.
- For there are friends who are such when it suits them, but they will not stand by you in time of trouble.
- 9 And there are friends who change into enemies, and tell of the quarrel to your disgrace.
- And there are friends who sit at your table, but they will not stand by you in time of trouble.
- When you are prosperous, they become your second self, and lord it over your servants;
- but if you are brought low, they turn against you, and hide themselves from you.
- Keep away from your enemies, and be on guard with your friends.
- Faithful friends are a sturdy shelter: whoever finds one has found a treasure.
- Faithful friends are beyond price; no amount can balance their worth.
- Faithful friends are life-saving medicine; and those who fear the Lord will find them.
- Those who fear the Lord direct their friendship aright, for as they are, so are their neighbours also.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.12+16, 18+27, 34-35 (R.35a)

- **R.** Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.
- Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.
- I will delight in your statutes;
 I will not forget your word. *R.*
- Open my eyes, so that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.
- Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works. *R.*
- Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.
- Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 17.17

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth.

GOSPEL Mark 10.1-12

What God has joined together, let no one separate.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus continued his journey and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. And crowds again gathered around him; and, as was his custom, he again taught them.
- Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"
- Jesus answered them, "What did Moses command you?"
- They said,
 "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her."
- But Jesus said to them,
 "Because of your hardness of heart
 he wrote this commandment for you.
- But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.'
- ⁷ 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,

8

- and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh.
- 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."
- Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. 10
- Jesus said to them. 11 "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her;
- and if she divorces her husband and marries another, 12 she commits adultery."

The gospel of the Lord.

346 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 17.1-4, 6-8, 10-15

God created human beings in his own image.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- The Lord created human beings out of earth, 1 and makes them return to it again.
- He gave them a fixed number of days, but granted them authority over everything on the earth.
- He endowed them with strength proper to them 3 and made them in his own image.
- He put the fear of them in all living beings, 4 and gave them dominion over beasts and birds.
- 6 Discretion and tongue and eyes, ears and a mind for thinking he gave them.
- He filled them with knowledge and understanding, 7 and showed them good and evil.
- He put the fear of him into their hearts to show them the majesty of his works.
- And they will praise his holy name, 10 to proclaim the grandeur of his works.
- He bestowed knowledge upon them, 11 and allotted to them the law of life.
- 12 He established with them an eternal covenant. and revealed to them his decrees.
- Their eyes saw his glorious majesty, 13 and their ears heard the glory of his voice.

14

He said to them, "Beware of all evil." And he gave commandment to each of them concerning the neighbour.

15 Their ways are always known to him: they will not be hid from his eyes.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103.13-14, 15-16, 17-18 (R. see 17)

R. The Lord's kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.

- 13 As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
- 14 For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. **R**.
- 15 As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. R.
- 17 But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,
- 18 to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Mark 10.13-16

Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child,

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- People were bringing little children to Jesus 13 in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them.
- But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 14 "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.
- Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God 15 as a little child will never enter it."
- And Jesus took the children up in his arms, 16 laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The gospel of the Lord.

EIGHTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

347 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 17.24-27, 29

Turn back to the Lord and forsake your sins.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- To those who repent God grants a return, and encourages those who are losing hope.
- Turn back to the Lord and forsake your sins; pray in his presence and lessen your offense.
- Return to the Most High and turn away from iniquity, and hate intensely what he abhors.
- Who will sing praises to the Most High in the grave in place of the living who give thanks?
- From the dead, as from one who does not exist, thanksgiving has ceased; those who are alive and well sing the Lord's praises.
- 29 How great is the mercy of the Lord, and his forgiveness for those who return to him!

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 32.1-2, 5, 6, 7 (R.11a)

- **R.** Let the just exult and rejoice in the Lord.
- 1 Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. **R**.
- Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. R.
- Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. **R**.
- You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 8.9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

GOSPEL Mark 10.17-27

Go sell what you own and come follow me.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.
- You know the commandments:

 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery;
 You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness;
 You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.'"
- The man said to Jesus, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth."
- Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."
- When he heard this, the man was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.
- Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"
- And the disciples were perplexed at these words.
 But Jesus said to them again,
 "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!
- It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."
- They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?"

Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

The gospel of the Lord.

348 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 35.1-15

Keeping the commandments is a pleasing sacrifice.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- The one who keeps the law makes many offerings;
- one who heeds the commandments makes an offering of well-being.
- The one who returns a kindness offers choice flour,
- 4 and one who gives alms makes a thank offering.
- To keep from wickedness is pleasing to the Lord, and to forsake unrighteousness is an atonement.
- 6 Do not appear before the Lord empty-handed,
- for all that you offer is in fulfillment of the commandment.
- The offering of the righteous enriches the altar, and its pleasing odour rises before the Most High.
- The sacrifice of the righteous is acceptable, and it will never be forgotten.
- Be generous when you worship the Lord, and do not stint the first fruits of your hands.
- With every gift show a cheerful face, and dedicate your tithe with gladness.
- Give to the Most High as he has given to you, and as generously as you can afford.
- For the Lord is the one who repays, and he will repay you sevenfold.
- Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it;
- and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice; for the Lord is the judge, and with him there is no partiality.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50.4-5, 7-8, 14+23 (R.23b)

- **R.** To the upright I will show the saving power of God.
- The mighty God calls to the heavens above and to the earth that he may judge his people.
- "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!" **R**.
- "Hear, O my people, and I will speak,
 O Israel, I will testify against you.
 I am God, your God.
- Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me." *R.*
- Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.
- "Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honour me; to those who go the right way I will show the salvation of God." *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Mark 10.28-31

You will receive a hundredfold now in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Peter began to say to Jesus, "Look, we have left everything and followed you."
- Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,
- who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age
 —houses, brothers and sisters,
 mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—
 and in the age to come eternal life.
- "But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

349 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 36.1-2, 5-6, 13-22

The nations will know that there is no God but you.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- Have mercy upon us, O God of all,
- and put all the nations in fear of you.
- Then they will know, as we have known that there is no God but you, O Lord.
- 6 Give new signs, and work other wonders.
- Gather all the tribes of Jacob,
- and give them their inheritance, as at the beginning.
- Have mercy, O Lord, on the people called by your name, on Israel, whom you have named your firstborn,
- Have pity on your holy city Jerusalem, the place of your dwelling.
- Fill Zion with the celebration of your wondrous deeds and your temple with your glory.
- Bear witness to those whom you created in the beginning, and fulfill the prophecies spoken in your name.
- Reward those who wait for you and let your prophets be found trustworthy.
- Hear, O Lord, the prayer of your servants, according to the blessing of Aaron for your people, and all who are on the earth will know that you are the Lord, the God of the ages.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 79.8, 9, 11, 13 (R. Sir 36.1)

R. O Lord, look on us with mercy.

- Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. *R*.
- Help us, O God of our salvation,
 for the glory of your name;
 deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake. R.

- Let the groans of the prisoners come before you; according to your great power preserve those doomed to die. *R*.
- Then we your people, the flock of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Son of Man came to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for all.

GOSPEL Mark 10.32-45

We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus and the disciples were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying,
- "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles;
- they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again."
- James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."
- And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?"
- And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."
- But Jesus said to them,
 "You do not know what you are asking.

 Are you able to drink the cup that I drink,
 or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

They replied, "We are able."

Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized;

- but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."
- When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John.
- So Jesus called them and said to them,
 "You know that among the Gentiles
 those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them,
 and their great ones are tyrants over them.
- But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant,
- and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.
- For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

The gospel of the Lord.

350 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 42.15-25
The work of the Lord is full of his glory.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- I will now call to mind the works of the Lord, and will declare what I have seen.By the word of the Lord his works are made; and all his creatures do his will.
- The sun looks down on everything with its light, and the work of the Lord is full of his glory.
- The Lord has not empowered even his holy ones to recount all his marvellous works, which the Lord the Almighty has established so that the universe may stand firm in his glory.
- He searches out the abyss and the human heart; he understands their innermost secrets. For the Most High knows all that may be known; he sees the signs of the age.

- 19 He discloses what has been and what is to be, and he reveals the traces of hidden things.
- 20 No thought escapes him, and nothing is hidden from him.
- He has set in order the splendours of his wisdom; 21 he is from all eternity one and the same. Nothing can be added or taken away, and he needs no one to be his counsellor.
- 22 How desirable are all his works. and how sparkling they are to see!
- All these things live and remain forever; 23 each creature is preserved to meet a particular need.
- All things come in pairs, one opposite the other, 24 and he has made nothing incomplete.
- Each supplements the virtues of the other. 25 Who could ever tire of seeing his glory?

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (R.6a)

- **R.** By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.
- 2 Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.
- 3 Sing to him a new song; play skilfully on the strings, with loud shouts. R.
- 4 For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. R.
- 6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth.
- 7 He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle; he put the deeps in storehouses. R.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
- 9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm, R.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL Mark 10.46-52

My teacher, let me see again.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho.
 As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho,
 Bartimaeus, son of Timaeus, a blind beggar,
 was sitting by the roadside.
- When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"
- Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"
- Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here."

 And they called the man who was blind, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you."
- 50 So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus.
- Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?"
 The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again."
- Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately Bartimaeus regained his sight and followed Jesus on the way.

The gospel of the Lord.

351 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 44.1, 8-13++

The deeds of the righteous have not been forgotten.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- Let us now sing the praises of famous men, our ancestors in their generations.
- Some of them have left behind a name, so that others declare their praise.
- But of others there is no memory; they have perished as though they had never existed; they have become as though they had never been born, they and their children after them.
- But these also were godly men, whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten;
- their wealth will remain with their descendants, and their inheritance with their children's children.
- Their descendants stand by the covenants; their children also, for their sake.
- Their offspring will continue forever, and their glory will never be blotted out.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 149.1-2, 3-4, 5-6a+9b (R.4a)

- **R.** The Lord takes delight in his people.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
- Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King. *R.*
- Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.
- For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory. **R**.

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

Let the high praises of God be in their throats.

This is glory for all his faithful ones. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Mark 11.11-25

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations. Have faith in God.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

After his triumphant entry into Jerusalem,

- Jesus went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.
- One day, when Jesus and the disciples came from Bethany, he was hungry.
- Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see whether he would find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.
- He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard it.
- Then they came to Jerusalem.

 And he entered the temple
 and began to drive out those who were selling
 and those who were buying in the temple,
 and he overturned the tables of the money changers
 and the seats of those who sold doves;
- and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple.
- He was teaching and saying,"Is it not written,'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'?But you have made it a den of robbers."

- 18 And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching.
- 19 And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.
- 20 In the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots.
- Then Peter remembered and said to him, 21 "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered."
- Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. 22
- 23 Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you.
- So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, 24 believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.
- "Whenever you stand praying, 25 forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses." The gospel of the Lord.

352 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 51.12-20

I will give glory to the one who gives me wisdom.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- 12 I thank you and praise you, O God my saviour, and I bless the name of the Lord.
- While I was still young, before I went on my travels, 13 I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.
- 14 Before the temple I asked for her, and I will search for her until the end.
- From the first blossom to the ripening grape 15 my heart delighted in her; my foot walked on the straight path; from my youth I followed her steps.

- I inclined my ear a little and received her, and I found for myself much instruction.
- I made progress in her; to him who gives wisdom I will give glory.
- For I resolved to live according to wisdom, and I was zealous for the good, and I shall never be disappointed.
- My soul grappled with wisdom, and in my conduct I was strict;
 I spread out my hands to the heavens, and lamented my ignorance of her.
- I directed my soul to her, and in purity I found her.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 10 (R.8a)

- **R.** The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple. R.
- The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. *R.*
- The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. **R**.
- More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Colossians 3.16a, 17c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord, and may the fullness of his message live within you.

GOSPEL Mark 11.27-33

By what authority are you doing these things?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- 27 Jesus and the disciples came to Jerusalem. As he was walking in the temple, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders came to Jesus
- and said, "By what authority are you doing these things? 28 Who gave you this authority to do them?"
- Jesus said to them, 29 "I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.
- Did the baptism of John come from heaven, 30 or was it of human origin? Answer me."
- They argued with one another, 31 "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?'
- But shall we say, 'Of human origin'?" 32 —they were afraid of the crowd, for all regarded John as truly a prophet.
- So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." 33 And Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things." The gospel of the Lord.

NINTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

353 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Tobit 1.1ad, 2a, 3, 17; 2.1-8++

Tobit walked in the ways of truth and righteousness all the days of my life.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

- This book tells the story of Tobit, son of Tobiel, of the tribe of Naphtali,
- who in the days of King Shalmaneser of the Assyrians, was taken into captivity.
- I, Tobit, walked in the ways of truth and righteousness all the days of my life.
 I performed many acts of charity for my kindred for my people who had gone with me in exile to Nineveh.
- I would give my food to the hungry and my clothing to the naked; and if I saw the dead body of any people thrown out behind the wall of Nineveh, I would bury it.
- At our festival of Pentecost, which is the sacred festival of weeks, a good dinner was prepared for me and I reclined to eat.
- When the table was set for me and an abundance of food placed before me, I said to my son Tobias, "Go, my child, and bring whatever poor person you may find of our people among the exiles in Nineveh, who is wholeheartedly mindful of God, and he shall eat together with me. I will wait for you, until you come back."
- So Tobias went to look for some poor person of our people. When he had returned he said, "Father!"

 And I replied, "Here I am, my child."

 Then he went on to say, "Look, father, one of our own people has been murdered and thrown into the market place, and now he lies there strangled."
- Then I sprang up, left the dinner before even tasting it,

and removed the body from the square and laid it in one of the rooms until sunset when I might bury it.

- When I returned, I washed myself and ate my food in sorrow.
- Then I remembered the prophecy of Amos, how he said against Bethel, "Your festivals shall be turned into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation." And I wept.
- When the sun had set, I went and dug a grave and buried him.
- And my neighbours laughed and said,
 "Is he still not afraid?
 He has already been hunted down
 to be put to death for doing this, and he ran away;
 yet here he is again burying the dead!"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1a)

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. *R*.
- Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.
- They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. **R**.
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 1.5ab

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness, firstborn from the dead; you have loved us and washed away our sins in your blood.

GOSPEL Mark 12.1-12

The tenants seized the beloved son, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus began to speak to the high priests and the scribes in parables. "A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watchtower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country.
- When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard.
- But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed.
- 4 "And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted.
- Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed.
- "He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'
- 7 But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.'
- So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.
- "What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others.
- Have you not read this scripture:

 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
- this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?"
- When the high priests and the scribes realized that Jesus had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

354 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Tobit 2.9-14 – 3.1++

Completely blind, Tobit did not turn against God.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

- At night I, Tobit, tired from burying the dead, washed myself and went into my courtyard and slept by the wall of the courtyard; and my face was uncovered because of the heat.
- I did not know that there were sparrows on the wall; their fresh droppings fell into my eyes and produced white films. I went to physicians to be healed, but the more they treated me with ointments the more my vision was obscured by the white films, until I became completely blind.
- At that time, also, my wife Anna earned money as a weaver.
- She used to send what she made to the owners and they would pay wages to her.
 One day, the seventh of Dystrus, when she cut off a piece she had woven and sent it to the owners, they paid her full wages and also gave her a young goat for a meal.
- When she returned to me, the goat began to bleat. So I called her and said,
 "Where did you get this goat?
 It is surely not stolen, is it?
 Return it to the owners;
 for we have no right to eat anything stolen."
- But she said to me,

 "It was given to me as a gift in addition to my wages."

 But I did not believe here and told have to return it to

But I did not believe her, and told her to return it to the owners.

I became flushed with anger against her over this.

Then she replied to me,

"Where are your acts of charity?

Where are your righteous deeds?

These things are known about you!"

Then with much grief and anguish of heart I wept, and with groaning began to pray.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 7bc-8, 9 (see 7c)

- **R.** The hearts of the just are secure, trusting in the Lord.
- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. **R**.
- 7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
- Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. **R**.
- They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their name is exalted in honour. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Ephesians 1.17-18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

GOSPEL Mark 12.13-17

Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Some Pharisees and some Herodians were sent to Jesus to trap him in what he said.
- And they came and said to him,
 "Teacher, we know that you are sincere,
 and show deference to no one;
 for you do not regard people with partiality,
 but teach the way of God in accordance with truth.
 Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?
- Should we pay them, or should we not?"
 But knowing their hypocrisy, Jesus said to them,
 "Why are you putting me to the test?
 Bring me a denarius and let me see it."
- And they brought one.
 Then he said to them,
 "Whose head is this, and whose title?"
 They answered, "The emperor's."

Jesus said to them,
"Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's,
and to God the things that are God's."
And they were utterly amazed at him.

The gospel of the Lord.

355 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Tobit 3.1-6a, 7-10a, 11-13, 15b-17a

The prayers of Tobit and Sarah were heard in the glorious presence of God.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

Tobit, who was blind and ridiculed by his neighbours, even by his wife,

- wept with much grief and anguish of the heart and began to pray saying:
- "You are righteous, O Lord, and all your deeds are just; all your ways are mercy and truth; you judge the world.
- "And now, O Lord, remember me and look favourably upon me.
 Do not punish me for my sins and for my unwitting offenses and those that my ancestors committed before you. They sinned against you,
- and disobeyed your commandments.
 So you gave us over to plunder, exile, and death,
 to become the talk, the byword, and an object of reproach
 among all the nations among whom you have dispersed us.
- And now your many judgments are true in exacting penalty from me for my sins.

 For we have not kept your commandments and have not walked in accordance with truth before you.
- "So now deal with me as you will; command my spirit to be taken from me, so that I may be released from the face of the earth and become dust.
 For it is better for me to die than to live."

- On the same day, at Ecbatana in Media, it also happened that Sarah, the daughter of Raguel, was reproached by one of her father's maids.
- For she had been married to seven husbands, and the wicked demon Asmodeus had killed each of them before they had been with her as is customary for wives.

 So the maid said to her,
 - "You are the one who kills your husbands! See, you have already been married to seven husbands and have not borne the name of a single one of them.
- Why do you beat us?Because your husbands are dead?Go with them!
 - May we never see a son or daughter of yours!"
- On that day she was grieved in spirit and wept.
 When she had gone up to her father's upper room,
- with hands outstretched toward the window, she prayed and said,
 "Blessed are you, merciful God!
 Blessed is your name forever;
 let all your works praise you forever.
- And now, Lord, I turn my face to you, and raise my eyes toward you.
- 13 Command that I be released from the earth and not listen to such reproaches any more.
- I am my father's only child;
 he has no other child to be his heir;
 and he has no close relative or other kindred
 for whom I should keep myself as wife.
 Already seven husbands of mine have died.
 Why should I still live?
 But if it is not pleasing to you, O Lord, to take my life, hear me in my disgrace."
- At that very moment, the prayers of both of them were heard in the glorious presence of God.
- So the angel Raphael was sent to heal both of them: Tobit, by removing the white films from his eyes, so that he might see God's light with his eyes;

and Sarah, daughter of Raguel, by giving her in marriage to Tobias son of Tobit, and by setting her free from the wicked demon.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25.2-3, 4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9 (R.1)

- **R.** To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.
- O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.
- Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. *R*.
- Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.
- Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation. *R.*
- Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- According to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord! *R*.
- Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
- 9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 11.25, 26

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

GOSPEL Mark 12.18-27

He is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus and asked him a question, saying,
- "Teacher,
 Moses wrote for us that
 "if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no child,
 the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother."
- "There were seven brothers; the first married and, when he died, left no children;
- and the second married her and died, leaving no children; and the third likewise;
- none of the seven left children. Last of all the woman herself died.
- In the resurrection whose wife will she be? For the seven had married her."
- Jesus said to them,"Is not this the reason you are wrong,that you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God?
- For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.
- "And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?
- "He is God not of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

356 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Tobit 4.20; 5.4; 6.10-11b; 7.1, 9-16; 8.1, 4-9++

The Lord sent me to you, Tobias, so that you and Sarah would marry. "Lord, grant that Sarah and I may find mercy and grow old together."

A reading from the book of Tobit.

Tobit called his son, Tobias, and said to him,

- 20 "And now, my son, let me explain to you that I left ten talents of silver in trust with Gabias son of Gabrias, at Rages in Media."
- So Tobias went out to look for a man to go with him to Media, someone who was acquainted with the way. He went out and found the angel Raphael standing in front of him, but he did not perceive that he was an angel of God.
- 10 When Tobias and Raphael entered Media and already were approaching Ecbatana,
- Raphael said to the young man, Tobias, 11 "We must stay this night in the home of Raguel. He is your relative, and he has a daughter named Sarah."
- Now when they entered Ecbatana, Tobias said to him, "Brother Azariah, take me straight to our brother Raguel." So he took him to Raguel's house, where they found him sitting beside the courtyard door. They greeted him first, and he replied, "Joyous greetings, brothers; welcome and good health!" Then he brought them into his house.
- 9 Then Raguel slaughtered a ram from the flock and received them very warmly. When they had bathed and washed themselves and had reclined to dine, Tobias said to Raphael, "Brother Azariah, ask Raguel to give me my kinswoman Sarah."
- But Raguel overheard it and said to the lad, 10 "Eat and drink, and be merry tonight. For no one except you, brother, has the right to marry my daughter Sarah. Likewise I am not at liberty to give her to any other man than yourself, because you are my nearest relative.

But let me explain to you the true situation more fully, my child.

I have given her to seven men of our kinsmen, 11 and all died on the night when they went in to her.

But now, my child, eat and drink,

and the Lord will act on behalf of you both."

But Tobias said.

"I will neither eat nor drink anything

until you settle the things that pertain to me."

So Raguel said, "I will do so.

She is given to you in accordance with the decree in the book of Moses, and it has been decreed from heaven that she be given to you.

Take your kinswoman;

from now on you are her brother and she is your sister.

She is given to you from today and forever.

May the Lord of heaven, my child,

guide and prosper you both this night

and grant you mercy and peace."

Then Raguel summoned his daughter Sarah. 12

When she came to him

he took her by the hand and gave her to Tobias, saying,

"Take her to be your wife

in accordance with the law and decree written in the book of Moses.

Take her and bring her safely to your father.

And may the God of heaven prosper your journey with his peace."

- Then Raguel called her mother 13
 - and told her to bring writing material;
 - and he wrote out a copy of a marriage contract,
 - to the effect that he gave her to him as wife
 - according to the decree of the law of Moses.
- Then they began to eat and drink. 14
- Raguel called his wife Edna and said to her, 15

"Sister, get the other room ready, and take her there."

So she went and made the bed in the room as he had told her, 16 and brought Sarah there.

She wept for her daughter.

Then, wiping away the tears, she said to Sarah,

"Take courage, my daughter;

the Lord of heaven grant you joy in place of your sorrow.

Take courage, my daughter."

Then she went out.

- When they had finished eating and drinking they wanted to retire; so they took the young man and brought him into the bedroom.
- 4 When the parents had gone out and shut the door of the room, Tobias got out of bed and said to Sarah, "Sister, get up, and let us pray and implore our Lord that he grant us mercy and safety."
- 5 So she got up, and they began to pray and implore that they might be kept safe. Tobias began by saying, "Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors, and blessed is your name in all generations forever. Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you forever.
- 6 You made Adam, and for him you made his wife Eve as a helper and support. From the two of them the human race has sprung. You said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; let us make a helper for him like himself.'
- 7 "I now am taking this kinswoman of mine, not because of lust, but with sincerity. Grant that she and I may find mercy and that we may grow old together."
- And they both said, "Amen, Amen."
- Then they went to sleep for the night.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128.1-2, 3, 4-5 (R. see 1a)

- **R.** Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- 1 Happy is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.
- 2 You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. R.
- 3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. R.
- 4 Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.
- 5 The Lord bless you from Zion. May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. R.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Mark 12.28-34

There is no other commandment greater than these.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- One of the scribes came near to Jesus and asked him. 28 "Which commandment is the first of all?"
- Jesus answered, "The first is, 29 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;
- you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, 30 and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'
- "The second is this, 31 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."
- Then the scribe said to him. 32 "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other';
- and 'to love him with all the heart, 33 and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbour as oneself,' —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."
- When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, 34 "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

357 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Tobit 11.5-15

You afflicted me and had pity on me, and now I see my son Tobias.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

- Tobit's wife, Anna, sat looking intently down the road, by which her son, Tobias, would come.
- When she caught sight of him coming, she said to his father, "Look, your son is coming, and the man who went with him!"
- Raphael said to Tobias, before he had approached his father, "I know that his eyes will be opened.
- Smear the gall of the fish on his eyes; the medicine will make the white films shrink and peel off from his eyes, and your father will regain his sight and see the light."
- Then Anna ran up to her son and threw her arms around him, saying,
 "Now that I have seen you, my child, I am ready to die."
 And she wept.
- Then Tobit got up and came stumbling out through the courtyard door. Tobias went up to him,
- with the gall of the fish in his hand, and holding him firmly, he blew into his eyes, saying, "Take courage, father." With this he applied the medicine on his eyes,
- and it made them smart.
- Next, with both his hands he peeled off the white films from the corners of his eyes.
- Then Tobit saw his son and threw his arms around him,
- and he wept and said to him,
 "I see you, my son, the light of my eyes!"
 Then Tobit said,
 "Blessed be God,
 and blessed be his great name,
 and blessed be all his holy angels.

May his holy name be blessed throughout all the ages.

15 Though he afflicted me, he has had mercy upon me. Now I see my son Tobias!"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146.1-2ab, 6-7, 8-9ab, 9cd-10 (R.2b)

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Praise the Lord, O my soul!
- I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long. R.
- 6 It is thee Lord who keeps faith forever;
- 7 who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free. **R**.
- The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. 8 The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 9 The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow. **R**. The Lord loves the righteous, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
- 10 The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Mark 12.35-37

How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David?
- David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.'
- David himself calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?"
 And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.

The gospel of the Lord.

358 SATURDAY

FIRST READING Tobit 12.1-20

I am ascending to him who sent me; bless God forevermore.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

1 After the angel Raphael brought Tobias home,

Tobit said to his son,

"My child, see to paying the wages of the man who went with you, and give him a bonus as well."

2 Tobias replied,

"Father, how much shall I pay him?

It would do no harm

to give him half of the possessions brought back with me.

- For he has led me back to you safely,
 - he cured my wife,

he brought the money back with me,

and he healed you.

How much extra shall I give him as a bonus?"

- Tobit said, "He deserves, my child, to receive half of all that he brought back."
- So Tobias called Raphael and said,

"Take for your wages half of all that you brought back, and farewell."

- Then Raphael called the two of them privately and said to them, "Bless God and acknowledge him in the presence of all the living for the good things he has done for you.

 Bless and sing praise to his name.

 With fitting honour declare to all people the deeds of God.

 Do not be slow to acknowledge him.
- It is good to conceal the secret of a king,
 but to acknowledge and reveal the works of God,
 and with fitting honour to acknowledge him.
 Do good and evil will not overtake you.
- "Prayer with fasting is good,but better than both is almsgiving with righteousness.A little with righteousness is better than wealth with wrongdoing.
- For almsgiving saves from death and purges away every sin. Those who give alms will enjoy a full life,
- but those who commit sin and do wrong are their own worst enemies.
- "I will now declare the whole truth to you and will conceal nothing from you.

 Already I have declared it to you when I said,
 'It is good to conceal the secret of a king,
 but to reveal with due honour the works of God.'
- So now when you and Sarah prayed, it was I who brought and read the record of your prayer before the glory of the Lord, and likewise whenever you would bury the dead.
- And that time when you did not hesitate to get up and leave your dinner to go and bury the dead,
- I was sent to you to test you.

 And at the same time God sent me
 to heal you and Sarah your daughter-in-law.
- "I am Raphael, one of the seven angels who stand ready and enter before the glory of the Lord."
- The two of them were shaken; they fell face down, for they were afraid.
- But he said to them, "Do not be afraid; peace be with you.
 Bless God forevermore.
- As for me, when I was with you,
 I was not acting on my own will, but by the will of God.
 Bless him each and every day; sing his praises.

- Although you were watching me, 19 I really did not eat or drink anything but what you saw was a vision.
- 20 So now get up from the ground, and acknowledge God. See, I am ascending to him who sent me.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Tobit 13.2, 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d (R.2)

R. Blessed be God. who lives for ever.

- God afflicts, and he shows mercy; he leads down to Hades in the lowest regions of the earth, and he brings up from the great abyss, and there is nothing that can escape his hand. R.
- 6 If you turn to him with all your heart and with all your soul, to do what is true before him. then he will turn to you and will no longer hide his face from you. R. So now see what he has done for you;

acknowledge him at the top of your voice. Bless the Lord of righteousness, and exalt the King of the ages. R.

In the land of my exile I acknowledge him, and show his power and majesty to a nation of sinners. R.

Turn back, you sinners, and do what is right before him; perhaps he may look with favour upon you and show you mercy. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.3

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Mark 12.38-44

This poor widow has put in more than all the others.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- When Jesus was teaching the crowd, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces,
- and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets!
- They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."
- Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums.
- A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.
- Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury.
- For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

TENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

359 MONDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 1.1-7

God consoles us, so that we can console those who are afflicted.

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

- From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and from Timothy our brother:
 To the church of God that is in Corinth, including all the saints throughout Achaia:
- Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation,
- who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.
- For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.
- If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering.
- Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.8a)

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.

- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. *R*.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. *R*.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.12a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Rejoice and be glad: your reward will be great in heaven.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.1-12

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
- Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
- "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will 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 people 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, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The gospel of the Lord.

360 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 1.18-22

Jesus Christ was not "Yes and No", but in him it is always "Yes".

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

- As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been "Yes and No."
- For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not "Yes and No"; but in him it is always "Yes."
- For in him every one of God's promises is a "Yes."

For this reason it is through Christ that we say the "Amen," to the glory of God.

- But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us,
- by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first installment.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.129-130, 131-132, 133+135 (R.135a)

R. Lord, let your face shine on me.

- Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.
- The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. *R.*
- With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments.
- Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name. *R.*

- 133 Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me.
- 135 Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Let your light shine before all, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.13-16

You are the light of the world.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You are the salt of the earth: 13 but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.
- "You are the light of the world. 14 A city built on a hill cannot be hid.
- No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, 15 but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.
- In the same way, let your light shine before others, 16 so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

361 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 3.4-11

We have been made ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit.

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

- Brothers and sisters, 4 such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God:
- Not that we are competent of ourselves 5 to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God,
- who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit: for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.
- Now if the ministry of death, 7 chiselled in letters on stone tablets, came in glory so that the people of Israel could not gaze at Moses' face, because of the glory of his face, a glory now set aside,
- how much more will the ministry of the Spirit come in glory? 8
- For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, much more does the ministry of justification abound in glory!
- Indeed, what once had glory has lost its glory 10 because of the greater glory;
- for if what was set aside came through glory, 11 much more has the permanent come in glory!

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 99.5, 6, 7, 8, 9 (R. see 9c)

- **R.** Holy is the Lord our God.
- 5 Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he! R.
- 6 Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name. They cried to the Lord, and he answered them. **R**.
- 7 The Lord spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them. **R**.

- O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings. *R.*
- Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 25.4c, 5a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Teach me your paths, my God, and lead me in your truth.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.17-19

I have come not to abolish, but to fulfill.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus said to the disciples,
 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets;
 I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.
- For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.
- "Therefore,
 whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments,
 and teaches others to do the same,
 will be called least in the kingdom of heaven;
 but whoever does them and teaches them
 will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

362 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 3.15 – 4.1, 3-6

God has shone in our hearts to enlighten us with the knowledge of God's glory.

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

- To this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over the minds of the Israelites;
- but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.
- Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
- And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.
- Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.
- And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.
- In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.
- For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85.8ab-9, 10-11, 12-13 (R. see 9b)

- **R.** The glory of the Lord will dwell in our land.
- Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people and to his faithful.
- Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. *R.*
- Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
- Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. *R.*
- The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.20-26

Anyone who is angry with a brother or sister is liable to judgment.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- ²⁰ "For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
- "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.'
- But I say to you
 that if you are angry with a brother or sister,
 you will be liable to judgment;
 and if you insult a brother or sister,
 you will be liable to the council;
 and if you say, 'You fool,'
 you will be liable to the hell of fire.

- "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you,
- leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.
- 25 "Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison.
- Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny."

The gospel of the Lord.

363 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 4.7-15

The one who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus, and bring us with you into his presence.

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

- Prothers and sisters, we have this treasure in clay vessels, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.
- We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair;
- 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;
- always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.
- For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh.
- So death is at work in us, but life in you.

- But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—
 "I believed, and so I spoke"—
 we also believe, and so we speak,
- because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.
- Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 116.10-11, 15-16, 17-18 (R.17a)

R. To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";
- I said in my consternation, "Everyone is a liar." *R.*
- Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.
- O Lord, I am your servant; the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds. *R*.
- I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.
- I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 2.15-16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.27-32

Everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery."
- But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
- "If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away;
 it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.
- And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.
- "It was also said,
 "Whoever divorces his wife,
 let him give her a certificate of divorce."
- But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery."

The gospel of the Lord.

364 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 5.14-21

For our sake he made him to be sin, who knew no sin.

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

- Brothers and sisters, the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.
- And Christ died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.
- From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.
- So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!
- All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;
- that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.
- So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat 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.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12 (R.8a)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. *R*.

- Bless the Lord who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
- who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. R.
- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. R.
- For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 119.36a, 29b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Turn my heart to do your will; teach me your law, O God.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.33-37

I say to you, do not swear at all.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.'
- But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,
- or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.
- And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.
- Let your word be 'Yes,' if 'Yes'; or 'No,' if 'No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

The gospel of the Lord.

ELEVENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

365 MONDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 6.1-10

Let us show that we are servants of God.

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

- Brothers and sisters, as we work together with God, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.
- For he says,

 "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

 See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!
- We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry,
- but as servants of God
 we have commended ourselves in every way:
 through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,
- beatings, imprisonments, riots,labours, sleepless nights, hunger;
- by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love,
- truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;
- in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute.
 - We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;
- as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed;
- as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 (R.2a)

- **R.** The Lord has made known his salvation.
- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. *R*.
- The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. **R**.
 - All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 119.105

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.38-42

I say to you: Do not resist an evildoer.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You have heard that it was said,
 "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."
- But I say to you: Do not resist an evildoer.
 But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek,
 turn the other also;
- and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well;
- and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile.
- Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you."

The gospel of the Lord.

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 8.1-9

Jesus Christ became poor for your sake.

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

- We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia;
- for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.
- For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means,
- begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints—
- and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us,
- so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you.
- Now as you excel in everything

 in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness,
 and in our love for you—
 so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.
- I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others.
- For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146.1b-2, 5-6, 7, 8-9 (R.1b)

- **R.** Praise the Lord, my soul!
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 1 Praise the Lord, O my soul!
- I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
 I will sing praises to my God all my life long. R.
- Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them. *R*.
 - It is the Lord who keeps faith forever;
- who executes justice for the oppressed;
 who gives food to the hungry.
 The Lord sets the prisoners free. R.
- The Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
 The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.43-48

Love your enemies.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You have heard that it was said,
 "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy."
- But I say to you:
 - Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
- so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.
- "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?

 Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

- And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others?

 Do not even the Gentiles do the same?
- "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."The gospel of the Lord.

367 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 9.6-11 *God loves a cheerful giver.*

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

- Brothers and sisters, the point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
- Fach of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
- And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.
- As it is written,
 "They scatter abroad, they give to the poor;
 their righteousness endures forever."
- God who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.
- You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 3-4, 9 (R.1a)

- **R.** Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Happy are those who fear the Lord. who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land: the generation of the upright will be blessed. **R**.
- 3 Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.
- They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. R.
- 9 They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever: their name is exalted in honour. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL

Matthew 6.1-6, 16-18

Your Father who sees in secret will reward vou.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.
- 2 "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell 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 done in secret: 4 and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
- 5 "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

- But whenever 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 whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting.
 Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.
- But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,
- so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

The gospel of the Lord.

368 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 11.1-11

I proclaim God's good news to you free of charge.

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

- Brothers and sisters,
 I wish you would bear with me in a little foolishness.
 Do bear with me!
- I feel a divine jealousy for you, for I promised you in marriage to one husband, to present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.
- But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by its cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.
- For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you submit to it readily enough.
- I think that I am not in the least inferior to these super-apostles.
- I may be untrained in speech, but not in knowledge; certainly in every way and in all things we have made this evident to you.

- Did I commit a sin by humbling myself so that you might be exalted, because I proclaimed God's good news to you free of charge?
- I robbed other churches by accepting support from them in order to serve you.
- And when I was with you and was in need, I did not burden anyone, for my needs were supplied by the friends who came from Macedonia.

 So I refrained and will continue to refrain from burdening you in any way.
- As the truth of Christ is in me, this boast of mine will not be silenced in the regions of Achaia.
- And why? Because I do not love you? God knows I do!

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 111.1-2, 3-4, 7-8 (R.7a)

R. Your works, O Lord, are justice and truth.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. R.
- Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- 4 He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. R.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.
- They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Romans 8.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

GOSPEL Matthew 6.7-15
Pray in this way.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "When you are praying,
 do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do;
 for they think that they will be heard because of their many words.
- Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.
- "Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
- Your kingdom come.
 Your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
- Give us this day our daily bread.
- And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
- And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.
- "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you;
- but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."The gospel of the Lord.

369 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 11.18, 21b-30

Besides other things, I am under daily pressure because of my anxiety for all the churches.

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

- Since many boast according to human standards, I will also boast.
- But whatever anyone dares to boast of

 —I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that.
- Are they Hebrews? So am I.
 Are they Israelites? So am I.
 Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I.

- Are they ministers of Christ?
 I am talking like a madman—I am a better one:
 with far greater labours, far more imprisonments,
 with countless floggings, and often near death.
- Five times I have received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one.
- Three times I was beaten with rods.
 Once I received a stoning.
 Three times I was shipwrecked;
 for a night and a day I was adrift at sea;
- on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from bandits, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers and sisters;
- in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, hungry and thirsty, often without food, cold and naked.
- And, besides other things,
 I am under daily pressure because of my anxiety for all the churches.
- Who is weak, and I am not weak?
 Who is made to stumble, and I am not indignant?
- If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R. see 17b)

- **R.** From all their afflictions God will deliver the just.
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. *R*.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.3

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Matthew 6.19-23

Where your treasure is, your heart will also be.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal;
- but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.
- For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- 22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light;
- but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"

The gospel of the Lord.

370 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 12.1-10

I shall be glad to boast of my weaknesses.

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

- It is necessary to boast, though nothing is to be gained by it; but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.
- I know a person in Christ
 who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven
 —whether in the body or out of the body I do not know;
 God knows.

- And I know that such a person
 —whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—
- was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat.
- On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses.
- But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth.
 But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me,
- even considering the exceptional character of the revelations.

 Therefore, to keep me from being too elated,
 a thorn was given me in the flesh,
 a messenger of Satan to torment me,
 to keep me from being too elated.
- Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me,
- but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."
 So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.
- Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.7-8, 9-10, 11-12 (R.8a)

- **R**. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.
- O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.
- The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. *R.*

- 11 Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good? *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 8.9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

GOSPEL Matthew 6.24-34

Do not worry about tomorrow.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other.
 You cannot serve God and wealth.
- "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?
- "Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?
- And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?
- "And why do you worry about clothing?Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin,
- yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.
- But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?
- "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?'

- For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.
- But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
- "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own.

 Today's trouble is enough for today."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWELFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

371 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 12.1-9

Abraham went as the Lord told him.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The family of Abram lived in Haran of the Chaldeans.

- The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country 1 and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.
- 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, 3 and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
- So Abram went, as the Lord had told him: and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.
- Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan.
 - When they had come to the land of Canaan,
- Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, 6 to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.
- Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So Abram built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.
- From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east: and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord.
- And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negev.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.12-13, 18-19, 20+22 (R.12b)

- **R.** Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.
- Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all human beings. *R.*
- Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,
- to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. *R*.
- Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield.
- Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hebrews 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

GOSPEL Matthew 7.1-5

First, take the log out of your own eye.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Do not judge, so that you may not be judged.
- For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get.
- "Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?
- Or how can you say to your neighbour, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye?
- You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye."

The gospel of the Lord.

372 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 13.2, 5-18

Let there be no strife between you and me, for we are kindred.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold.
- Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents,
- so that the land could not support both of them living together; for their possessions were so great that they could not live together,
- and there was strife between the herders of Abram's livestock and the herders of Lot's livestock.
 - At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites lived in the land.
- Then Abram said to Lot,

 "Let there be no strife between you and me,
 and between your herders and my herders;
 for we are kindred.
- Is not the whole land before you?
 Separate yourself from me.
 If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right;
 or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left."
- Lot looked about him, and saw that the plain of the Jordan was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar; this was before the Lord had destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.
- So Lot chose for himself all the plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward; thus they separated from each other.
- Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the Plain and moved his tent as far as Sodom.
- Now the people of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord.
- The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Raise your eyes now, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward:

- for all the land that you see
 I will give to you and to your offspring forever.
- I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth; so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted.
- Rise up,
 walk through the length and the breadth of the land,
 for I will give it to you."
- So Abram moved his tent, and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron; and there he built an altar to the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15.2-3ab, 3cd-4ab, 5 (R.1b)

- **R.** The just will live in the presence of the Lord.
- Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;
- who do not slander with their tongue. **R**.

 Those who do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;
- in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the Lord. *R.*
- Those who not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL Matthew 7.6, 12-14

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Do not give what is holy to dogs; and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.
- "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.
- "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it.
- For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

The gospel of the Lord.

373 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18

Abraham believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness; and the Lord made a covenant with him.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."
- But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"
- And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."
- But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir."
- The Lord brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars,

if you are able to count them."

Then the Lord said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

- And Abram believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.
- Then the Lord said to him,
 "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans,
 to give you this land to possess."
- 8 But Abram said,
 - "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?"
- The Lord said to him,
 "Bring me a heifer three years old,
 a female goat three years old, a ram three years old,
 a turtledove, and a young pigeon."
- Abram brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.
- And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.
- As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.
- When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.
- On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 (R.8a)

- **R.** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.
- Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. R.
- Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually. *R.*

- O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
- 7 He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth. R.
- He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,
- the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.4, 5b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

GOSPEL Matthew 7.15-20

By their fruits you will know them.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.
- You will know them by their fruits.

 Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles?
- In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.
- A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.
- Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
- Thus you will know them by their fruits."

The gospel of the Lord.

374 THURSDAY

FIRST READING (longer)

Genesis 16.1-12, 15-16

Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called him Ishmael.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no children. She had an Egyptian slave-girl whose name was Hagar,
- and Sarai said to Abram, "You see that the Lord has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my slave-girl; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.
- So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her slave-girl, and gave her to her husband Abram as a wife.
- 4 He went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress.
- Then Sarai said to Abram,
 "May the wrong done to me be on you!
 I gave my slave-girl to your embrace,
 and when she saw that she had conceived,
 she looked on me with contempt.
 May the Lord judge between you and me!"
- But Abram said to Sarai, "Your slave-girl is in your power;
 do to her as you please."
 Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she ran away from her.
- The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur.
- And the angel said, "Hagar, slave-girl of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am running away from my mistress Sarai."
- The angel of the Lord said to her,"Return to your mistress, and submit to her."
- The angel of the Lord also said to her, "I will so greatly multiply your offspring that they cannot be counted for multitude."

- 11 And the angel of the Lord said to her, "Now you have conceived and shall bear a son; you shall call him Ishmael, for the Lord has given heed to your affliction.
- He shall be a wild ass of a man, 12 with his hand against everyone, and everyone's hand against him; and he shall live at odds with all his kin."
- 15 Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram named his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.
- 16 Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

FIRST READING (shorter)

Genesis 16.6b-12, 15-16

Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called him Ishmael.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- 6 Sarai dealt harshly with Hagar, and she ran away from her.
- The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur.
- And he said, "Hagar, slave-girl of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am running away from my mistress Sarai."
- The angel of the Lord said to her, 9 "Return to your mistress, and submit to her."
- 10 The angel of the Lord also said to her, "I will so greatly multiply your offspring that they cannot be counted for multitude."
- And the angel of the Lord said to her, 11 "Now you have conceived and shall bear a son; you shall call him Ishmael, for the Lord has given heed to your affliction.
- He shall be a wild ass of a man, 12 with his hand against everyone, and everyone's hand against him; and he shall live at odds with all his kin."

- Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram named his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael.
- Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 106.1-2, 3-4a, 4b-5 (R.1a)

- **R.** Give thanks, for the Lord is good.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.
- Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise? *R*.
- Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.
- Remember me, O Lord, when you show favour to your people. **R**.
 - Help me when you deliver them;
- that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Matthew 7.21-29

The house built on rock and the house built on sand.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.
- On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many deeds of power in your name?'

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- Then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; go away from me, you evildoers.'
- ²⁴ "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.
- The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.
- And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand.
- The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"
- Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching,
- for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

The gospel of the Lord.

375 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 17.1, 5, 9-10, 15-22

All your males shall be circumcised as a sign of the covenant. Sarah shall bear your son.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless.
- No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham for I have made you ancestor of a multitude of nations.
- "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.
- This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised.

- God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.
- I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."
- Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said to himself, "Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?"
- And Abraham said to God, "O that Ishmael might live in your sight!"
- God said, "No, but your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac.
 I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.
- "As for Ishmael, I have heard you; I will bless him and make him fruitful and exceedingly numerous; he shall be the father of twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation.
- But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this season next year."
- And when he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128.1-2, 3, 4-5 (R.4)

- **R.** See how the Lord blesses those who fear him.
- Happy is the one who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.
- You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. *R*.
- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. *R.*
- Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.
- The Lord bless you from Zion.

 May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 8.17

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Christ bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.

GOSPEL Matthew 8.1-4

If you choose, you can make me clean.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him:
- 2 and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean."
- Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, 3 "I do choose. Be made clean!" Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.
- Then Jesus said to him, 4 "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." The gospel of the Lord.

376 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 18.1-15

Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? I will return to you and Sarah will have a son.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, 1 as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day.
- He looked up and saw three men standing near him. 2 When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground.
- Abraham said, "My lord, if I find favour with you, 3 do not pass by your servant.
- 4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.

- Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said."
- 6 And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes."
- Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it.
- Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.
- They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" 9 And he said, "There, in the tent."
- Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, 10 and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.
- 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.
- So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 12 "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?"
- The Lord said to Abraham, 13 "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?'
- Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? 14 At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son."
- 15 But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. The Lord said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Luke 1.46-47, 48-49, 50+53, 54-55 (R.54b)

- **R.** The Lord has remembered his mercy.
- 46 My soul magnifies the Lord,
- 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. R.
- 48 The Lord has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. R.
- 50 His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
- 53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. R.
- 54 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- 55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 8.17

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Christ bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.

GOSPEL Matthew 8.5-17

Many will come from east and west, and will eat with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- 5 When Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying,
- "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress."
- 7 And Jesus said to him, "I will come and cure him."
- The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed.
- For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it."

- When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, "Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith.
- I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven,
- while the heirs of the kingdom
 will be thrown into the outer darkness,
 where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."
- And to the centurion Jesus said,
 "Go; let it be done for you according to your faith."
 And the servant was healed in that hour.
- When Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever;
- he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him.
- That evening they brought to Jesus many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick.
- This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

377 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 18.16-33

Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked?

- The three visitors from the Lord set out from Mamre, and they looked toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to set them on their way.
- The Lord said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do,
- seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?
- No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice; so that the Lord may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him."
- Then the Lord said,
 "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin!
- I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."
- So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord.
- Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?
- Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it?
- Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked!

 Far be that from you!

 Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"
- And the Lord said,
 "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city,
 I will forgive the whole place for their sake."

- Abraham answered,
 "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord,
 I who am but dust and ashes.
- Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking?
 Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?"
 And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there."
- Again Abraham spoke to him,
 "Suppose forty are found there."
 The Lord answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it."
- Then Abraham said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there."

 The Lord answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there."
- Abraham said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there."

 He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it."
- Then Abraham said,
 "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more.
 Suppose ten are found there."
 The Lord answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."
- And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 10-11 (R.8a)

- **R.** The Lord is kind and merciful.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. *R*.
- It is the Lord who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
- who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. *R.*
- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. R.

- 10 The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 8.18-22

Follow me.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- 18 When Jesus saw great crowds around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side.
- 19 A scribe then approached and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."
- 20 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."
- Another of his disciples said to him, 21 "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."
- But Jesus said to him, "Follow me, 22 and let the dead bury their own dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

378 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 19.15-29

The Lord rained sulphur and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

During the night, the men of Sodom, both young and old, had tried to attack the two travellers who were guests in the home of Lot.

- When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Get up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or else you will be consumed in the punishment of the city."
- But Lot lingered; so the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought Lot out and left him outside the city.
- When the angels had brought them outside, they said, "Flee for your life; do not look back or stop anywhere in the Plain; flee to the hills, or else you will be consumed."
- And Lot said to them, "Oh, no, my lords;
- your servant has found favour with you, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life; but I cannot flee to the hills, for fear the disaster will overtake me and I die.
- Look, that city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one.Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!"
- The Lord said to Lot, "Very well, I grant you this favour too, and will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken.
- Hurry, escape there, for I can do nothing until you arrive there."
 Therefore the city was called Zoar.
- The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar.
- Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulphur and fire from the Lord out of heaven;
- and he overthrew those cities, and all the Plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

- But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, 26 and she became a pillar of salt.
- 27 Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord;
- and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah 28 and toward all the land of the Plain and saw the smoke of the land going up like the smoke of a furnace.
- So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the Plain, 29 God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow. when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had settled.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 26.2-3, 9-10, 11-12 (R.3a)

- **R.** O Lord, your kindness is before my eyes.
- 2 Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind.
- 3 For your steadfast love is before my eyes. and I walk in faithfulness to you. R.
- Do not sweep me away with sinners, nor my life with the bloodthirsty,
- 10 those in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes. R.
- 11 But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.
- 12 My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will bless the Lord. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 130.5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I hope in the Lord,

I trust in his word.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.23-27

Jesus rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a calm.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus got into a boat, and his disciples followed him.
- A windstorm arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep.
- And they went and woke him up, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"
- And Jesus said to them,
 "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?"
 Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea;
 and there was a dead calm.
- The disciples were amazed, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

 The gospel of the Lord.

379 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 21.5, 8-20

The son of the slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.

- Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.
- The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned.
- 9 But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac.
- So she said to Abraham,
 "Cast out this slave woman with her son;
 for the son of this slave woman
 shall not inherit along with my son Isaac."
- The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son.

- 12 But God said to Abraham, "Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you.
- 13 As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring."
- 14 So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away.

And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

- 15 When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes.
- Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, 16 about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, "Do not let me look on the death of the child." And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept.
- 17 And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid: for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is.
- Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, 18 for I will make a great nation of him."
- Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. 19 She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.
- God was with the boy, and he grew up; 20 he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.6-7, 9-10, 11-12 (R.6a)

- **R.** The Lord hears the cry of the poor.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them. *R*.
- O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.
- The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. *R*.
- 11 Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good? *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

James 1.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the firstfruits of his creation.

GOSPEL Matthew 8.28-34

Have you come here to torment the demons before the time?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When Jesus came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes, two men possessed by demons came out of the tombs met him. They were so fierce that no one could pass that way.
- Suddenly they shouted,
 "What have you to do with us, Son of God?
 Have you come here to torment us before the time?"
- Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them.
- The demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine."
- And Jesus said to them, "Go!"
 So they came out and entered the swine;
 and suddenly, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank
 into the sea and perished in the water.

- The swineherds ran off, and on going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the demoniacs.
- Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighbourhood. The gospel of the Lord.

380 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 22.1-19
Abraham our father's sacrifice.

- God tested Abraham.
 He said to him, "Abraham!"
 And he said, "Here I am."
- God said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."
- So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.
- 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away.
- Then Abraham said to his young men,
 "Stay here with the donkey;
 the boy and I will go over there;
 we will worship, and then we will come back to you."
- Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together.
- Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!"
 And he said, "Here I am, my son."
 Isaac said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

- Abraham said,
 "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son."
 So the two of them walked on together.
- When they came to the place that God had shown him,
 Abraham built an altar there
 and laid the wood in order.
 He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar,
 on top of the wood.
- Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.
- But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!"
 And he said, "Here I am."
- The angel said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."
- And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns.

 Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.
- So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."
- The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven,
- and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son,
- I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies,
- and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."
- So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham lived at Beer-sheba.
 - The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 116.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (R.9a)

- **R.** I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.
- Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. *R*.
- The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.
- Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I pray, save my life!" **R**.
- Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.
- The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. *R*.
- For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.
- I walk before the Lord in the land of the living. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 5.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.1-8

The crowd glorified God who had given such authority to human beings.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- After getting into a boat
 Jesus crossed the sea and came to his own town.
- And just then some people were carrying a man who was paralyzed, lying on a bed.
 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven."
- Then some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming."

- But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?
- For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'?
- But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralyzed man—
 "Stand up, take your bed and go to your home."
- 7 And the man stood up and went to his home.
- When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

The gospel of the Lord.

381 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 23.1-4, 19; 24.1-8, 62-67

Isaac loved Rebecca so much that he was comforted after his mother's death.

- Sarah lived one hundred twenty-seven years; this was the length of Sarah's life.
- And Sarah died at Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan; and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.
- Abraham rose up from beside his dead, and said to the Hittites,
- "I am a stranger and an alien residing among you; give me property among you for a burying place, so that I may bury my dead out of my sight."
- 19 After this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah facing Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan.
- Now Abraham was old, well advanced in years; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things.

- Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his house, who had charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh
- 3 and I will make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live,
- 4 but will go to my country and to my kindred and get a wife for my son Isaac."
- 5 The servant said to him, "Perhaps the woman may not be willing to follow me to this land; must I then take your son back to the land from which you came?"
- Abraham said to him, 6 "See to it that you do not take my son back there.
- 7 The Lord, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my birth, and who spoke to me and swore to me, 'To your offspring I will give this land,' he will send his angel before you, and you shall take a wife for my son from there.
- 8 But if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be free from this oath of mine; only you must not take my son back there."
- Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, 62 and was settled in the Negev.
- Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; 63 and looking up, he saw camels coming.
- And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, 64 she slipped quickly from the camel,
- 65 and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So Rebekah took her veil and covered herself.
- 66 And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done.
- 67 Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 106.1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5 (R.1b)

- **R.** Give thanks, for the Lord is good.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.
- Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise? **R**.
- Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.
- Remember me, O Lord,
 when you show favour to your people. *R.* Lord, help me when you deliver them;
- that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.9-13

Those who are well have no need of a physician. I desire mercy not sacrifice.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And Matthew got up and followed him.
- And as Jesus sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples.
- When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
- But when Jesus heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick do.
- Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.'
 For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

382 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 27.1-5, 9-10, 15-29 ++

Jacob usurped the place of his brother and took his blessing by fraud.

- When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called his elder son Esau and said to him, "My son"; and Esau answered, "Here I am."
- Isaac said, "See, I am old;
 I do not know the day of my death.
- Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field, and hunt game for me.
- Then prepare for me savoury food, such as I like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may bless you before I die."
- Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to his son Esau. So when Esau went to the field to hunt for game and bring it, Rebekah said to her son Jacob,
- "Go to the flock, and get me two choice kids, so that I may prepare from them savoury food for your father, such as he likes;
- and you shall take it to your father to eat, so that he may bless you before he dies."
- Then Rebekah took the best garments of her elder son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob;
- and she put the skins of the kids on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck.
- Then she handed the savoury food, and the bread that she had prepared, to her son Jacob.
- So Jacob went in to his father, and said, "My father"; and he said, "Here I am; who are you, my son?"
- Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your firstborn.
 I have done as you told me;
 now sit up and eat of my game, so that you may bless me."

- But Isaac said to his son,
 "How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?"
 He answered, "Because the Lord your God granted me success."
- Then Isaac said to Jacob,
 "Come near, that I may feel you, my son,
 to know whether you are really my son Esau or not."
- So Jacob went up to his father Isaac, who felt him and said, "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau."
- He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so Isaac blessed Jacob.
- He said, "Are you really my son Esau?" He answered, "I am."
- Then he said, "Bring it to me, that I may eat of my son's game and bless you."

 So Jacob brought it to Isaac, and he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank.
- Then his father Isaac said to Jacob, "Come near and kiss me, my son."
- So he came near and kissed him; and Isaac smelled the smell of his garments, and blessed him, and said, "Ah, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field that the Lord has blessed.
- May God give you of the dew of heaven, and of the fatness of the earth, and plenty of grain and wine.
- Let peoples serve you,
 and nations bow down to you.
 Be lord over your brothers,
 and may your mother's sons bow down to you.
 Cursed be everyone who curses you,
 and blessed be everyone who blesses you!"

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 135.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.3a)

- **R.** Praise the Lord for he is good!
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the name of the Lord; give praise, O servants of the Lord,
- you that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. **R**.
- Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing to his name, for he is gracious.
- For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession. *R*.
- For I know that the Lord is great; our Lord is above all gods.
- Whatever the Lord pleases he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.14-17

The wedding guests cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- The disciples of John the Baptist came to Jesus, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"
- And Jesus said to them,
 "The wedding guests cannot mourn
 as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they?
 The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.
- "No one sews a piece of unshrunken cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made.
- Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

FOURTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

383 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 28.10-22a

Jacob saw a ladder and the angels of God ascending and descending, and God spoke to him.

- Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran.
- He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set.Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place.
- And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.
- And the Lord stood beside him and said,
 "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father
 and the God of Isaac;
 the land on which you lie
 I will give to you and to your offspring;
- and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring.
- Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."
- Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!"
- And he was afraid, and said,
 "How awesome is this place!
 This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

- So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.
- He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.
- Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear,
- so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God,
- 22 and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one tenth to you."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 91.1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab (R. see 2b)

R. In you, my God, I place my trust.

- You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
- will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." R.
- For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;
- he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge. **R**.
- Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.
- When they call to me, I will answer them; I will rescue them and honour them. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.18-26

My daughter has just died, but come, and she will live.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- While Jesus was speaking to the disciples of John the Baptist, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live."
- And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples.
- Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak,
- for she said to herself,
 "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well."
- Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well.
- When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,
- he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping."
 And they laughed at him.
- But when the crowd had been put outside, Jesus went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.
- And the report of this spread throughout that district.

The gospel of the Lord.

384 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 32.22-32

You shall be called Israel, for you have striven with God.

- At night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.
- He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had.

- Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak.
- When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.
- Then the man said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking."
 But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me."
- So the man said to him, "What is your name?" And he said. "Jacob."
- Then the man said,
 "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel,
 for you have striven with God and with humans,
 and have prevailed."
- Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name."
 But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?"
 And there he blessed him.
- So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."
- The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.
- Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 17.1, 2-3, 6-7, 8+15 (R.15a)

- **R.** In my justice, I shall see your face, O Lord.
- Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit. *R*.
- From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right.
- If you try my heart, if you visit me by night, if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me. *R*.
- I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words.
- Wondrously show your steadfast love,
 O saviour of those who seek refuge
 from their adversaries at your right hand. R.

- Guard me as the apple of your eye;
 Hide me in the shadow of your wings,
- As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.32-38

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

As Jesus was walking along,

- a demoniac who was mute was brought to him.
- And when the demon had been cast out, the one who had been mute spoke; and the crowds were amazed and said, "Never has anything like this been seen in Israel."
- But the Pharisees said, "By the ruler of the demons he casts out the demons."
- Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.
- When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
- therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

The gospel of the Lord.

385 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 41.55-57; 42.5-7a, 17-24

We are paying the penalty for what we did to our brother.

- When all the land of Egypt was famished, the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Pharaoh said to all the Egyptians, "Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do."
- And since the famine had spread over all the land, Joseph opened all the storehouses, and sold grain to the Egyptians, for the famine was severe in the land of Egypt.
- Moreover, all the world came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine became severe throughout the world.
- Thus the sons of Israel were among the other people who came to buy grain, for the famine had reached the land of Canaan.
- Now Joseph was governor over the land; it was he who sold to all the people of the land.

 And Joseph's brothers came and bowed themselves before him with their faces to the ground.
- When Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but he treated them like strangers and spoke harshly to them.
- 17 And he put them all together in prison for three days.
- On the third day Joseph said to them, "Do this and you will live, for I fear God:
- if you are honest men, let one of your brothers stay here where you are imprisoned. The rest of you shall go and carry grain for the famine of your households,
- and bring your youngest brother to me.
 Thus your words will be verified, and you shall not die."
 And they agreed to do so.
- They said to one another,
 "Alas, we are paying the penalty for what we did to our brother;
 we saw his anguish when he pleaded with us,
 but we would not listen.
 That is why this anguish has come upon us."

- Then Reuben answered them,
 "Did I not tell you not to wrong the boy?
 But you would not listen.
 So now there comes a reckoning for his blood."
 They did not know that Joseph understood them
- They did not know that Joseph understood them, since he spoke with them through an interpreter.
- He turned away from them and wept.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.2-3, 10-11, 18-19 (R.22)

- **R.** Lord, let your mercy be upon us, as we place our trust in you.
- Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.
- Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. *R.*
- The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
- The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. *R.*
- Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,
- to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is near, repent and believe the good news!

GOSPEL Matthew 10.1-7

Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.
- These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;
- Philip and Bartholomew;
 Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;
 James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;
- Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.
- These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,
- but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- As you go, proclaim the good news,'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

386 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 44.18-21, 23b-29; 45.1-5 God sent me into Egypt to preserve your life.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Judah and his brothers, the sons of Jacob, had been ordered into Joseph's presence.

- Judah stepped up to Joseph and said,
 "O my lord,
 let your servant please speak a word in my lord's ears,
 and do not be angry with your servant;
 for you are like Pharaoh himself.
- My lord asked his servants, saying, 'Have you a father or a brother?'

- And we said to my lord,

 'We have a father, an old man, and a young brother,
 the child of his old age.
 His brother is dead; he alone is left of his mother's children,
 and his father loves him.'
- Then you said to your servants, 'Bring him down to me, so that I may set my eyes on him.'
- 'Unless your youngest brother comes down with you, you shall see my face no more.'
- When we went back to your servant my father we told him the words of my lord.
- And when our father said, 'Go again, buy us a little food,'
- we said, 'We cannot go down.
 Only if our youngest brother goes with us, will we go down;
 for we cannot see the man's face
 unless our youngest brother is with us.'
- Then your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons;
- one left me, and I said, Surely he has been torn to pieces; and I have never seen him since.
- If you take this one also from me, and harm comes to him, you will bring down my grey hairs in sorrow to Sheol."
- Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.
- And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.
- Joseph said to his brothers,
 "I am Joseph.
 Is my father still alive?"
 But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.
- Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me."

 And they came closer.

 He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.16-17, 18-19, 20-21 (R.5a)

- **R.** Remember the marvels the Lord has done.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- When the Lord summoned famine against the land, and broke every staff of bread,
- he had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave. **R**.
- His feet were hurt with fetters, his neck was put in a collar of iron;
- until what he had said came to pass, the word of the Lord kept testing him. *R*.
- The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free.
- 21 He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his possessions. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is near, repent and believe the good news!

GOSPEL Matthew 10.7-15

You receive without payment, give without payment.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "As you go, proclaim the good news,'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'
- 8 Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons.
 - You received without payment; give without payment.
- Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts,

- no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food.
- "Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave.
- As you enter the house, greet it.
- If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.
- "If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.
- 15 Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town."

The gospel of the Lord.

387 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 46.1-7, 28-30 I can die happy, now that I have seen you.

- Israel set out on his journey with all that he had and came to Beer-sheba, and he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.
- God spoke to Israel in visions of the night, and said, "Jacob, Jacob." And he said, "Here I am."
- Then God said, "I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make of you a great nation there.
- I myself will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also bring you up again; and Joseph's own hand shall close your eyes."
- Then Jacob set out from Beer-sheba; and the sons of Israel carried their father Jacob, their little ones, and their wives, in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him.

- They also took their livestock and the goods that they had acquired in the land of Canaan, and they came into Egypt, Jacob and all his offspring with him,
- his sons, and his sons' sons with him, his daughters, and his sons' daughters; all his offspring he brought with him into Egypt.
- Israel sent Judah ahead to Joseph to lead the way before him into Goshen. When they came to the land of Goshen,
- Joseph made ready his chariot and went up to meet his father Israel in Goshen.
 Joseph presented himself to him, fell on his neck, and wept on his neck a good while.
- Israel said to Joseph, "I can die now, having seen for myself that you are still alive."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 37.3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 (R.39a)

- **R.** The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.
- Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. *R*.
- The Lord knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will abide forever;
- they are not put to shame in evil times, in the days of famine they have abundance. **R**.
- Depart from evil, and do good; so you shall abide forever.
- For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his faithful ones.

 The righteous shall be kept safe forever, but the children of the wicked shall be cut off. R.
- The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their refuge in the time of trouble.
- The Lord helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.13a; 14.26b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will teach you all truth and bring to your mind all I have told you.

GOSPEL Matthew 10.16-23

It is not you who will speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.
- Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues;
- and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles.
- "When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time;
- for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.
- "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death;
- 22 and you will be hated by all because of my name. "But the one who endures to the end will be saved.
- When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

The gospel of the Lord.

388 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Genesis 49.29-31, 33; 50.15-26++

God will surely come to you and bring you out of this land.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Jacob called his sons and blessed them, blessing each one of them with a suitable blessing.

- Jacob charged his sons, saying to them,
 "I am about to be gathered to my people.
 Bury me with my ancestors
 —in the cave in the field of Ephron the Hittite,
- in the cave in the field at Machpelah, near Mamre, in the land of Canaan, in the field that Abraham bought from Ephron the Hittite as a burial site.
- There Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried; there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried; and there I buried Leah."
- When Jacob ended his charge to his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed, breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.
- Realizing that their father was dead,
 Joseph's brothers said,
 "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us
 and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?"
- So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died,
- 'Say to Joseph:
 I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.'
 Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father."
 Joseph wept when they spoke to him.
- Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves."
- But Joseph said to them,
 "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?

- Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.
- So have no fear;
 I myself will provide for you and your little ones."
 In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.
- So Joseph remained in Egypt, he and his father's household; and Joseph lived one hundred ten years.
- Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation; the children of Machir son of Manasseh were also born on Joseph's knees.
- Then Joseph said to his brothers,
 "I am about to die; but God will surely come to you,
 and bring you up out of this land
 to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."
- So Joseph made the Israelites swear, saying, "When God comes to you, you shall carry up my bones from here."
- And Joseph died.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.1-2, 3-4, 6-7 (R. see Ps 69.33)

- **R.** Turn to the Lord in your need and you will live.
- O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.
- Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. *R*.
- Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually. *R.*
- O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
- He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth. *R*.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Allelui If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of God rests on you.

GOSPEL Matthew 10.24-33

Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- ²⁴ "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master;
- it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher,and the slave like the master.If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul,how much more will they malign those of his household!
- "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known.
- What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops.
- "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
- Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?

 Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.
- And even the hairs of your head are all counted.
- So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.
- "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven;
- but whoever denies me before others,
 I also will deny before my Father in heaven."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

FIFTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

389 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 1.8-14, 22

We will oppress Israel to prevent its further growth.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- 8 Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.
- 9 He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we.
- 10 Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land."
- Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labour.

 They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh.
- But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites.
- The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites,
- and made their lives bitter with hard service
 in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labour.
 They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.
- Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 124.1-3, 4-6, 7-8 (R.8a)

- **R.** Our help is in the name of the Lord.
- If it had not been the Lord who was on our side —let Israel now say—
- if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us.
- then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us. *R.*
- Then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
- then over us would have gone the raging waters.
- Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth. *R.*
- We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice's sake; for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL Matthew 10.34 – 11.1

I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.
- For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
- and one's foes will be members of one's own household.
- Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;
- and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

- Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.
- "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.
- Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous;
- and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple —truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."
- Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities.

The gospel of the Lord.

390 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 2.1-15a

Pharaoh's daughter called him Moses, because she drew him from the waters; later, when he was a man, went to his own people.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.
- The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months.
- When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.
- 4 His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.
- The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river.

 She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.

- When she opened it, she saw the child.

 He was crying, and she took pity on him,

 "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said.
- 7 Then the child's sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?"
- Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes."
 So the girl went and called the child's mother.
- Pharaoh's daughter said to her,
 "Take this child and nurse it for me,
 and I will give you your wages."
 So the woman took the child and nursed it.
- When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son.

 She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."
- One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and saw their forced labour. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his kinsfolk.
- He looked this way and that, and seeing no one he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.
- When he went out the next day, he saw two Hebrews fighting; and he said to the one who was in the wrong, "Why do you strike your fellow Hebrew?"
- He answered, "Who made you a ruler and judge over us?

 Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?"

 Then Moses was afraid and thought, "Surely the thing is known."
- When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh. He settled in the land of Midian,

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 69.2, 13, 29-30, 32-33 (R. see 32)

- **R.** Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.
- I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me. *R.*
- But as for me, my prayer is to you, O Lord.
 At an acceptable time, O God,
 in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.
 With your faithful help. *R*.
- But I am lowly and in pain; let your salvation, O God, protect me.
- I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving. *R*.
- Let the oppressed see it and be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive.
- For the Lord hears the needy, and does not despise his own that are in bonds. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 11.20-24

On the day of judgment, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done, because they did not repent.
- "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!
 For if the deeds of power done in you
 had been done in Tyre and Sidon,
 they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.
- ²² "But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you.

- "And you, Capernaum,
 will you be exalted to heaven?
 No, you will be brought down to Hades.
 For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom,
 it would have remained until this day.
- "But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you."The gospel of the Lord.

391 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 3.1-6, 9-12

The Lord appeared to Moses in a flame of fire out of a bush.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.
- There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed.
- Then Moses said,
 "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up."
- When the Lord saw that Moses had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."
- Then God said, "Come no closer!
 Remove the sandals from your feet,
 for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."
- God said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.
- Then the Lord said, "The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them.

10

So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

- But Moses said to God, 11 "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"
- God said, "I will be with you; 12 and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 6-7 (R.8a)

- **R.** The Lord is kind and merciful.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. R.
- It is the Lord who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
- 4 who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. R.
- The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.
- He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL

You have hidden these things from the wise and revealed them to infants.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- At that time Jesus said,
 "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
 because you have hidden these things
 from the wise and the intelligent
 and have revealed them to infants;
- yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.
- "All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

The gospel of the Lord.

392 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 3.13-20

I am who I am. I am has sent me to you.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

God spoke to Moses out of the bush and said, "The cry of the Israelites has now come to me. So come, I will send you to Pharoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

- But Moses said to God,
 "If I come to the Israelites and say to them,
 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,'
 and they ask me, 'What is his name?'
 what shall I say to them?"
- God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."

He said further,

"Thus you shall say to the Israelites,

'I AM has sent me to you.'"

God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites,

'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':
This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

- "Go and assemble the elders of Israel, and say to them, The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, has appeared to me, saying:
 I have given heed to you and to what has been done to you in Egypt.
- I declare that I will bring you up out of the misery of Egypt, to the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, a land flowing with milk and honey.'
- "They will listen to your voice; and you and the elders of Israel shall go to the king of Egypt and say to him, 'The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us; let us now go a three days' journey into the wilderness, so that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God.'
- "I know, however, that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless compelled by a mighty hand.
- So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all my wonders that I will perform in it; after that he will let you go."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.1+5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27 (R.8a)

R. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.
- Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered. **R**.
- 8 The Lord is mindful of his covenant forever.

- of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,
- the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac. *R.*
- The Lord made his people very fruitful, and made them stronger than their foes,
- whose hearts he then turned to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants. *R*.
- He sent his servant Moses, and Aaron whom he had chosen.
- They performed his signs among them, and miracles in the land of Ham. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 11.28-30

I am gentle and humble of heart.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said:

- ²⁸ "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.
- Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
- For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The gospel of the Lord.

393 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 11.10 - 12.14

You shall slaughter a lamb at twilight; and I will see its blood and pass over you.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- Moses and Aaron performed many wonders before Pharaoh; but the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the people of Israel go out of his land.
- The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt:
- This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you.
- Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household.
- If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.
- "Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.
- You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight.
- 7 They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.
- They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.
- Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs.
- You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.
- This is how you shall eat it:
 your loins girded, your sandals on your feet,
 and your staff in your hand;
 and you shall eat it hurriedly.
 It is the passover of the Lord.

- "For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord.
- The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.
- "This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 116.12-13, 15-16, 17-18 (R.13)

- **R.** I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?
- I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. *R*.
- Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.
- O Lord, I am your servant;
 I am your servant, you have loosed my bonds. *R.*
- I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.
- I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.17

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Matthew 12.1-8

The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- On the sabbath, Jesus went through the grainfields; his disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat.
- When the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, "Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the sabbath."
- Jesus said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry?
- He entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him or his companions to eat, but only for the priests.
- Or have you not read in the law that on the sabbath the priests in the temple break the sabbath and yet are guiltless?
- ⁶ "I tell you, something greater than the temple is here.
- But if you had known what this means,'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,'you would not have condemned the guiltless.
- For the Son of Man is lord of the sabbath."

The gospel of the Lord.

394 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 12.37-42

On that night, the Lord led Israel out of Egypt.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- The Israelites journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides children.
- A mixed crowd also went up with them, and livestock in great numbers, both flocks and herds.
- They baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had brought out of Egypt;

it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.

- The time that the Israelites had lived in Egypt was four hundred thirty years.
- At the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the companies of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt.
- That was for the Lord a night of vigil, to bring them out of the land of Egypt.

 That same night is a vigil to be kept for the Lord by all the Israelites throughout their generations.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 136.1+23-24, 10-12, 13-15

R. God's love is everlasting.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
- It is he who remembered us in our low estate,
- and rescued us from our foes. \mathbb{R} .
- 10 It is he who struck Egypt through their firstborn,
- and brought Israel out from among them,
- with a strong hand and an outstretched arm. R.
- 13 It is he who divided the Red Sea in two,
- and made Israel pass through the midst of it,
- but overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 5.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

GOSPEL Matthew 12.14-21

Jesus ordered them not to make him known to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophets.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- The Pharisees went out and conspired against Jesus, how to destroy him.
- When Jesus became aware of this, he departed.

 Many crowds followed him, and he cured all of them,
- and he ordered them not to make him known.
- 17 This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah:
- "Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased.
 I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.
- He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets.
- ²⁰ "He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smouldering wick until he brings justice to victory.
- And in his name the Gentiles will hope."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

SIXTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

395 MONDAY

FIRST READING Exodus 14.5-18

They will know that I am the Lord when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- When the king of Egypt was told that the Israelites had fled, the minds of Pharaoh and his officials were changed toward the people, and they said, "What have we done, letting Israel leave our service?"
- So he had his chariot made ready, and took his army with him;
- 7 he took six hundred picked chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them.
- The Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt and he pursued the Israelites, who were going out boldly.
- The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, his chariot drivers and his army; they overtook them camped by the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.
- As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord.
- They said to Moses,
 "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt
 that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness?
 What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt?
- Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."
- But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again.
- The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

- Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward.
- But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground.
- "Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.
- And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Exodus 15.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1b)

- **R.** Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.
- I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea.
- The Lord is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. *R*.
- The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name.
- Pharaoh's chariots and his army he cast into the sea; his picked officers were sunk in the Red Sea. *R.*
- The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone.
- Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power—your right hand, O Lord, shattered the enemy. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 12.38-42

The queen of the south will rise in judgment with this generation.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Jesus, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you."
- But Jesus answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.
- For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth.
- "The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here!
- "The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!"

The gospel of the Lord.

396 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 14.21 – 15.1, 20-21++

The Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Israelites were encamped at the edge of the sea; Pharoah, King of Egypt, and his army pursued them, so as to enslave them once again.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea.

The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided.

- The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.
- The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers.
- At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic.
- He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."
- Then the Lord said to Moses,
 "Stretch out your hand over the sea,
 so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians,
 upon their chariots and chariot drivers."
- So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth.

 As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea.
- The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained.
- But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.
- Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.
- Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.
- Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: "I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."
- Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing.
- And Miriam sang to them:
 "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
 horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Exodus 15.7ab-8, 9, 10+12, 17 (R.1b)

- **R.** Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.
- In the greatness of your majesty you overthrew your adversaries.
- At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up, O Lord, the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. *R*.
- The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them.
 I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.' R.
- You blew with your wind, the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.
- You stretched out your right hand, the earth swallowed them. *R*.
- You brought them in and planted them on the mountain of your own possession, the place, O Lord, that you made your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hands have established. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL

Matthew 12.46, 48-50++

Pointing to his disciples, Jesus said, "Here are my mother and my brothers."

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- While Jesus was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers were standing outside, wanting to speak to him.
- But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?"
- And pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!
- For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

397 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 16.1-5, 9-15

I will rain bread from heaven for you.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt.
- The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.
- The Israelites said to them,
 "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt,
 when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread;
 for you have brought us out into this wilderness
 to kill this whole assembly with hunger."
- Then the Lord said to Moses,
 "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you,
 and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day.
 In that way I will test them,
 whether they will follow my instruction or not.
- On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days."
- Then Moses said to Aaron,"Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites,'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'"
- And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.
- 11 The Lord spoke to Moses and said,
- "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"
- In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

- When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.
- When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another,
 "What is it?"

 For they did not know what it was.

 Moses said to them,

 "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 78.18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28 (R.24b)

- **R.** The Lord gave them bread from heaven.
- Our ancestors tested God in their heart by demanding the food they craved.
- They spoke against God, saying, "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?" *R.*
- God commanded the skies above, and opened the doors of heaven;
- he rained down on them manna to eat, and gave them the bread of heaven. **R**.
- Mortals ate of the bread of angels; he sent them food in abundance.
- He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens, and by his power he led out the south wind. R.
- He rained flesh upon them like dust, winged birds like the sand of the seas;
- he let them fall within their camp, all around their dwellings. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 13.1-9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.1-9

The seeds brought forth grain, a hundredfold.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- One day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.
- Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.
- And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow.
- And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.
- Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.
- But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.
- Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.
- Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.
- "Let anyone with ears listen!"

The gospel of the Lord.

398 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 19.1-2, 9-11, 16-20b

The Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai.
- They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness;
 Israel camped there in front of the mountain.

- Then the Lord said to Moses,
 "I am going to come to you in a dense cloud,
 in order that the people may hear when I speak with you
 and so trust you ever after."
 - When Moses had told the words of the people to the Lord,
- the Lord said to Moses:
 - "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow.
- Have them wash their clothes and prepare for the third day,
 - because on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people."
- On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, as well as a thick cloud on the mountain, and a blast of a trumpet so loud that all the people who were in the camp trembled.
- Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God. They took their stand at the foot of the mountain.
- Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the Lord had descended upon it in fire; the smoke went up like the smoke of a kiln, while the whole mountain shook violently.
- As the blast of the trumpet grew louder and louder,
 Moses would speak and God would answer him in thunder.
- When the Lord descended upon Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain, the Lord summoned Moses to the top of the mountain.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Daniel 3.52, 53, 54, 55, 56 (R.52b)

- **R.** Glory and praise for ever!
- Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our ancestors and blessed is your glorious and holy name. *R.*
- Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory, and to be extolled and highly glorified forever. *R*.
- Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom, and to be extolled and highly exalted forever. **R**.

- Blessed are you who look into the depths from your throne on the cherubim. *R.*
- Blessed are you in the firmament of heaven, to be sung and glorified forever. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.10-17

To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to others it has not been given.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- The disciples came and asked Jesus, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"
- He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.
- "For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.
- The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.'
- "With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says: 'You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive.
- For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them.'

- "But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.
- 17 Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

The gospel of the Lord.

399 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 20.1-17
The law was given through Moses.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord descended upon Mount Sinai and summoned Moses to the top of the mountain.

- 1 Then God spoke all these words:
- "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;
- you shall have no other gods before me.
- "You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
- You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me,
- but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- "You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.
- 8 "Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.
- 9 Six days you shall labour and do all your work.
- But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns.

- For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.
- "Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.
- "You shall not kill.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not steal.
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
- You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 10 (R. Jn 6.68c)

- **R.** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple. *R*.
- The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. *R*.
- The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. *R*.
- More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 8.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.18-23

The one who hears the word and understands it, bears fruit.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Hear then the parable of the sower.
- When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.
- "As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
- yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.
- "As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.
- "But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The gospel of the Lord.

400 SATURDAY

FIRST READING Exodus 24.3-8

This is the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses went down from the top of Mount Sinai

and came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice, and said, "All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do."

- And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and set up twelve pillars, corresponding to the twelve tribes of Israel.
- He sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed oxen as communion offerings to the Lord.
- Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he dashed against the altar.
- Then he took the book of the covenant, and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient."
- Moses took the blood and dashed it on the people, and said, "See the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50.1-2, 5-6, 14-15 (R.14a)

- **R.** Offer to God a sacrifice of praise.
- The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. **R**.
- Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"
- The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. *R*.
- Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.
- "Call on me in the day of trouble;
 I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me." R.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Receive and submit to the word planted in you; it can save your souls.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.24-30

Let both of them grow until the harvest.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus put before the people another parable:"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;
- but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away.
- "So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.
- And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?'
- He answered, 'An enemy has done this.'

 "The slaves said to him,

 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?'
- 29 But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.
- Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

The gospel of the Lord.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

401 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 32.15-24, 30-34

This people has sinned a great sin; they have made for themselves gods of gold.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

When God finished speaking with Moses on Mount Sinai he gave him the two tablets of the covenant.

- Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain, carrying the two tablets of the covenant in his hands, tablets that were written on both sides, written on the front and on the back.
- The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved upon the tablets.
- When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp."
- But Moses said,

 "It is not the sound made by victors,
 or the sound made by losers;
 it is the sound of revellers that I hear."
- As soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets from his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.
- 20 He took the calf that they had made, burned it with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the Israelites drink it.
- Moses said to Aaron,
 "What did this people do to you
 that you have brought so great a sin upon them?"
- And Aaron said, "Do not let the anger of my lord burn hot; you know the people, that they are bent on evil.
- They said to me, 'Make us gods, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.'

- So I said to them, 'Whoever has gold, take it off'; so they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!"
- On the next day Moses said to the people, "You have sinned a great sin.

 But now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin."
- So Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Alas, this people has sinned a great sin; they have made for themselves gods of gold.
- But now, if you will only forgive their sin—but if not, blot me out of the book that you have written."
- But the Lord said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against me I will blot out of my book.
- But now go,
 lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you;
 see, my angel shall go in front of you.
 Nevertheless, when the day comes for punishment,
 I will punish them for their sin."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 106.19-20, 21-22, 23 (R.4a or 1a)

- **R.** In your love, remember us, Lord.++
- or: Give thanks, for the Lord is good.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Our ancestors made a calf at Horeb and worshipped a cast image.
- They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass. *R*.
- They forgot God, their Saviour, who had done great things in Egypt,
- wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea. *R.*
- Therefore God said he would destroy them—had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them. *R*.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.31-35

The mustard seed becomes a tree so that the birds of the air nest in its branches.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus put before the people another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field:
- it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."
- 33 He told them another parable:
 "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."
- Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing.
- This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: "I will open my mouth to speak in parables;
 I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world."

The gospel of the Lord.

402 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 33.7-11; 34.4b-9, 28 God used to speak to Moses face to face.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Whenever the Israelites made camp throughout their journey to the land promised by the Lord,

- Moses used to take the tent
 and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp;
 he called it the tent of meeting.
 And everyone who sought the Lord
 would go out to the tent of meeting,
 which was outside the camp.
- Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand, each of them, at the entrance of their tents and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent.
- When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses.
- When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at the entrance of their tent.
- Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.

 Then he would return to the camp; but his young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent.
- Early one morning, Moses rose and went up on the mountain as the Lord had commanded him.
- The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name, "The Lord."
- The Lord passed before him, and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,

- keeping steadfast love for the thousandth generation, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, yet by no means clearing the guilty, but visiting the iniquity of the parents upon the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."
- And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth, and worshipped.
- He said, "If now I have found favour in your sight, O Lord, I pray, let the Lord go with us.
 Although this is a stiff-necked people, pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance."
- Moses was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water.

 And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103.6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13 (R.8a)

- **R.** The Lord is kind and merciful.
- The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.
- He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. *R*.
- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. R.
- He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him. *R*.
- As far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.
- As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.36-43

As the weeds are collected and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus left the crowds and went into the house.

 And his disciples approached him, saying,
 "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field."
- He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man;
- the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one,
- and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.
- "Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.
- The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,
- and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

"Let anyone with ears listen!"

The gospel of the Lord.

403 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Exodus 34.29-35

When they saw Moses, they were afraid to come near him.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- Moses came down from Mount Sinai.
 As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, he did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.
- When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him.
- But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them.
- Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.
- When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face;
- but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded,
- the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 99.5, 6, 7, 9 (R. see 9c)

- **R.** Holy is the Lord our God.
- Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he! *R*.
- Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name. They cried to the Lord, and he answered them. *R.*
- 7 He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them. *R.*
- Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.44-46

He sells all he has and buys that field.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds:

- "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.
- "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
- on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

The gospel of the Lord.

404 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Exodus 40.16-21, 34-38

A cloud covered the tent, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- Moses did everything just as the Lord had commanded him.
- In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was set up.
- Moses set up the tabernacle; he laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars;
- and he spread the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent over it; as the Lord had commanded Moses.
- He took the covenant and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark, and set the mercy seat above the ark;
- and he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the curtain for screening, and screened the ark of the covenant; as the Lord had commanded Moses.
- Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.
- Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled upon it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.
- Whenever the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, the Israelites would set out on each stage of their journey;
- but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out until the day that it was taken up.
- For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, before the eyes of all the house of Israel at each stage of their journey.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 84.2, 3, 4-5a+7, 10 (R.1)

- **R.** How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!
- My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. *R*.
- Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. R.
- 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- Happy are those whose strength is in you,
- 7 they go from strength to strength. R.
- For a day in your courts is better
 than a thousand elsewhere.
 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
 than live in the tents of wickedness. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Acts 16.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.47-52

They put the good ones in a basket and throw away the bad.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds:

- 47 "The kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;
- when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.
- "So it will be at the end of the age.

 The angels will come out
 and separate the evil from the righteous
- and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."
- And Jesus said to them,
 "Therefore every scribe who has been trained
 for the kingdom of heaven
 is like the master of a household
 who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The gospel of the Lord.

405 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Leviticus 23.1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37

You shall call these the most solemn and most holy festivals of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

- 1 The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:
- These are the appointed festivals of the Lord, the holy convocations, which you shall celebrate at the time appointed for them.
- In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, at twilight, there shall be a passover offering to the Lord,
- and on the fifteenth day of the same month is the festival of unleavened bread to the Lord; seven days you shall eat unleavened bread.
- On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations.
- For seven days you shall present the Lord's offerings by fire; on the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation: you shall not work at your occupations.
- 9 The Lord spoke to Moses:
- Speak to the people of Israel and say to them:
 When you enter the land that I am giving you
 and you reap its harvest,
 you shall bring the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest.
- He shall raise the sheaf before the Lord, that you may find acceptance; on the day after the sabbath the priest shall raise it.

- And from the day after the sabbath, from the day on which you bring the sheaf of the elevation offering, you shall count off seven weeks; they shall be complete.
- You shall count until the day after the seventh sabbath, fifty days; then you shall present an offering of new grain to the Lord.
- Now, the tenth day of this seventh month is the day of atonement; it shall be a holy convocation for you: you shall deny yourselves and present the Lord's offering by fire.
- Speak to the people of Israel, saying:
 On the fifteenth day of this seventh month,
 and lasting seven days,
 there shall be the festival of booths to the Lord.
- The first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations.
- Seven days you shall present the Lord's offerings by fire; on the eighth day you shall observe a holy convocation and present the Lord's offerings by fire; it is a solemn assembly; you shall not work at your occupations.
- These are the appointed festivals of the Lord, which you shall celebrate as times of holy convocation, for presenting to the Lord offerings by fire—burnt offerings and grain offerings, sacrifices and drink offerings, each on its proper day.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 81.2-3, 4-5, 9-10 (R.1a)

- **R.** Sing with joy to God our help.
- Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.
- Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day. *R*.

- For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
- The Lord made it a decree in Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt. *R*.
- There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.
- I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Peter 1.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the good news.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.54-58

Is this not the carpenter's son? Where did this man get all this?

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus came to his hometown and began to teach the people in their synagogue, so that they were astounded and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these deeds of power?
- Is not this the carpenter's son?
 Is not his mother called Mary?
 And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?
- And are not all his sisters with us?
 Where then did this man get all this?"
- And they took offense at him.
 - But Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honour except in their own country and in their own house."
- And Jesus did not do many deeds of power there, because of their unbelief.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

406 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Leviticus 25.1, 8-17

In the jubilee year every one shall return to their own home and family.

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

- The Lord spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying: Speak to the people of Israel and say to them:
- You shall count off seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the period of seven weeks of years gives forty-nine years.
- Then you shall have the trumpet sounded loud; on the tenth day of the seventh month
 —on the day of atonement—
 you shall have the trumpet sounded throughout all your land.
- And you shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants.
 It shall be a jubilee for you: you shall return, every one of you, to your property and every one of you to your family.
- That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you: you shall not sow, or reap the aftergrowth, or harvest the unpruned vines.
- 12 For it is a jubilee; it shall be holy to you: you shall eat only what the field itself produces.
- In this year of jubilee you shall return, every one of you, to your property.
- When you make a sale to your neighbour or buy from your neighbour, you shall not cheat one another.
- When you buy from your neighbour, you shall pay only for the number of years since the jubilee; the seller shall charge you only for the remaining crop years.
- If the years are more,
 you shall increase the price,
 and if the years are fewer,
 you shall diminish the price;
 for it is a certain number of harvests that are being sold to you.

You shall not cheat one another, but you shall fear your God; for I am the Lord your God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 67.1-2, 3a+4, 6-7 (R.3)

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

- May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,
- that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. *R*.
- Let the peoples praise you, O God;
- let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. **R**.
- The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.
- May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.1-12

Herod sent and had John beheaded, and his disciples came and told Jesus.

- ★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Herod the ruler heard reports about Jesus;
- and he said to his servants,

 "This is John the Baptist;
 he has been raised from the dead,
 and for this reason these powers are at work in him."
- For Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife,
- because John had been telling him,"It is not lawful for you to have her."

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- Though Herod wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, because they regarded John as a prophet.
- But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company, and she pleased Herod so much that he promised on oath
- 7 to grant her whatever she might ask.
- Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter."
- The king was grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he commanded it to be given;
- he sent and had John beheaded in the prison.
- The head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, who brought it to her mother.
- His disciples came and took the body and buried it; then they went and told Jesus.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

407 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Numbers 11.4b-15
I cannot carry all this people alone.

A reading from the book of Numbers.

As the Israelites marched through the wilderness, they complained.

- The people wept and said, "If only we had meat to eat!
- We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic;
- but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."
- Now the manna was like coriander seed, and its colour was like the colour of gum resin.
- The people went around and gathered it, ground it in mills or beat it in mortars, then boiled it in pots and made cakes of it; and the taste of it was like the taste of cakes baked with oil.
- When the dew fell on the camp in the night, the manna would fall with it.
- Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents.
 Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased.
- So Moses said to the Lord,
 "Why have you treated your servant so badly?
 Why have I not found favour in your sight,
 that you lay the burden of all this people on me?
- Did I conceive all this people?

 Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me,

 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a suckling child,'
 to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors?
- Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!'
- I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me.

If this is the way you are going treat me, put me to death at once
—if I have found favour in your sight—
and do not let me see my misery."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 81.11-12, 13-14, 15-16 (R.1a)

- **R.** Sing with joy to God our help.
- "My people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me.
- So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels." *R.*
- "O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!
- Then I would quickly subdue their enemies, and turn my hand against their foes." *R.*
- Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, and their doom would last forever.
- "I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you." *R.*

YEAR A

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1.49

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Master, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.22-36

Command me to come to you on the water.

- ★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- After the crowd had eaten enough,
 Jesus made the disciples get into a boat
 and go on ahead to the other side,
 while he dismissed the crowds.
- And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray.

- When evening came, he was there alone,
- but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.
- And early in the morning
 Jesus came walking toward them on the sea.
- But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!"

 And they cried out in fear.
- But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."
- Peter answered him,
 "Lord, if it is you,
 command me to come to you on the water."
- Jesus said, "Come."
 So Peter got out of the boat,
 started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.
- But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"
- Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"
- When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.
- And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."
- When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.
- After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him,
- and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The gospel of the Lord.

YEARS B and C

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4.4

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.13-21

Jesus looked up to heaven, blessed the loaves and gave them to the disciples; and they gave them to the crowds.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.
- When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.
- When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."
- Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."
- They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish."
- And he said, "Bring them here to me."
- Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass.

 Taking the five loaves and the two fish,

 Jesus looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves,
 and gave them to the disciples,
 and the disciples gave them to the crowds.
- And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.
- And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

408 TUESDAY

FIRST READING Numbers 12.1-13

Not so with my servant Moses; he is entrusted with all my house.

A reading from the book of Numbers.

- While they were at Hazeroth,
 Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses
 because of the Cushite woman whom he had married
 (for he had indeed married a Cushite woman);
- and they said,
 "Has the Lord spoken only through Moses?
 Has he not spoken through us also?"
 And the Lord heard it.
- Now the man Moses was very humble, more so than anyone else on the face of the earth.
- Suddenly the Lord said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tent of meeting." So the three of them came out.
- Then the Lord came down in a pillar of cloud, and stood at the entrance of the tent, and called Aaron and Miriam; and they both came forward.
- And he said, "Hear my words:
 When there are prophets among you,
 I, the Lord, make myself known to them in visions;
 I speak to them in dreams.
- Not so with my servant Moses; he is entrusted with all my house.
- With him I speak face to face—clearly, not in riddles; and he beholds the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"
- 9 And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them, and he departed.
- When the cloud went away from over the tent,
 Miriam had become leprous, as white as snow.
 And Aaron turned towards Miriam and saw that she was leprous.
- Then Aaron said to Moses,
 "Oh, my lord, do not punish us
 for a sin that we have so foolishly committed.

- Do not let her be like one stillborn, whose flesh is half consumed when it comes out of its mother's womb."
- And Moses cried to the Lord, "O God, please heal her."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 51.1-2, 3-4, 10-11 (R. see 3)

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

- Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. *R*.
- For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. *R.*
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. *R*.

YEAR A

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1.49

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Master, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15.1-2, 10-14

Every plant my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said,
- Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands before they eat."

- Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:
- it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles."
- Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?"
- Jesus answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.
- Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit."

The gospel of the Lord.

YEARS B and C

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1.49

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Master, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.22-36

Command me to come to you on the water.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- After the crowd had eaten enough,
 Jesus made the disciples get into a boat
 and go on ahead to the other side,
 while he dismissed the crowds.
- And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,
- but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.
- And early in the morning
 Jesus came walking toward them on the sea.
- But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!"

 And they cried out in fear.
- But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I: do not be afraid."

- Peter answered him,
 "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."
- Jesus said, "Come."
 So Peter got out of the boat,
 started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.
- But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"
- Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"
- When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.
- And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."
- When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.
- After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him,
- and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The gospel of the Lord.

409 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

1120

Numbers 13.1-2, 25-33; 14.1-2b, 26-29, 34-35++

The Israelites refused a good and desirable land.

A reading from the book of Numbers.

- One day the Lord spoke to Moses in the desert,
- "Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites; from each of their ancestral tribes you shall send a man, every one a leader among them."
- At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land.
- And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the Israelites in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land.
- And they told him, "We came to the land to which you sent us; it flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit.

- 28 Yet the people who live in the land are strong, and the towns are fortified and very large; and besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there.
- 29 The Amalekites live in the land of the Negey; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live by the sea, and along the Jordan."
- 30 But Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it."
- 31 Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against this people, for they are stronger than we."
- So they brought to the Israelites 32 an unfavourable report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land that we have gone through as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are of great size.
- 33 There we saw the Nephilim (the Anakites come from the Nephilim); and to ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them."
- Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night.
- 2 And all the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron.
- 26 And the Lord spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying:
- How long shall this wicked congregation complain against me? 27 I have heard the complaints of the Israelites, which they complain against me.
- Say to them, "As I live," says the Lord, 28 "I will do to you the very things I heard you say:
- your dead bodies shall fall in this very wilderness; 29 and of all your number, included in the census, from twenty years old and upward, who have complained against me.
- "According to the number of the days 34 in which you spied out the land, forty days, for every day a year, you shall bear your iniquity, forty years, and you shall know my displeasure.

"I, the Lord, have spoken; surely I will do thus to all this wicked congregation gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall come to a full end, and there they shall die."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 106.6-7, 13-14, 21-22, 23 (R.4a)

- **R.** In your love, remember us, Lord.++
- or: Lord, remember us, for the love you bear your people.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Both we and our ancestors have sinned; we have committed iniquity, have done wickedly.
- Our ancestors, when they were in Egypt, did not consider your wonderful works. *R*.
- But they soon forgot his works; they did not wait for his counsel.
- But they had a wanton craving in the wilderness, and put God to the test in the desert. *R.*
- They forgot God, their Saviour, who had done great things in Egypt,
- wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea. **R**.
- Therefore God said he would destroy them—had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 7.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

GOSPEL Matthew 15.21-28
Woman, great is your faith.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon.
- And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting,

 "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon."
- But Jesus did not answer her at all.
 And his disciples came and urged him, saying,
 "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us."
- He answered,
 "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."
- But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."
- Jesus answered,
 "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."
- She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."
- Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel of the Lord.

410 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Numbers 20.1-13

Open to them the fountain of living water.

A reading from the book of Numbers.

- The Israelites, the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh.
 Miriam died there, and was buried there.
- Now there was no water for the congregation; so they gathered together against Moses and against Aaron.
- The people quarrelled with Moses and said, "Would that we had died when our kindred died before the Lord!

- Why have you brought the assembly of the Lord into this wilderness for us and our livestock to die here?
- Why have you brought us up out of Egypt, to bring us to this wretched place?

 It is no place for grain, or figs, or vines, or pomegranates; and there is no water to drink."
- Then Moses and Aaron went away from the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting; they fell on their faces, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them.
- 7 The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:
- "Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and your brother Aaron, and command the rock before their eyes to yield its water. Thus you shall bring water out of the rock for them; thus you shall provide drink for the congregation and their livestock."
- 9 So Moses took the staff from before the Lord, as he had commanded him.
- Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Listen, you rebels, shall we bring water for you out of this rock?"
- Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with his staff; water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their livestock drank.
- But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me, to show my holiness before the eyes of the Israelites, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them."
- These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarrelled with the Lord, and by which he showed his holiness.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95.1-2, 6-7ab, 7c-9 (R.8)

- **R.** If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.
- O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! *R*.
- O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
- For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. *R*.
 - O that today you would listen to his voice!
- Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,
- when your ancestors tested me, and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 16.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold against it.

GOSPEL Matthew 16.13-23

You are Peter and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples,

 "Who do people say that the San of Man is?"
 - "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"
- And they said,
 "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah,
 and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
- He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
- Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of the living God."
- And Jesus answered him,
 "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!
 For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.

- And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.
- I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
- Then Jesus sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah, the Christ.
- From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
- And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you."
- But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The gospel of the Lord.

411 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4.32-40

The Lord God loved your ancestors and chose their descendants after them.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people of Israel and said:

- "Ask now about former ages, long before your own, ever since the day that God created human beings on the earth; ask from one end of heaven to the other: has anything so great as this ever happened or has its like ever been heard of?
- Has any people ever heard the voice of a god speaking out of a fire, as you have heard, and lived?
- Or has any god ever attempted to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and by terrifying displays of power,

as the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?

- "To you it was shown so that you would acknowledge that the Lord is God; there is no other besides him.
- From heaven he made you hear his voice to discipline you. On earth he showed you his great fire, while you heard his words coming out of the fire.
- And because he loved your ancestors, he chose their descendants after them.

 He brought you out of Egypt with his own presence, by his great power,
- driving out before you nations greater and mightier than yourselves, to bring you in, giving you their land for a possession, as it is still today.
- "So acknowledge today and take to heart that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.
- Keep his statutes and his commandments, which I am commanding you today for your own well-being and that of your descendants after you, so that you may long remain in the land that the Lord your God is giving you for all time."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 77.11-12, 13-14, 15+20 (R.11)

- **R.** I remember the deeds of the Lord.
- I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.
- I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds. *R.*
- Your way, O God, is holy.
 What god is so great as our God?
- You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples. *R.*
- With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.
- You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL Matthew 16.24-28

What will they give in return for their life?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus told his disciples,
 "If any want to become my followers,
 let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
- For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.
- For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?

 Or what will they give in return for their life?
- 27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.
- Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord.

412 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 6.4-13

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

A reading from the book of Deuternomy.

Moses spoke to the people and said:

- 4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
- You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.
- 6 "Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart.
- Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

- Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead,
- and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
- "When the Lord your God has brought you into the land that he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you —a land with fine, large cities that you did not build,
- houses filled with all sorts of goods that you did not fill, hewn cisterns that you did not hew, vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant—and when you have eaten your fill,
- take care that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
- The Lord your God you shall fear; him you shall serve, and by his name alone you shall swear."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 18.1-2, 3+6b, 46+50 (R.1)++

- **R.** I love you, Lord, my strength.
- ¹ I love you, Lord, my strength.
- The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the source of my salvation, my stronghold. *R*.
- I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, so I shall be saved from my enemies.
- From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears. *R*.
- The Lord lives! Blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation,
- Great triumphs he gives to his king, and shows steadfast love to his anointed. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Matthew 17.14-20

If you have faith, nothing will be impossible for you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

After the transfiguration,

Jesus, with Peter, James and John, came down from the mountain.

- When they came to the crowd, a man came to Jesus, knelt before him, and said,
- "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water.
- And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him."
- Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you?
 How much longer must I put up with you?
 Bring him here to me."
- And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly.
- Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?"
- Jesus said to them, "Because of your little faith.
 For truly I tell you,
 if you have faith the size of a mustard seed,
 you will say to this mountain,
 'Move from here to there,' and it will move;
 and nothing will be impossible for you."

The gospel of the Lord.

NINETEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

413 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 10.12-22

Circumcise your heart. Love the stranger for you yourselves were strangers in Egypt.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people and said,

- "So now, O Israel,
 what does the Lord your God require of you?
 Only to fear the Lord your God,
 to walk in all his ways, to love him,
 to serve the Lord your God with all your heart
 and with all your soul,
- and to keep the commandments of the Lord your God and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being.
- "Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth with all that is in it,
- yet the Lord set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today.
- "Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer.
- For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe,
- who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing.
- You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.
- "You shall fear the Lord your God;him alone you shall worship;to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear.
- He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

Your ancestors went down to Egypt seventy persons; and now the Lord your God has made you as numerous as the stars in heaven."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 147.12-13, 14-15, 19-20 (R.12a)

- **R.** Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!
 Praise your God, O Zion!
- For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you. *R.*
- The Lord grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.
- He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. *R.*
- The Lord declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.
- He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Thessalonians 2.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God has called us with the gospel, to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Matthew 17.22-27

The Son of Man will be killed and he will be raised. The children are free from the tax.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- As the disciples were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands,
- and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised."

 And they were greatly distressed.
- When they reached Capernaum, the collectors of the temple tax came to Peter and said, "Does your teacher not pay the temple tax?"

25

Peter said, "Yes, he does."

And when he came home, Jesus spoke of it first, asking, "What do you think, Simon?
From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tribute?
From their children or from others?"

From their children or from others?"

- When Peter said, "From others,"
 Jesus said to him, "Then the children are free.
- However, so that we do not give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook; take the first fish that comes up; and when you open its mouth, you will find a coin; take that and give it to them for you and me."

The gospel of the Lord.

414 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 31.1-8

Be strong and bold, Joshua; for you will go with this people into the land.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

- When Moses had finished speaking all that God had commanded him to all Israel,
- he said to them: "I am now one hundred twenty years old.
 I am no longer able to get about,
 and the Lord has told me,
 'You shall not cross over this Jordan.'
- The Lord your God himself will cross over before you.
 He will destroy these nations before you,
 and you shall dispossess them.
 Joshua also will cross over before you, as the Lord promised.
- 4 "The Lord will do to them as he did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, when he destroyed them.
- The Lord will give them over to you and you shall deal with them in full accord with the command that I have given to you.
- Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."

7

Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel: "Be strong and bold, for you are the one who will go with this people into the land that the Lord has sworn to their ancestors to give them; and you will put them in possession of it.

It is the Lord who goes before you.

He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you.

Do not fear or be dismayed."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Deuteronomy 32.3-4a, 7, 8, 9+12 (R.9a)

- **R.** The portion of the Lord is his people.
- I will proclaim the name of the Lord; ascribe greatness to our God!
- The Rock, his work is perfect, and all his ways are just. *R.*
- Remember the days of old, consider the years long past; ask your father, and he will inform you; your elders, and they will tell you. *R*.
- When the Most High apportioned the nations, when he divided human race, he fixed the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of the gods. *R.*
- The Lord's own portion was his people, Jacob his allotted share.
- The Lord alone guided him; no foreign god was with him. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.29

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Take my yoke upon you, learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18.1-5, 10, 12-14

Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
- ² Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, and said,
- Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.
- "Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.
- "What do you think?
 If a shepherd has a hundred sheep,
 and one of them has gone astray,
 does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains
 and go in search of the one that went astray?
- And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray.
- "So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost."

The gospel of the Lord.

415 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 34.1-12

Moses died at the Lord's command. Never since has there been a prophet like Moses.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

- Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan,
- all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea,

- the Negev, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar.
- The Lord said to him,
 "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham,
 to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying,
 'I will give it to your descendants';
 I have let you see it with your eyes,
 but you shall not cross over there."
- Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command.
- He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day.
- Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated.
- The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.
- Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses.
- Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face.
- He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land,
- and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 66.1-3a, 5+8, 16-17 (R. see 20a and 9a)

- **R.** Blessed be God who filled my soul with life!
- Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
- sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.
- Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!" R.

- Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.
- Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard. *R.*
- Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.
- I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 5.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.15-20

If a member listens to you, you have regained that one.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the brother or sister listens to you, you have regained that one.
- But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.
- If the brother or sister refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.
- "Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.
- Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.
- For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The gospel of the Lord.

416 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Joshua 3.7-10a, 11, 13-17

The ark of the covenant of the Lord will pass before you into the Jordan.

A reading from the book of Joshua.

Early in the morning, Joshua rose and set out with all the Israelites, and they came to the Jordan.

They encamped there before crossing.

- 7 Then the Lord said to Joshua,
 "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel,
 so that they may know that I will be with you
 as I was with Moses.
- You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.'"
- Joshua then said to the Israelites,"Draw near and hear the words of the Lord your God."
- Joshua said, "By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites.
- The ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going to pass before you into the Jordan.
- "When the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap."
- When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people.
- Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest.

 So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water,

- the waters flowing from above stood still, 16 rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off.
 - Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho.
- While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, 17 the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 114.1-2, 3-4, 5-6

R. Alleluia! (or two or three times)

- 1 When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
- 2 Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion. R.
- 3 The sea looked and fled: Jordan turned back.
- The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs. R.
- 5 Why is it, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back?
- 6 O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs? R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 119.135

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.21 - 19.1

Not seven times, I tell you, but seventy-seven.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Peter came to Jesus and said,
 "Lord, if a brother or sister sins against me,
 how often would I forgive?
 As many as seven times?"
- Jesus said to Peter, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.
- ²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.
- When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him;
- and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.
- So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'
- And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.
- "But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'
- Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'
- But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.
- "When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.
- Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.
- Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'

- And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.
- "So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."
- When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan.

417 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Joshua 24.1-13

I took your father from beyond the river, led you out of Egypt and brought you to your own land.

A reading from the book of Joshua.

- Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God.
- And Joshua said to all the people,
 "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel:
 Long ago your ancestors
 —Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—
 lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods.
- "Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac;
- and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau.
 I gave Esau the hill country of Seir to possess,
 but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt.
- Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt with what I did in its midst; and afterwards I brought you out.
- When I brought your ancestors out of Egypt, you came to the sea; and the Egyptians pursued your ancestors with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea.

- When they cried out to the Lord, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and made the sea come upon them and cover them; and your eyes saw what I did to Egypt.

 Afterwards you lived in the wilderness a long time.
- Then I brought you to the land of the Amorites, who lived on the other side of the Jordan; they fought with you, and I handed them over to you, and you took possession of their land, and I destroyed them before you.
- "Then King Balak son of Zippor of Moab, set out to fight against Israel.
 He sent and invited Balaam son of Beor to curse you,
- but I would not listen to Balaam; therefore he blessed you; so I rescued you out of his hand.
- "When you went over the Jordan and came to Jericho, the citizens of Jericho fought against you, and also the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I handed them over to you.
- I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove out before you the two kings of the Amorites; it was not by your sword or by your bow.
- I gave you a land on which you had not laboured, and towns that you had not built, and you live in them; you eat the fruit of vineyards and oliveyards that you did not plant."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 136.1-3, 16-18, 21-22+24

R. God's love is everlasting.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
- O give thanks to the God of gods;
- O give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever. **R**.

- Give thanks to God who led his people through the wilderness,
- who struck down great kings,
- and killed famous kings for his steadfast love endures forever. **R**.
- Give thanks to God who gave their land as a heritage,
- ²² a heritage to his servant Israel,
- and rescued us from our foes, for his steadfast love endures forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Thessalonians 2.13

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God.

GOSPEL Matthew 19.3-12

Because you were so hard-hearted Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Some Pharisees came to Jesus, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?"
- 4 Jesus answered.
 - "Have you not read that the one who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,'
- 5 and said,
 - 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?
- So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."
- 7 They said to him,
 - "Why then did Moses command us to give a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her?"
- Jesus said to them, "It was because you were so hard-hearted that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.
- And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another commits adultery."
- His disciples said to him,
 "If such is the case of a man with his wife,
 it is better not to marry."

- But Jesus said to them, "Not everyone can accept this teaching, but only those to whom it is given.
- For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.

"Let anyone accept this who can."

The gospel of the Lord.

418 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Joshua 24.14-29

Choose this day whom you will serve.

A reading from the book of Joshua.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, and he spoke to the people and said:

- "Revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.
- Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."
- Then the people answered,
 "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods;
- for it is the Lord our God
 who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt,
 out of the house of slavery,
 and who did those great signs in our sight.
 He protected us along all the way that we went,
 and among all the peoples through whom we passed;

- and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."
- But Joshua said to the people,
 "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God.
 He is a jealous God;
 he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins.
- If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good."
- And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!"
- Then Joshua said to the people,
 "You are witnesses against yourselves
 that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him."
 And they said, "We are witnesses."
- He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel."
- The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey."
- So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.
- Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God; and he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak in the sanctuary of the Lord.
- Joshua said to all the people,
 "See, this stone shall be a witness against us;
 for it has heard all the words of the Lord that he spoke to us;
 therefore it shall be a witness against you,
 if you deal falsely with your God."
- So Joshua sent the people away to their inheritances.
- After these things Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died, being one hundred ten years old.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 9a+11 (R. see 5a)++

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. *R.*
- Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
- for you show me the path of life.

 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Matthew 19.13-15

Let the little ones come to me, do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Little children were being brought to Jesus in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them;
- but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."
- And Jesus laid his hands on the children and went on his way.

 The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTIETH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

419 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Judges 2.11-19

The Lord raised up judges, yet they did not listen to them.

A reading from the book of Judges.

After the death of Joshua

- the Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and worshipped the Baals;
- and they abandoned the Lord, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt; they followed other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were all around them, and bowed down to them; and they provoked the Lord to anger.
- They abandoned the Lord, and worshipped Baal and the Astartes.
- So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he gave them over to plunderers who plundered them, and he sold them into the power of their enemies all around, so that they could no longer withstand their enemies.
- Whenever they marched out, the hand of the Lord was against them to bring misfortune, as the Lord had warned them and sworn to them; and they were in great distress.
- Then the Lord raised up judges, who delivered them out of the power of those who plundered them.
- 17 Yet they did not listen even to their judges; for they lusted after other gods and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their ancestors had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the Lord; they did not follow their example.

- Whenever the Lord raised up judges for them, the Lord was with the judge, and he delivered them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge; for the Lord would be moved to pity by their groaning because of those who persecuted and oppressed them.
- But whenever the judge died, they would relapse and behave worse than their ancestors, following other gods, worshipping them and bowing down to them. They would not drop any of their practices or their stubborn ways.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 106.4+5b, 6+35, 36-37, 39-40, 43-44 (R.4a)++

- **R.** In your love, remember us, Lord.++
- or: Lord, remember us, for the love you bear your people.
- Remember me, O Lord, when you show favour to your people;
- that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage. *R.*
- Both we and our ancestors have sinned; we have committed iniquity.
- They mingled with the nations and learned to do as they did. *R*.
- They served their idols, which became a snare to them.
- They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to the demons. *R.*
- Thus they became unclean by their acts, and prostituted themselves in their doings.
- Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against his people, and he abhorred his heritage. *R*.
- Many times the Lord delivered them, but they were rebellious in their purposes,
- Nevertheless he regarded their distress when he heard their cry. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.3

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Matthew 19.16-22

If you wish to be perfect, sell what you have, and you will have treasure in heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- A man came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?"
- And Jesus said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good.

 If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments."
- The man said to him, "Which ones?"
 And Jesus said, "You shall not murder;
 You shall not commit adultery;
 You shall not steal;
 You shall not bear false witness:
- Honour your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbour as yourself."
- The young man said to him, "I have kept all these; what do I still lack?"
- Jesus said to him,
 "If you wish to be perfect,
 go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor,
 and you will have treasure in heaven;
 then come, follow me."
- When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

The gospel of the Lord.

420 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Judges 6.11-24a

Gideon, you will deliver Israel; I hereby commission you.

A reading from the book of Judges.

The angel of the Lord came and sat under the oak at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, as his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the wine press, to hide it from the Midianites.

- 12 The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, "The Lord is with you, you mighty warrior."
- Gideon answered him, "But sir, if the Lord is with us, 13 why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our ancestors recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?' But now the Lord has cast us off, and given us into the hand of Midian."
- 14 Then the Lord turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian; I hereby commission you."
- He responded, "But sir, how can I deliver Israel? 15 My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."
- 16 The Lord said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike down the Midianites, every one of them."
- Then Gideon said to him, 17 "If now I have found favour with you, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me.
- 18 Do not depart from here until I come to you, and bring out my present, and set it before you." And the Lord said, "I will stay until you return."
- So Gideon went into his house and prepared a kid, 19 and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour; the meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the oak and presented them.
- 20 The angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour out the broth." And he did so.
- 21 Then the angel of the Lord reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand, and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes; and fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes; and the angel of the Lord vanished from his sight.
- Then Gideon perceived that it was the angel of the Lord; 22 and Gideon said, "Help me, Lord God! For I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face."

- But the Lord said to him, "Peace be to you; do not fear, you shall not die."
- Then Gideon built an altar there to the Lord, and called it, The Lord is peace.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85.8, 10-11, 12-13 (R.8b)

- **R.** The Lord speaks of peace to his people.
- Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. R.
- Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
- Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. *R.*
- The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 8.9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

GOSPEL Matthew 19.23-30

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus said to his disciples,
 "Truly I tell you,
 it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."
- When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, "Then who can be saved?"

- But Jesus looked at them and said, 26 "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."
- Then Peter said in reply, 27 "Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?"
- Jesus said to them. 28 "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
- 29 "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields. for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.
- 30 "But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

421 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Judges 9.6-15

They said: "You reign over us," when the Lord himself was their king.

A reading from the book of Judges.

- All the lords of Shechem and all Beth-millo came together, 6 and they went and made Abimelech king, by the oak of the pillar at Shechem.
- When it was told to Jotham, he went and stood on the top of Mount Gerizim, and cried aloud and said to them. "Listen to me, you lords of Shechem, so that God may listen to you.
- "The trees once went out to anoint a king over themselves. So they said to the olive tree, 'Reign over us.'

- The olive tree answered them, 'Shall I stop producing my rich oil by which gods and mortals are honoured, and go to sway over the trees?'
- "Then the trees said to the fig tree, 'You come and reign over us.'
- But the fig tree answered them, 'Shall I stop producing my sweetness and my delicious fruit, and go to sway over the trees?'
- "Then the trees said to the vine, 'You come and reign over us.'
- But the vine said to them, 'Shall I stop producing my wine that cheers gods and mortals, and go to sway over the trees?'
- "So all the trees said to the bramble, 'You come and reign over us.'
- And the bramble said to the trees,

 'If in good faith you are anointing me king over you,
 then come and take refuge in my shade;
 but if not, let fire come out of the bramble
 and devour the cedars of Lebanon.'"

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 21.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1a)

- **R.** Lord, your strength gives joy to the king.
- In your strength the king rejoices, O Lord, and in your help how greatly he exults!
- You have given him his heart's desire, and have not withheld the request of his lips. *R*.
- For you meet him with rich blessings; you set a crown of fine gold on his head.
- He asked you for life; you gave it to him—length of days forever and ever. *R*.
- His glory is great through your help; splendour and majesty you bestow on him.
- You bestow on him blessings forever; you make him glad with the joy of your presence. *R.*

7

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

GOSPEL Matthew 20.1-16a

Are you envious because I am generous?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples:

- "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard.
- After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.
- "When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace;
- and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'
 So they went.
- When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same.
- And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them,
 - 'Why are you standing here idle all day?'
 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.'
 - He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'
- "When evening came,
 the owner of the vineyard said to his manager,
 'Call the labourers and give them their pay,
 beginning with the last and then going to the first.'
- When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.
- "Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage.
- And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying,

- 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.'
- "But he replied to one of them,
 "Friend, I am doing you no wrong;
 did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?
- Take what belongs to you and go;
 I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.
- Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?'
- "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

422 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Judges 11.29-39a

Whoever comes out of my house to meet me, shall be offered to the Lord as a burnt offering.

A reading from the book of Judges.

- The spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh.

 He passed on to Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he passed on to the Ammonites.
- And Jephthah made a vow to the Lord, and said, "If you will give the Ammonites into my hand,
- then whoever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return victorious from the Ammonites, shall be the Lord's, to be offered up by me as a burnt offering."
- So Jephthah crossed over to the Ammonites to fight against them; and the Lord gave them into his hand.
- He inflicted a massive defeat on them from Aroer to the neighbourhood of Minnith, twenty towns, and as far as Abel-keramim.

 So the Ammonites were subdued before the people of Israel.

- 34 Then Jephthah came to his home at Mizpah; and there was his daughter coming out to meet him with timbrels and with dancing. She was his only child; he had no son or daughter except her.
- When he saw her, he tore his clothes, and said, 35 "Alas, my daughter! You have brought me very low; you have become the cause of great trouble to me. For I have opened my mouth to the Lord, and I cannot take back my vow."
- She said to him, 36 "My father, if you have opened your mouth to the Lord, do to me according to what has gone out of your mouth, now that the Lord has given you vengeance against your enemies, the Ammonites."
- And she said to her father, 37 "Let this thing be done for me: Grant me two months, so that I may go and wander on the mountains, and bewail my virginity, my companions and I."
- "Go," he said and sent her away for two months. 38 So she departed, she and her companions, and bewailed her virginity on the mountains.
- At the end of two months, she returned to her father. 39 who did with her according to the vow he had made.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 40.4, 6-7a, 7b-8, 9 (R. see 7a and 9a)

- **R.** Here am I, Lord: I come to do your will.
- Happy are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods. R.
- 6 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.
- 7 Then I said, "Here I am." R.

- In the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart. **R**.
- I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.1-14

Invite everyone you find to the wedding feast.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people in parables, saying:
- The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.
- He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come.
- "Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet."
- But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business,
- 6 while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.
- The king was enraged.
 He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.
- Then he said to his slaves,The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.
- Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.

- Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.
- "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,
- and the king said to him,
 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?'
 And he was speechless.
- "Then the king said to the attendants,
 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness,
 where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
- For many are called, but few are chosen."

423 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Ruth 1.1-2ab, 3-6, 14b-16, 22++

Naomi came with Ruth the Moabite and returned to Jerusalem.

A reading from the book of Ruth.

- In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons.
- The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife was Naomi; the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion.
- But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons.
- These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years,
- both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.
- Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab,

for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food.

- While they were journeying,
 Naomi advised her daughters-in-law to turn back to their own parents.
 Orpah kissed her mother-in-law and returned to her own people,
 but Ruth clung to her.
- So she said,
 "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people
 and to her gods;
 return after your sister-in-law."
- But Ruth said,
 "Do not press me to leave you
 or to turn back from following you!
 Where you go, I will go;
 Where you lodge, I will lodge;
 your people shall be my people,
 and your God my God.
- So Naomi returned together with Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, who came back with her from the country of Moab.

 They came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146.5-6, 7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 (R.1b)

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them. *R*.

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,

- who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.
 The Lord sets the prisoners free. R.
- The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow. *R*.

The Lord loves the righteous. but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

10 The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 25.4b, 5a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Teach me your paths, my God, and lead me in your truth.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.34-40

Love the Lord your God, and your neighbour as yourself.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, 34 they gathered together,
- and one of them, a lawyer, 35 asked him a question to test him.
- "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" 36
- Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'
- This is the greatest and first commandment. 38
- "And a second is like it: 39 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'
- 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

The gospel of the Lord.

424 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Ruth 2.1-3, 8-11; 4.13-17

The Lord has not left your family without an heir. This is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

A reading from the book of Ruth.

- Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a prominent rich man, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz.
- And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi,
 "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain,
 behind someone in whose sight I may find favour."
 She said to her, "Go, my daughter."
- So she went.
 She came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers.
 As it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech.
- Then Boaz said to Ruth,"Now listen, my daughter,do not go to glean in another field or leave this one,but keep close to my young women.
- Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped, and follow behind them.
 I have ordered the young men not to bother you.
 If you get thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn."
- Then she fell prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, "Why have I found favour in your sight, that you should take notice of me, when I am a foreigner?"
- But Boaz answered her,
 "All that you have done for your mother-in-law
 since the death of your husband has been fully told me,
 and how you left your father and mother and your native land
 and came to a people that you did not know before.
- So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife.
 When they came together, the Lord made her conceive, and she bore a son.

- Then the women said to Naomi,
 "Blessed be the Lord,
 who has not left you this day without next-of-kin;
 and may his name be renowned in Israel!
- He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him."
- Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom, and became his nurse.
- The women of the neighbourhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi."

 They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128.1-2, 3, 4-5 (R.4)

- **R.** See how the Lord blesses those who fear him.
- Happy is the one who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.
- You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. *R*.
- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. *R.*
- Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.
- The Lord bless you from Zion.

 May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 23.9b, 10b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Matthew 23.1-12

The scribes and Pharisees do not practice what they teach.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples,
- The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' chair;
- therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practise what they teach.
- They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them.
- They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long.
- They love to have the place of honour at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues,
- 7 and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi.
- But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students.
- 9 And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven.
- Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah.
- 11 The greatest among you will be your servant.
- All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

425 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 1.1-5, 8b-10

You turned to God from idols to wait for his Son, whom he raised from the dead.

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

- From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy:
 To the church of the Thessalonians
 in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
 Grace to you and peace.
- We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
- constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you,
- because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.
- In every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it.
- For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God,
- and to wait for his Son from heaven,
 whom he raised from the dead
 —Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 149.1-2, 3-4, 5, 6a+9b (R.4a)

- **R.** The Lord takes delight in his people.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
- Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King. R.
- Let them praise the Lord's name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.
- For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory. *R.*
- Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.
- 6 Let the high praises of God be on their lips
- This is glory for all his faithful ones. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL

Matthew 23.13-22

Woe to you, blind guides.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus said to the crowds,
- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
 For you lock people out of the kingdom of heaven.
 For you do not go in yourselves,
 and when others are going in, you stop them.
- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
 For you cross sea and land to make a single convert, and you make the new convert twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.
- "Woe to you, blind guides, who say,
 "Whoever swears by the sanctuary is bound by nothing,
 but whoever swears by the gold of the sanctuary
 is bound by the oath."

- You blind fools!
 For which is greater,
 the gold or the sanctuary that has made the gold sacred?
- "And you say, 'Whoever swears by the altar is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gift that is on the altar is bound by the oath.'
- 19 How blind you are!
 For which is greater,
 the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred?
- So whoever swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it;
- and whoever swears by the sanctuary, swears by it and by the one who dwells in it;
- and whoever swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by the one who is seated upon it."

 The gospel of the Lord.

426 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8

We are determined to share with you not only the gospel but also our own selves.

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

- You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain,
- but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.
- For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery,
- but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.
- As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed;
- 6 nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,

- though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children.
- So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 139.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1)

- **R.** You have searched me and you know me, Lord.
- O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. *R.*
- You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.
- Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. **R**.
- You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
- Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hebrews 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 23.23-26

You ought to have practised justice and mercy, without neglecting the others.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds,

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practised without neglecting the others.

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- You blind guides!
 You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel!
- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!

 For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.
- You blind Pharisee!
 First clean the inside of the cup,
 so that the outside also may become clean."

427 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 2.9-13

We worked night and day while we proclaimed the gospel to you.

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

- You remember our labour and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.
- You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers.
- As you know,
 we dealt with each one of you
 like a father with his children,
- urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.
- We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 139.7-8, 9-10, 11-12 (R. see 1)

R. You have searched me and you know me, Lord.

- Where can I go from your spirit?
 Or where can I flee from your presence?
- If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. *R*.
- If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. *R.*
- If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"
- even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 2.5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God.

GOSPEL Matthew 23.27-32

You are descendants of those who murdered the prophets.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds,

- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
 For you are like whitewashed tombs,
 which on the outside look beautiful,
 but inside they are full of the bones of the dead
 and of all kinds of filth.
- So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.
- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous,
- and you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'
- Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets.
- Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors."

The gospel of the Lord.

428 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 3.7-13

May the Lord make you abound in love for one another and for all.

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

- For this reason, brothers and sisters, during all our distress and persecution we have been encouraged about you through your faith.
- For we now live, if you continue to stand firm in the Lord.
- 9 How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?
- Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.
- Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.
- And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.
- And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 90.3-4, 12-13, 14+17 (R.14)

- **R.** Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!
- You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
- For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. *R*.

- So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.
- Turn, O Lord! How long?
 Have compassion on your servants! *R*.
- Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 24.42a, 44

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

GOSPEL Matthew 24.42-51

You must be ready.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus spoke to his disciples:

- "Keep awake,
 - for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.
- But understand this:
 - if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake 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 unexpected hour.
- "Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom his master has put in charge of his household, to give the other slaves their allowance of food at the proper time?
- Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives.
- Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions.
- "But if that wicked slave says to himself, 'My master is delayed,'

- and he begins to beat his fellow slaves, and eats and drinks with drunkards,
- the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know.
- He will cut him off and put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

429 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 4.1-8

This is the will of God your sanctification.

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

- Brothers and sisters,
 we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus
 that, as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God
 (as, in fact, you are doing),
 you should do so more and more.
- For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.
- For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from fornication;
- 4 that each one of you know how to control your own body in holiness and honour,
- not with lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;
- that no one wrong or exploit a brother or sister in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, just as we have already told you beforehand and solemnly warned you.
- ⁷ For God did not call us to impurity but in holiness.
- Therefore whoever rejects this rejects not human authority but God, who also gives his Holy Spirit to you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 97.1+2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 (R.12a)

- **R.** Let the just rejoice in the Lord.
- The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
- Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. R.
- The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.
- The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory. **R**.
- The Lord loves those who hate evil; he guards the lives of his faithful; he rescues them from the hand of the wicked. **R**.
- Light shines forth for the just and joy for the upright in heart.
- Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name! *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.36

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.1-13

Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples:

- "The kingdom of heaven will be like this.
 Ten bridesmaids took their lamps
 and went to meet the bridegroom.
- Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
- When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them;
- but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
- "As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.
- But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
- 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.
- "The foolish said to the wise,'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

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- 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'
- "And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.
- Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'
- But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'
- "Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

430 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 4.9-11

You have been taught by God to love one another..

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

- Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another;
- and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia.
 - But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more,
- to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 7-8, 9 (R. see 9)

- **R.** The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.
- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. *R.*

7

- Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.
- 8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy. R.
- Rejoice at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.
 He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.14-30

Because you have been trustworthy in a few things, enter into the joy of your master.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told this parable to the disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this.

- It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them;
- to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.
- "The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents.
- In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.
- But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.
- "After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.
- Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.'

21

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

- "And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.'
- His master said to him,
 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
 you have been trustworthy in a few things,
 I will put you in charge of many things;
 enter into the joy of your master.'
- "Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed;
- so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'
- "But his master replied,'You wicked and lazy slave!You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?
- Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return
 I would have received what was my own with interest.
- So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.
- For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.
- As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

431 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

God will bring with him, through Jesus, those who have died.

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

- We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so 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 died.
- 15 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, will by no means precede those who have died.
- For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.
- Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever.
- Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 96.1+3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 (R.13b)

- **R.** The Lord comes to judge the earth.
- O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples. *R.*
- For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.
- For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. **R**.
- Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
- let the field exult, and everything in it.
 Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy. *R.*
- Rejoice before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 4.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Spirit of the Lord now upon me has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

GOSPEL Luke 4.16-30

God sent me to bring good news to the poor... No prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,
- and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him.

 He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:
- "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
- to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

- And Jesus rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.

 The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.
- Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."
- All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"
- Jesus said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!'
 And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'"
- And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown.
- But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;
- yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.
- There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."
- When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.
- They got up, drove Jesus out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.
- But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

 The gospel of the Lord.

432 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Thessalonians 5.1-6, 9-11

Christ died for us so that we may live with him.

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

- 1 Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you.
- For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.
- When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!
- But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief;
- for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.
- So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober;
- For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
- who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.
- Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 27.1, 4, 13-14 (R.13)

- **R.** I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.
- The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
 The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? **R**.

- One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. R.
- I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
- Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 7.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

GOSPEL Luke 4.31-37

I know who you are, the Holy One of God.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and was teaching them on the sabbath.
- They were astounded at his teaching, because he spoke with authority.
- In the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice,
- "Let us alone! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?Have you come to destroy us?I know who you are, the Holy One of God."
- But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!"
 - When the demon had thrown him down before them, he came out of him without having done him any harm.
- They were all amazed and kept saying to one another, "What kind of utterance is this? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and out they come!"
- And a report about Jesus began to reach every place in the region.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

433 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Colossians 1.1-8

The word of truth has come to you just as it is growing in the whole world.

A reading from the letter to the Colossians.

- From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and from Timothy our brother:
- To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:Grace to you and peace from God our Father.
- In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,
- because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth,
- the gospel that has come to you.

 Just as the gospel is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God.
- 7 This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf,
- and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 52.8, 9 (R.8b)

- **R.** I trust in the kindness of God for ever.
- I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.
 I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever. R.
- I will thank you forever, because of what you have done.
 In the presence of the faithful
 I will proclaim your name, for it is good. R.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

GOSPEL Luke 4.38-44

I must proclaim the good news to other cities, for I was sent for this purpose.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- After leaving the synagogue Jesus entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her.
- Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them.
- As the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them.
- Demons also came out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!"

 But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah.
- At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place.
 And the crowds were looking for him;
 and when they reached him,
 they wanted to prevent him from leaving them.
- But Jesus said to them,
 "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also;
 for I was sent for this purpose."
- So Jesus continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea. The gospel of the Lord.

434 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Colossians 1.9-14

God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- Since the day we heard of your life in Christ, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
- so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.
- May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience,
- while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.
- He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,
- in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 (R.2a)

- **R.** The Lord has made known his salvation.
- The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. *R*.
 - All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. *R.*
- Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

GOSPEL Luke 5.1-11

Simon and his partners left everything and followed Jesus.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God,
- he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.
- He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore.

 Then Jesus sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.
- When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."
- Simon answered,
 "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing.
 Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."
- When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.
- So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them.
 And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.
- But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!"
- For Peter and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken;
- and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.
 Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."
- When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed Jesus.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

435 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Colossians 1.15-20

All things have been created through Christ and for him.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- 15 Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;
- for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him.
- 17 Christ himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
- He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.
- For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
- and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 100.1-2, 3, 4, 5 (R.2c)

- **R.** Come with joy into the presence of the Lord.
- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. R.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God.
 It is he that made us, and we are his;
 we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. R.
- Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.
 Give thanks to him, bless his name. *R.*
- For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. *R*.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL Luke 5.33-39

When the bridegroom is taken away from them, then they will fast.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- The scribes and the Pharisees said to Jesus, "John's disciples, like the disciples of the Pharisees, frequently fast and pray, but your disciples eat and drink.
- Jesus said to them, "You cannot make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you?
- The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days."
- Jesus also told them a parable:
 "No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old.
- And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed.
- But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.
- And no one after drinking old wine desires new wine, but says, 'The old is good.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

436 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Colossians 1.21-23

Christ has reconciled you to present you holy and blameless to God.

A reading from the latter of Paul to the Colossians.

- 21 Brothers and sisters, you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,
- Christ has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before God—
- provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven.

I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 54.1-2, 4+6

- **R.** The Lord God is my help.
- Save me, O God, by your name, and vindicate me by your might.
- Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth. *R.*
- But surely, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life.
- With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
 I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Luke 6.1-5

Why are you doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- One sabbath while Jesus was going through the grainfields, his disciples plucked some heads of grain, rubbed them in their hands, and ate them.
- But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?"
- Jesus answered, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry?
- 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 gave some to his companions?"
- Then Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

437 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Colossians 1.24 – 2.3

I became a servant of the Church to make known the mystery hidden throughout the ages.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Brothers and sisters,

- I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake,
 and in my flesh
 I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions
 for the sake of his body, that is, the church.
- I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,
- the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints.
- To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
- It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.
- For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.
- For I want you to know how much I am struggling for you, and for those in Laodicea, and for all who have not seen me face to face.
- I want their hearts to be encouraged and united in love, so that they may have all the riches of assured understanding and have the knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ himself,
- in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 62.5-6, 7b-8 (R.7a)

- **R.** In God is my safety and my glory.
- For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.
- He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. *R.*
- My mighty rock, my refuge is in God.
- Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me.

GOSPEL Luke 6.6-11

The Pharisees watched Jesus to see whether he would cure on the sabbath.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- On the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered.
- 7 The scribes and the Pharisees watched him to see whether he would cure on the sabbath, so that they might find an accusation against him.
- Even though Jesus knew what they were thinking, he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come and stand here."

 He got up and stood there.
- Then Jesus said to them,
 "I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath,
 to save life or to destroy it?"
- After looking around at all of them, Jesus said to him, "Stretch out your hand." He did so, and his hand was restored.
- But they were filled with fury and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

438 TUESDAY

FIRST READING Colossians 2.6-15

God made you alive together with Christ when he forgave all our trespasses.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him,
- rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
- See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ.
- 9 For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,
- and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority.
- In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ;
- when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.
- And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses,
- erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross.
- He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145.1-2, 8-9, 10-11 (R.9)

- **R.** The Lord is compassionate to all creatures.
- I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.
- Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever. *R*.

- The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. *R*.
- All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.
- They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Luke 6.12-19

Jesus spent the night in prayer, and he chose twelve of the disciples and named them apostles.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God.
- And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles:
- Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew,
- and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot,
- and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.
- Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.
- They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.
- And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

The gospel of the Lord.

439 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Colossians 3.1-11

You have died with Christ; put to death therefore, whatever is earthly in you.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth,
- for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.
- Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry).
- On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.
- 7 These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.
- But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.
- Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices
- and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator.
- In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 145.2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab (R. see 9)

- **R.** The Lord is compassionate to all creatures.
- 2 Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. R.
- 10 All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.
- 11 They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power. R.
- 12 Your faithful make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 6.23ab

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Rejoice and be glad; your reward will be great in heaven.

GOSPEL Luke 6.20-26

Blessed are the poor. Woe to you who are rich.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- 20 Jesus looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- 21 Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.
- 22 "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.
- 23 Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.
- "But woe to you who are rich, 24 for you have received your consolation.

- Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.
 Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.
- Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

The gospel of the Lord.

440 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Colossians 3.12-17

Clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together perfectly.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion and kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.
- Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
- Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
- And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.
- Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.
- And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 150.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.6)

- **R.** Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!
- Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness! R.
- Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
- Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! *R*.
- Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
- Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
 Praise the Lord! **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love.

GOSPEL Luke 6.27-38

Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.

🔀 A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
- bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.
- If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.
- Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again.
- Do to others as you would have them do to you.
- "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.
- If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you?

 For even sinners do the same.

- If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you?

 Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.
- "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return.
 Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.
- Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.
- "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;
- give, and it will be given to you.

 A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The gospel of the Lord.

441 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 1.1-2, 12-14

I used to be a blasphemer, but I received mercy.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Saviour and of Christ Jesus our hope:
- To Timothy, my loyal child in the faith:
 Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father
 and Christ Jesus our Lord.
- I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service,
- even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,
- and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. **R**.
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 17.17ba

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth.

GOSPEL Luke 6.39-42

Can a blind person guide a blind person?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus told his disciples a parable:
 "Can a blind person guide a blind person?
 Will not both fall into a pit?
- A disciple is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher.
- Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?
- Or how can you say to your neighbour,
 'Friend, let me take out the speck in your eye,'
 when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye?
 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye,
 and then you will see clearly
 to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye."

The gospel of the Lord.

442 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 1.15-17

Christ came into the world to save sinners.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost.
- But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost,
 Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience,
 making me an example
 to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life.
- To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory forever and ever.

 Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5a+6-7 (R. see 2)

R. Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.
- Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. *R*.
- From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. *R*.
- Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,
- 6 who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?
- He raises the poor from the dust. R.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Luke 6.43-49

Why do you call me, "Lord, Lord", and do not do what I tell you?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit;
- for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.
- Out of the good treasure of the heart the good person produces good, and out of evil treasure the evil person produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.
- "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I tell you?
- I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them.
- That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built.
- But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

443 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 2.1-7++

Prayers should be offered for everyone to God, who desires everyone to be saved.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- First of all I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone,
- for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.
- This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour,
- who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humanity, Christ Jesus, himself human,
- who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time.
- For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle
 (I am telling the truth,
 I am not lying),
 a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 28.2, 7, 8-9 (R.6)

- **R.** Blest be the Lord for he has heard my prayer.
- Hear the voice of my supplication, as I cry to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary. *R.*
- 7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts; so I am helped, and my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him. *R.*

The Lord is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

O save your people, and bless your heritage; be their shepherd, and carry them forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 3.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God loved the world so much, he gave his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

GOSPEL Luke 7.1-10

Not even in Israel have I found such faith.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered the town of Capernaum.
- A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death.
- When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave.
- When they came to Jesus, the elders appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy of having you do this for him,
- for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us."
- And Jesus went with them,
 but when he was not far from the house,
 the centurion sent friends to say to him,
 "Lord, do not trouble yourself,
 for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof;
- therefore I did not presume to come to you.But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed.
- For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it."
- When Jesus heard this he was amazed at the centurion, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith."
- When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

444 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 3.1-13

A bishop must be above reproach; deacons likewise must hold fast to the mystery of faith with a clear conscience.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- The saying is sure: whoever aspires to the office of bishop desires a noble task.
- Now a bishop must be above reproach, married only once, temperate, sensible, respectable, hospitable, an apt teacher,
- not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and not a lover of money.
- 4 He must manage his own household well, keeping his children submissive and respectful in every way—
- for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church?
- 6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may be puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil.
- Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace and the snare of the devil.
- Beacons likewise must be serious, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not greedy for money;
- they must hold fast to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.
- And let them first be tested; then, if they prove themselves blameless, let them serve as deacons.
- Women likewise must be serious, not slanderers, but temperate, faithful in all things.
- Let deacons be married only once, and let them manage their children and their households well;
- for those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 101.1-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6 (R.2b)

- **R.** I will walk with blameless heart.
- I will sing of loyalty and of justice; to you, O Lord, I will sing.
- I will study the way that is blameless.
 When shall I attain it? R.
 I will walk with integrity of heart within my house;
- I will not set before my eyes anything that is base. **R**.
- One who secretly slanders a neighbour I will destroy.
 A haughty look and an arrogant heart I will not tolerate. R.
- I will look with favour on the faithful in the land, so that they may live with me; whoever walks in the way that is blameless shall minister to me. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 7.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. A great prophet has appeared among us, God has visited his people.

GOSPEL

Luke 7.11-17

Young man, I say to you, rise!

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him.
- As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town.
- When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep."
- Then Jesus came forward and touched the pallet, and the bearers stood still.

 And Jesus said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!"

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- The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.
- Fear seized all of them;and they glorified God, saying,"A great prophet has risen among us!"and "God has looked favourably on his people!"
- This word about Jesus spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

The gospel of the Lord.

445 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 3.14-16

The mystery of our religion is great.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

Beloved,

- I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these instructions to you so that, if I am delayed,
- you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and bulwark of the truth.
- Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great:
 He was revealed in flesh,
 vindicated in spirit,
 seen by angels,
 proclaimed among Gentiles,
 believed in throughout the world,
 taken up in glory.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 111.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.2a)

- **R.** How great are the works of the Lord!
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. *R*.
- Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. *R*.
- He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6.63c, 68c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life, you have the words of everlasting life.

GOSPEL

Luke 7.31-35

We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed and you did not weep.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus spoke these words to the crowds:
- "To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like?
- They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another,
 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not weep.'
- For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon';
- the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'
- Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

446 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 4.12-16

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- 12 My child, let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.
- 13 Until I arrive, give attention to the public reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching.
- Do not neglect the gift that is in you, 14 which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders.
- Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, 15 so that all may see your progress.
- Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; 16 continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 111.7-8, 9, 10 (R.2a)

- **R.** How great are the works of the Lord!
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 7 The works of the Lord's hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.
- They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. R.
- 9 The Lord sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name. R.
- 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 7.36-50

Her many sins have been forgiven, hence this woman has shown great love.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table.
- And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment.
- She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair.

 Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.
- Now when the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw it, he said to himself,
 "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner."
- Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "Speak."
- "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.
- When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?"
- Simon answered,
 "I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt."
 And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly."
- Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman?

 I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair.

- You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet.
- You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment.
- Therefore, I tell you,
 her sins, which were many, have been forgiven;
 hence she has shown great love.
 But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."
- Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."
- But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"
- And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

The gospel of the Lord.

447 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 6.2c-12

You, man of God, pursue righteousness.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

My child,

- teach and urge these duties.
- Whoever teaches otherwise and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that is in accordance with godliness,
- is conceited, understanding nothing, and has a morbid craving for controversy and for disputes about words.

 From these come envy, dissension, slander, base suspicions, and wrangling
- among those who are deprayed in mind and bereft of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.
- Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment;
- for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it;
- but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.

- 9 But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.
- For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.
- But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness.
- Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 49.5-6, 7-9, 16-17, 18-19 (R. see Mt 5.3)

- **R.** Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
- Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,
- those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches? *R*.
- 7 Truly, no ransom avails for one's life, there is no price one can give to God for it.
- For the ransom of life is costly, and can never suffice
- that one should live on forever and never see the grave. *R*.
- Do not be afraid when some become rich, when the wealth of their houses increases.
- For when they die they will carry nothing away; their wealth will not go down after them. **R**.
- Though in their lifetime they count themselves happy—for you are praised when you do well for yourself—
- they will go to the company of their ancestors, who will never again see the light. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Luke 8.1-3

The twelve were with Jesus, as well as some women, who provided for them out of their resources.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him.
- as well as some women
 who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities:
 Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,
- and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for Jesus and the twelve out of their resources.

The gospel of the Lord.

448 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 6.13-16

Keep the commandments without spot or blame until the manifestation of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession,
- I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 100.1-2, 3, 4, 5 (R.2c)

- **R.** Come with joy into the presence of the Lord.
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. *R*.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God.
 It is he that made us, and we are his;
 we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. R.
- Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.
 Give thanks to him, bless his name. R.
- For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Luke 8.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

GOSPEL Luke 8.4-15

Some seed fell into good soil; these are the ones who hear the word, hold it fast and bear fruit in patience.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to Jesus, he said in a parable:
- "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up.

- Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture.
- Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it.
- Some fell into good soil,
 and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold."
 As he said this, he called out,
 "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"
- 9 Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant.
- Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that 'looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand.'
- "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.
- The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.
- The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away.
- As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.
- "But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

449 MONDAY

FIRST READING Ezra 1.1-6

You who are God's people may go up to Jerusalem to build the house of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Ezra.

- In the first year of King Cyrus of Persia, in order that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the Lord stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus of Persia so that he sent a herald throughout all his kingdom, and also in a written edict declared:
- "Thus says King Cyrus of Persia:
 The Lord, the God of heaven,
 has given me all the kingdoms of the earth,
 and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem in Judah.
- Any of those among you who are of his people
 —may their God be with them!—
 are now permitted to go up to Jerusalem in Judah,
 and rebuild the house of the Lord, the God of Israel
 —he is the God who is in Jerusalem;
- and let all survivors, in whatever place they reside, be assisted by the people of their place with silver and gold, with goods and with animals, besides freewill offerings for the house of God in Jerusalem."
- The heads of the families of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and the Levites
 —everyone whose spirit God had stirred—
 got ready to go up and rebuild the house of the Lord in Jerusalem.
- All their neighbours aided them with silver vessels, with gold, with goods, with animals, and with valuable gifts, besides all that was freely offered.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 126.1-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 (R.3a)

- **R.** The Lord has done great things for us.
- When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
- Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. **R**.

 Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
- The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. *R*.
- Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the desert of the Negev.
- May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. **R**.
- Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Let your light shine before all, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father.

GOSPEL Luke 8.16-18

A lamp is placed on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the people:

- "No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.
- For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light.
- "Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away."

The gospel of the Lord.

450 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Ezra 4.4-5; 6.1a, 6ad-8, 12b, 14-20++

They finished building the house of God, and kept the passover.

A reading from the book of Ezra.

When the foundation of the temple of the Lord had been laid in Jerusalem,

- the people of the land discouraged the people of Judah and made them afraid to build
- and they bribed officials to frustrate their plan throughout the reign of King Cyrus of Persia and until the reign of King Darius of Persia.
- 1 Then King Darius made a decree,
- "Now you, Tattenai, governor of the province 'Beyond the River,' and you, envoys in the province 'Beyond the River,' keep away;
- let the work on this house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews rebuild this house of God on its site.
- "Moreover I make a decree regarding what you shall do for these elders of the Jews for the rebuilding of this house of God: the cost is to be paid to these people, in full and without delay, from the royal revenue, the tribute of the province 'Beyond the River.'
- I, Darius, make a decree; let it be done with all diligence."
- So the elders of the Jews built and prospered, through the prophesying of the prophet Haggai and Zechariah son of Iddo.

 They finished their building by command of the God of Israel and by decree of Cyrus, Darius, and King Artaxerxes of Persia;
- and this house was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.
- The people of Israel, the priests and the Levites, and the rest of the returned exiles, celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy.

- They offered at the dedication of this house of God one hundred bulls, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs, and as a sin offering for all Israel, twelve male goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel.
- Then they set the priests in their divisions and the Levites in their courses for the service of God at Jerusalem, as it is written in the book of Moses.
- On the fourteenth day of the first month the returned exiles kept the passover.
- For both the priests and the Levites had purified themselves; all of them were clean.

 So they killed the passover lamb for all the returned exiles, for their fellow priests, and for themselves.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 122.1-2, 3-4a, 4b-5 (R. see 1)

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

- I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
- Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R.*
- Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.
- To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. *R*.

 It was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
- For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

GOSPEL Luke 8.19-21

My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus' mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd.
- And he was told, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you."
- But Jesus said to them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."

The gospel of the Lord.

451 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Ezra 9.5-9

God has not forsaken us in our slavery.

A reading from the book of Ezra.

When I, Ezra, heard of the faithlessness of the returned exiles, I tore my garment and my mantle, and pulled hair from my head and beard, and sat appalled.

- At the evening sacrifice I got up from my fasting, with my garments and my mantle torn, and fell on my knees, spread out my hands to the Lord my God, and said,
- "O my God,
 I am too ashamed and embarrassed to lift my face to you, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens.
- From the days of our ancestors to this day
 we have been deep in guilt,
 and for our iniquities we, our kings, and our priests
 have been handed over to the kings of the lands,
 to the sword, to captivity, to plundering, and to utter shame,
 as is now the case.

- "But now for a brief moment favour has been shown by the Lord our God, who has left us a remnant, and given us a stake in his holy place, in order that he may brighten our eyes and grant us a little sustenance in our slavery.
- For we are slaves;
 yet our God has not forsaken us in our slavery,
 but has extended to us his steadfast love before the kings of Persia,
 to give us new life to set up the house of our God,
 to repair its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judea and Jerusalem."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Tobit 13.2, 3-4, 6abcd, 6ef (R.1)

R. Blessed be God, who lives for ever.

- God afflicts, and he shows mercy; he leads down to Hades in the lowest regions of the earth, and he brings up from the great abyss, and there is nothing that can escape his hand. R.
- Acknowledge him before the nations, O children of Israel; for he has scattered you among them.
- He has shown you his greatness even there. Exalt him in the presence of every living being, because he is our Lord and he is our God; he is our Father and he is God forever. **R**.
- So now see what he has done for you; acknowledge him at the top of your voice.
 Bless the Lord of righteousness, and exalt the King of the ages. *R*.

 In the land of my exile I acknowledge him, and show his power and majesty to a nation of sinners.
 Turn back, you sinners, and do what is right before him; perhaps he may look with favour upon you and show you mercy. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is near: repent and believe the good news!

GOSPEL Luke 9.1-6

Jesus sent the twelve to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases,
- and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.
- He said to them,
 "Take nothing for your journey,
 no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money
 —not even an extra tunic.
- Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there.
- Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them."
- They departed and went through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere.

 The gospel of the Lord.

452 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Haggai 1.1-8

Build the house, and I will take pleasure in it.

A reading from the book of the prophet Haggai.

- In the second year of King Darius, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai:
- Thus says the Lord of hosts:
 These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the Lord's house.
- Then the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying:
- Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?
- Now therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider how you have fared.
- You have sown much, and harvested little; you eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill;

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you clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; and you that earn wages earn wages to put them into a bag with holes.

- Thus says the Lord of hosts:Consider how you have fared.
- 8 Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honoured, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 149.1-2, 3-4, 5-6a+9b (R.4a)

R. The Lord takes delight in his people.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
- Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King. *R.*
- Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.
- For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory. *R.*
- Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.
- 6 Let the high praises of God be in their throats
- 9 This is glory for all his faithful ones. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Luke 9.7-9

John I beheaded; but who is this about whom I hear such things?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Herod the ruler heard about all that Jesus had done, and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had been raised from the dead,
- by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the ancient prophets had arisen.

Herod said,
 "John I beheaded;
 but who is this about whom I hear such things?"
 And Herod tried to see Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord.

453 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Haggai 2.1-9

In a little while, I will fill this house with splendour.

A reading from the book of the prophet Haggai.

- In the second year of King Darius, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying:
- Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say,
- Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing?
- Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts,
- according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt.

My spirit abides among you; do not fear.

- For thus says the Lord of hosts:
 Once again, in a little while,
 I will shake the heavens and the earth
 and the sea and the dry land;
- and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the Lord of hosts.
- The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts.
- The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 43.1, 2, 3, 4 (R. see 5bc)

- **R.** Hope in God, I will praise him, my saviour and my God.
- Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; from those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me! *R*.
- For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you cast me off?
 Why must I walk about mournfully because of the oppression of the enemy? R.
- O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain and to your dwelling. *R*.
- Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all.

GOSPEL Luke 9.18-22

You are the Messiah of God. The Son of Man must undergo great suffering.

- 🔀 A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Once when Jesus was praying alone, with only the disciples near him, he asked them,
 "Who do the crowds say that I am?"
- They answered, "John the Baptist; but others, Elijah; and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen."
- He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, "The Messiah of God."
- Jesus sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone, saying,
- "The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

454 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Zechariah 2.1-5, 10-11

Lo, I will come and dwell in your midst.

A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah.

In the second year of King Darius the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah and he said,

- I looked up and saw a man with a measuring line in his hand.
- Then I asked, "Where are you going?"
 He answered me, "To measure Jerusalem,
 to see what is its width and what is its length."
- Then the angel who talked with me came forward, and another angel came forward to meet him,
- and said to him,
 "Run, say to that young man:
 Jerusalem shall be inhabited like villages without walls,
 because of the multitude of people and animals in it.
- For I will be a wall of fire all around it, says the Lord, and I will be the glory within it."
- Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion!
 For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the Lord.
- Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord on that day, and shall be my people.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Jeremiah 31.10, 11-12ab, 13 (R. see 10d)

- **R.** The Lord will guard us, like a shepherd guarding his flock.
- Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." R.
- For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
- They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord. *R*.
- Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1.10b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Luke 9.43b-45

The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands. They were afraid to ask him about this saying.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- While everyone was amazed at all that Jesus was doing, he said to his disciples,
- "Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands."
- But they did not understand this saying; its meaning was concealed from them, so that they could not perceive it.

 And the disciples were afraid to ask Jesus about this saying.

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

455 MONDAY

FIRST READING Zechariah 8.1-8

I will save my people from the east and the west.

A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah.

- The word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying:
- Thus says the Lord of hosts:
 I am jealous for Zion with great jealousy,
 and I am jealous for her with great wrath.
- Thus says the Lord: I will return to Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts shall be called the holy mountain.
- Thus says the Lord of hosts:
 Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age.
- And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.
- Thus says the Lord of hosts:
 Even though it seems impossible
 to the remnant of this people in these days,
 should it also seem impossible to me,
 says the Lord of hosts?
- Thus says the Lord of hosts:
 I will save my people from the east country and from the west country;
- and I will bring them to live in Jerusalem.

 They shall be my people and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 102.15-17, 18-20, 28+21-22 (R.16)

- **R.** The Lord will build up Zion again, and appear in all his glory.
- The nations will fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth your glory.
- For the Lord will build up Zion; he will appear in his glory.
- He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer. *R.*
- Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord:
- that he looked down from his holy height, from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,
- to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die. **R**.
- The children of your servants shall live secure; their offspring shall be established in your presence.
- so that the name of the Lord may be declared in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem,
- when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the Lord. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all.

GOSPEL Luke 9.46-50

The least among all of you is the greatest.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- An argument arose among the disciples as to which one of them was the greatest.
- But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side,
- and said to them,
 - "Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me; for the least among all of you is the greatest."

- John answered, "Master,
 we saw someone casting out demons in your name,
 and we tried to stop him,
 because he does not follow with us."
- But Jesus said to him,
 "Do not stop him;
 for whoever is not against you is for you."

The gospel of the Lord.

456 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Zechariah 8.20-23

Many people shall come to seek the Lord in Jerusalem.

A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah.

- Thus says the Lord of hosts:
 Peoples shall yet come, the inhabitants of many cities;
- the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, "Come, let us go to entreat the favour of the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts;
 I myself am going."
- Many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to entreat the favour of the Lord.
- Thus says the Lord of hosts:
 In those days ten men from nations of every language shall take hold of a Jew, grasping his garment and saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 87.1-3, 4-5, 6-7 (R. Zech 8.23)

- **R.** God is with us.
- On the holy mount stands the city he founded;
- the Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
- Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God. R.
- Among those who know me I mention Rahab and Babylon; Philistia too, and Tyre, with Ethiopia—
 "This one was born there," they say.
- And of Zion it shall be said, "This one and that one were born in it"; for the Most High himself will establish it. *R*.
- The Lord records, as he registers the peoples, "This one was born there."
- Singers and dancers alike say, "All my springs are in you." R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all.

GOSPEL Luke 9.51-56

Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.
- And he sent messengers ahead of him.
 - On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him;
- but they did not receive Jesus, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.
- When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"
- But he turned and rebuked them.
- Then they went on to another village.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

457 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Nehemiah 2.1-8

If it pleases the king, send me to the city of my ancestors, so that I may rebuild it.

A reading from the book of the prophet Nehemiah.

- In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was served him,
 I, Nehemiah, carried the wine and gave it to the king.
 Now, I had never been sad in his presence before.
- So the king said to me,
 "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick?
 This can only be sadness of the heart."
 Then I was very much afraid.
- I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my ancestors' graves, lies waste, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?"
- Then the king said to me, "What do you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven.
- Then I said to the king,

 "If it pleases the king,
 and if your servant has found favour with you,
 I ask that you send me to Judah,
 to the city of my ancestors' graves, so that I may rebuild it."
- The king said to me (the queen also was sitting beside him), "How long will you be gone, and when will you return?"

 So it pleased the king to send me, and I set him a date.
- 7 Then I said to the king,
 "If it pleases the king, let letters be given me
 to the governors of the province 'Beyond the River,'
 that they may grant me passage until I arrive in Judah;
- and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest, directing him to give me timber to make beams for the gates of the temple fortress, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall occupy."

And the king granted me what I asked, for the gracious hand of my God was upon me.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 137.1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (R.6ab)

- **R.** Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!
- By the rivers of Babylon there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion.
- On the willows there we hung up our harps. **R**.
- 3 For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" R.
- 4 How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?
- 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! R.
- 6 Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 3.8-9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I count all things worthless but this: to gain Jesus Christ and to be found in him.

GOSPEL

Luke 9.57-62

I will follow you wherever you go.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- 57 As Jesus and his disciples were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."
- And Jesus said to him, 58 "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests: but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."
- To another Jesus said, "Follow me." 59 But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."
- But Jesus said to him. 60 "Let the dead bury their own dead: but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."
- 61 Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home."

Jesus said to him,
"No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

458 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Nehemiah 8.1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12

Ezra opened the book of the law of Moses and praised the Lord; and all the people answered: "Amen, Amen."

A reading from the book of the prophet Nehemiah.

- All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel.
- Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month.
- He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.
- The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose.
- And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up.
- Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground.
- 7 Levites helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places.
- So they read from the book,from the law of God, with interpretation.They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

- And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.
- Then Ezra said to them, 10 "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."
- So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, 11 "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved."
- 12 And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 10 (R.8a)

- **R.** The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect. reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure. making wise the simple. R.
- 8 The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. **R**.
- The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. R.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. R.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is near: repent and believe the good news!

GOSPEL Luke 10.1-12

Your peace will rest on those who welcome you.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- From among the disciples the Lord appointed seventy and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.
- 2 He said to them. "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.
- 3 Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.
- Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road.
- "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!'
- And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you.
- Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house.
- 8 "Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you;
- cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'
- 10 "But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say,
- 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, 11 we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'
- I tell you. 12 on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town." The gospel of the Lord.

459 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Baruch 1.15-22

We have sinned before the Lord and have not believed.

A reading from the book of the prophet Baruch.

- The Lord our God is in the right, but there is open shame on us today, on the people of Judah, on the inhabitants of Jerusalem,
- and on our kings, our rulers, our priests our prophets, and our ancestors,
- because we have sinned before the Lord.
- We have disobeyed him, and have not heeded the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in the statutes of the Lord that he set before us.
- From the time when the Lord brought our ancestors out of the land of Egypt until today, we have been disobedient to the Lord our God, and we have been negligent, in not heeding his voice.
- So to this day there have clung to us the calamities and the curse that the Lord declared through his servant Moses at the time when he brought our ancestors out of the land of Egypt to give to us a land flowing with milk and honey.
- We did not listen to the voice of the Lord our God in all the words of the prophets whom he sent to us,
- but all of us followed the intent of our own wicked hearts by serving other gods and doing what is evil in the sight of the Lord our God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 79.1-2, 3-4, 5+8, 9 (R.9b)

- **R.** For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.
- O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.
- They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth. R.

- They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.
- We have become a taunt to our neighbours, mocked and derided by those around us. *R*.
- How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire?
- Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. *R*.
- Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Luke 10.13-16

Whoever rejects me, rejects the one who sent me.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the seventy disciples:

- "Woe to you, Chorazin!
 Woe to you, Bethsaida!
 For if the deeds of power done in you
 had been done in Tyre and Sidon,
 they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.
- But at the judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you.
- And you, Capernaum,will you be exalted to heaven?No, you will be brought down to Hades.
- "Whoever listens to you, listens to me, and whoever rejects you, rejects me, and whoever rejects me, rejects the one who sent me."

The gospel of the Lord.

460 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Baruch 4.5-12, 27-29

The one who brought these calamities upon you will bring you everlasting joy.

A reading from the book of the prophet Baruch.

- 5 Take courage, my people, who perpetuate Israel's name!
- It was not for destruction that you were sold to the nations, but you were handed over to your enemies because you angered God.
- 7 For you provoked the one who made you by sacrificing to demons and not to God.
- 8 You forgot the everlasting God, who brought you up, and you grieved Jerusalem, who reared you.
- For she saw the wrath that came upon you from God, and she said: Listen, you neighbours of Zion, God has brought great sorrow upon me;
- for I have seen the exile of my sons and daughters, 10 which the Everlasting brought upon them.
- 11 With joy I nurtured them, but I sent them away with weeping and sorrow.
- Let no one rejoice over me, a widow 12 and bereaved of many; I was left desolate because of the sins of my children, because they turned away from the law of God.
- 27 Take courage, my children, and cry to God, for you will be remembered by the one who brought this upon you.
- For just as you were disposed to go astray from God, 28 return with tenfold zeal to seek him.
- For the one who brought these calamities upon you 29 will bring you everlasting joy with your salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 69.29+32, 33-34, 35-36 (R.33a)

- **R.** The Lord listens to the poor.
- I am lowly and in pain; let your salvation, O God, protect me.
- Let the oppressed see it and be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive. **R**.
- For the Lord hears the needy, and does not despise his own that are in bonds.
- Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moves in them. *R.*
- For God will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah; and his servants shall live there and possess it;
- the children of his servants shall inherit it, and those who love his name shall live in it. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Luke 10.17-24

Rejoice that your names are written in heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- The seventy disciples returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"
- Jesus said to them,
 - "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning.
- See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you.
- Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."
- At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

- 22 All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."
- Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, 23 "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see!
- For I tell you that many prophets and kings 24 desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

461 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Jonah 1.1 - 2.1, 10

Jonah set out to flee from the presence of the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jonah.

- The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying,
- "Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me."
- But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.
- But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up.
- Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them.
 - Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep.
- The captain came and said to him,
 "What are you doing sound asleep?
 Get up, call on your god!
 Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish."
- 7 The sailors said to one another,
 "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know
 on whose account this calamity has come upon us."
 So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.
- Then they said to him,
 "Tell us why this calamity has come upon us.
 What is your occupation?
 Where do you come from?

What is your country? And of what people are you?"

- 9 "I am a Hebrew," he replied. "I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land."
- Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, 10 "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them so.
- Then they said to him, 11 "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous.
- 12 Jonas said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you."
- Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, 13 but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them.
- Then they cried out to the Lord, 14 "Please, O Lord, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you."
- 15 So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging.
- Then the men feared the Lord even more, 16 and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.
- 17 But the Lord provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.
- Then the Lord spoke to the fish, 10 and it spewed Jonah out upon the dry land.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Jonah 2.2, 3, 4-5a, 7+9abd (R.6c)

- **R.** You will rescue my life from the pit, O Lord.
- I called to the Lord out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. *R*.
- You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. *R.*
- Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; how shall I look again upon your holy temple?'
- Then waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me. *R.*
- As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.
- With the voice of thanksgiving I will sacrifice to you. Deliverance belongs to the Lord. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL

Luke 10.25-37

Who is my neighbour?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- A lawyer stood up to test Jesus.

 "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"
- The lawyer answered,
 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
 and with all your soul, and with all your strength,
 and with all your mind;
 and your neighbour as yourself."
- And Jesus said to him,
 "You have given the right answer;
 do this, and you will live."

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- But wanting to justify himself, the lawyer asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"
- Jesus replied,
 "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.
- Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.
- So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.
- "But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.
- He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them.

 Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.
- "The next day the samaritan took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'"
- Jesus asked,
 "Which of these three, do you think,
 was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"
- The lawyer said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him. "Go and do likewise."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

462 TUESDAY

FIRST READING Jonah 3.1-10

The Ninevites turned from their evil ways, and God had mercy on them.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jonah.

- The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying,
- Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you."
- So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord.
 Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across.
- Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"
- And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.
- When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.
- Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh:
 "By the decree of the king and his nobles:
 No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything.
 They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water.
- Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God.
 All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands.
- Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish."
- When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 130.1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 (R.3)

R. If you, O Lord, laid bare our guilt, who could endure it?

- Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.
- Lord, hear my voice!

 Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! *R.*
- If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?
- But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. *R.*
- For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.
- It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

GOSPEL Luke 10.38-42

Martha welcomed Jesus into her home. Mary chose the better part.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way,

- he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.
- She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying.
- But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me."
- But the Lord answered her,
 "Martha, Martha,
 you are worried and distracted by many things;
- there is need of only one thing.

 Mary has chosen the better part,
 which will not be taken away from her."

The gospel of the Lord.

463 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Jonah 4.1-11

You are concerned about a withered bush; Should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city?

A reading from the book of the prophet Jonah.

- After Nineveh was spared, Jonah was displeased and he became angry.
- He prayed to the Lord and said,
 "O Lord!
 Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country?
 That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning;
 for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful,
 slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
 and ready to relent from punishing.
- And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."
- And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"
- Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there.

 He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.
- The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush.
- But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.
- When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said. "It is better for me to die than to live."
- But God said to Jonah,"Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?"And Jonas said, "Yes, angry enough to die."
- Then the Lord said,
 "You are concerned about the bush,
 for which you did not labour and which you did not grow;
 it came into being in a night and perished in a night.

And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 86.2c-4, 5-6, 9-10 (R.15b)

- **R.** Lord, you are tender and full of love.
- You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord,
- for to you do I cry all day long.
- Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. *R.*
- For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.
- Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. *R*.
- All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.
- For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Romans 8.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

GOSPEL

Luke 11.1-4

Lord, teach us to pray.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."
- Jesus said to them,
 "When you pray, say:
 Father, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come.

3

- Give us each day our daily bread.
- And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

The gospel of the Lord.

464 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Malachi 3.13 - 4.2

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven.

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

- You have spoken harsh words against me, says the Lord. Yet you say, "How have we spoken against you?"
- You have said, "It is vain to serve God.

 What do we profit by keeping his command or by going about as mourners before the Lord of hosts?
- Now we count the arrogant happy; evildoers not only prosper, but when they put God to the test they escape."
- Then those who revered the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord took note and listened, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who revered the Lord and thought on his name.
- They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, my special possession on the day when I act, and I will spare them as parents spare their children who serve them.
- Then once more you shall see the difference between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.
- See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble;

the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.

But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R. Ps 40.5a)

R. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

- Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
- but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. **R**.
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
 In all that they do, they prosper. R.
- The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Acts 16.14b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

GOSPEL

Luke 11.5-13

Ask and it will be given to you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus said to the disciples,
 "Suppose one of you has a friend,
 and you go to him at midnight and say to him,
 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread;
- for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'
- And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me;

the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'

- "I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.
- "So I say to you,
 Ask, and it will be given you;
 search, and you will find;
 knock, and the door will be opened for you.
- For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.
- "Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish?
- Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion?
- "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

The gospel of the Lord.

465 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Joel 1.13-15; 2.1-2

The day of the Lord is coming, a day of darkness and gloom.

A reading from the book of the prophet Joel.

The word of the Lord that came to Joel:

Put on sackcloth and lament, you priests; wail, you ministers of the altar.
Come, pass the night in sackcloth, you ministers of my God!
Grain offering and drink offering are withheld from the house of your God.

- 14 Sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly. Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land to the house of the Lord your God, and cry out to the Lord.
- 15 Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is near, and as destruction from the Almighty it comes.
- Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—
- a day of darkness and gloom, 2 a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 9.1-2, 5+15, 7-8 (R.8a)

R. The Lord will judge the world with justice.

- 1 I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
- 2 I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High. R.
- 5 You have rebuked the nations, you have destroyed the wicked; you have blotted out their name forever and ever.
- 15 The nations have sunk in the pit that they made; in the net that they hid has their own foot been caught. R.
- 7 But the Lord sits enthroned forever, he has established his throne for judgment.
- 8 He judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with equity. R.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The prince of this world will now be cast out, and when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all to myself, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 11.15-26

If it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, the kingdom of God has come to you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

After Jesus had cast out a demon, some of the people said,

- "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons."
- Others, to test him, kept demanding from him a sign from heaven.
- But he knew what they were thinking and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself becomes a desert, and house falls on house.
- If Satan also is divided against himself,how will his kingdom stand?—for you say that I cast out the demons by Beelzebul.
- Now if I cast out the demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your exorcists cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.
- But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you.
- "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his castle, his property is safe.
- But when one stronger than he attacks him and overpowers him, he takes away his armour in which he trusted and divides his plunder.
- Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.
- "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it wanders through waterless regions looking for a resting place, but not finding any, it says,
 'I will return to my house from which I came.'
- When it comes, it finds it swept and put in order.
- Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and live there; and the last state of that person is worse than the first."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

466 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Joel 3.12-21

Put in the sickle for the harvest is ripe.

A reading from the book of the prophet Joel.

Thus says the Lord:

- Let the nations rouse themselves, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the neighbouring nations.
- 13 Put in the sickle,
 for the harvest is ripe.
 Go in, tread,
 for the wine press is full.
 The vats overflow,
 for their wickedness is great.
- Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision!
 For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.
- The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining.
- The Lord roars from Zion, and utters his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth shake. But the Lord is a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.
- So you shall know that I, the Lord your God, dwell in Zion, my holy mountain.
 And Jerusalem shall be holy, and strangers shall never again pass through it.
- In that day the mountains shall drip sweet wine, the hills shall flow with milk, and all the stream beds of Judah shall flow with water; a fountain shall come forth from the house of the Lord and water the Wadi Shittim.
- Egypt shall become a desolation and Edom a desolate wilderness, because of the violence done to the people of Judah, in whose land they have shed innocent blood.

- But Judah shall be inhabited forever, and Jerusalem to all generations.
- I will avenge their blood, and I will not clear the guilty, for the Lord dwells in Zion.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 97.1-2, 5-6, 11-12 (R.12a)

- **R.** Let the just rejoice in the Lord.
- The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
- Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. R.
- The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.
- The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory. **R**.
- Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.
- Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name! *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

GOSPEL Luke 11.27-28

Blessed is the womb that bore you! Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- While Jesus was speaking to the people, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!"
- But Jesus said,
 "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"
 - The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-EIGHTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

467 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 1.1-7

Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among the gentiles.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- From Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,
- which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures:
- the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh
- and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead,
 Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name,
- including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.
- To all God's beloved in Rome,
 who are called to be saints:
 Grace to you and peace from God our Father
 and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 (R.2a)

- **R.** The Lord has made known his salvation.
- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. *R.*
- The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. *R*.
 - All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Luke 11.29-32

No sign will be given to this generation, except the sign of Jonah.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When the crowds were increasing, Jesus began to say, "This generation is an evil generation; it asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah.
- For just as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so the Son of Man will be to this generation.
- "The queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!
- "The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here!"
 - The gospel of the Lord.

468 TUESDAY

FIRST READING Romans 1.16-25

Though they knew God, they did not honour him as God.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
- For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith."
- For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of those who by their wickedness suppress the truth.
- For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.
- Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made.

So they are without excuse;

- for though they knew God, they did not honour him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless minds were darkened.
- Claiming to be wise, they became fools;
- and they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human being or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles.
- Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the degrading of their bodies among themselves,
- because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.1-2, 3-4 (R.1a)

- **R.** The heavens proclaim the glory of God.
- The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. R.
- There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
- yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hebrews 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

GOSPEL Luke 11.37-41

Give alms, and everything will be made clean for you.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- While Jesus was speaking to the crowds, a Pharisee invited him to dine with him; so Jesus went in and took his place at the table.
- The Pharisee was amazed to see that he did not first wash before dinner.
- Then the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness.
- You fools!
 Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also?
- So give for alms those things that are within; and see, everything will be clean for you."

The gospel of the Lord.

469 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING **Romans 2.1-11**

God will repay all according to the each one's deeds, Jews first and also Greeks.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- You have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things.
- You say, "We know that God's judgment on those who do such things 2 is in accordance with truth."
- Do you imagine, whoever you are, that when you judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself, you will escape the judgment of God?
- Or do you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience? Do you not realize that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?
- But by your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.
- For he will repay according to each one's deeds: 6
- to those who by patiently doing good seek for glory and honour and immortality, God will give eternal life;
- while for those who are self-seeking 8 and who obey not the truth but wickedness, there will be wrath and fury.
- There will be anguish and distress for everyone who does evil, 9 the Jew first and also the Greek,
- 10 but glory and honour and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek.
- For God shows no partiality. 11

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 62.1-2, 5+7, 8 (R.12b)

- **R.** Lord, you give back to all according to their works.
- For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.
- He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken. **R**.
- For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.
- On God rests my deliverance and my honour; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God. *R*.
- Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Luke 11.42-46

Woe to you Pharisees! Woe to you lawyers!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

The Pharisee, who had invited Jesus to dinner, was amazed to see that Jesus did not first wash before eating. Then the Lord said to him,

- "Woe to you Pharisees!
 For you tithe mint and rue and herbs of all kinds,
 and neglect justice and the love of God;
 it is these you ought to have practised, without neglecting the others.
- "Woe to you, Pharisees!

 For you love to have the seat of honour in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces.
- Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without realizing it."
- One of the lawyers answered him, "Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us too."
- And Jesus said, "Woe also to you, lawyers!

 For you load people with burdens hard to bear,
 and you yourselves do not lift a finger to ease them."

The gospel of the Lord.

470 THURSDAY

FIRST READING **Romans 3.21-30**

A person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- 21 Now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets,
- the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ 22 for all who believe. For there is no distinction,
- 23 since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;
- they are now justified by his grace as a gift, 24 through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,
- 25 whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. God did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed;
- it was to prove at the present time 26 that God himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.
- 27 Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith.
- For we hold that a person is justified by faith 28 apart from works prescribed by the law.
- Or is God the God of Jews only? 29 Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also.
- 30 since God is one: and he will justify the circumcised on the ground of faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 130.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.7bc)

- **R.** With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.
- Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.
- Lord, hear my voice!
 Let your ears be attentive
 to the voice of my supplications! *R*.
- If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?
- But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. *R.*
- I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
- my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Luke 11.47-54

The blood of the prophets, from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, will be charged to this generation.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to a lawyer who was at table with him:

- "Woe to you!
 - For you build the tombs of the prophets whom your ancestors killed.
- So you are witnesses and approve of the deeds of your ancestors; for they killed them, and you build their tombs.
- Therefore, also the Wisdom of God said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,'
- so that this generation may be charged with the blood of all the prophets shed since the foundation of the world,
- from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be charged against this generation.

THURSDAY 1263

- "Woe to you, lawyers!

 For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering."
- When Jesus went outside, the scribes and the Pharisees began to be very hostile toward him and to cross-examine him about many things,
- lying in wait for him,to catch him in something he might say.

The gospel of the Lord.

471 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Romans 4.1-8

Abraham believed and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?
- For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.
- For what does the scripture say?

 "Abraham believed God,
 and it was reckoned to him as righteousness."
- Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due.
- But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.
- So also David speaks of the blessedness of those to whom God reckons righteousness apart from works:
- "Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;
- blessed is the one against whom the Lord will not reckon sin."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 32.1-2, 5, 7b+11 (R. see 7)

- **R.** I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.
- Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. **R**.
- Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
 and I did not hide my iniquity;
 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
 and you forgave the guilt of my sin. R.
- You preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.
- Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 33.22

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

GOSPEL Luke 12.1-7

The hairs of your head are all counted.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When the crowd had gathered by the thousands, so that they trampled on one another,
 Jesus began to speak first to his disciples,
 "Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees, that is, their hypocrisy.
- Nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known.
- Therefore whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be proclaimed from the housetops.
- 4 "I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that can do nothing more.
- But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him!

FRIDAY 1265

- 6 "Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten in God's sight.
- But even the hairs of your head are all counted. Do not be afraid: you are of more value than many sparrows."

The gospel of the Lord.

472 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 4.13, 16-18 Abraham hoped against hope.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- The promise that he would inherit the world 13 did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.
- For this reason it depends on faith, 16 in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham.

God is the father of all of us.

- 17 as it is written,
 - "I have made you the father of many nations" —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.
- Hoping against hope, Abraham believed 18 that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.5-7, 8-10, 42-44 (R.8a)

- **R.** The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Remember the wonderful works the Lord has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,
- O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
- 7 He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth. R.
- He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,
- the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac,
- which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant. *R*.
- For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant.
- So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing.
- He gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.26b, 27a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

GOSPEL Luke 12.8-12

The Holy Spirit will teach you what you ought to say.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 8 "I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before others, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God;
- but whoever denies me before others will be denied before the angels of God.
- And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man 10 will be forgiven; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.
- "When they bring you before the synagogues, 11 before the rulers, and the authorities, do not worry about how you are to defend yourselves or what you are to say;
- for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that very hour 12 what you ought to say."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-NINTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

473 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 4.20-25

It was written in Scripture that Abraham's faith was reckoned to him as righteousness.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- No distrust made Abraham waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,
- being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.
- Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness."
- Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone,
- but for ours also.It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,
- who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Luke 1.69-70, 71-72, 73-75 (R. see 68)

- **R.** Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who has come to his people.
- The Lord God has raised up a mighty saviour for us in the house of his servant David,
- as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old. *R.*
- God swore that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us:
- Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant. *R*.
- This is the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,
- to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear,
- in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. *R.*

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Luke 12.13-21

> This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Someone in the crowd said to Jesus. 13 "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."
- 14 But Jesus said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"
- And he said to the crowd, 15 "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."
- Then Jesus told them a parable: 16 "The land of a rich man produced abundantly.
- And he thought to himself, 17 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'
- Then he said, 'I will do this: 18 I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
- 19 And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'
- "But God said to him, 'You fool! 20 This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'
- So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves 21 but are not rich toward God."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

474 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 5.12, 15b, 17-21

Because of the trespass of one, death exercised dominion over all; much more surely will all receive grace through Jesus Christ.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, so death spread to all, because all have sinned.
- Sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law.
- Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.
- But the free gift is not like the trespass.

 For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.
- And the free gift is not like the effect of the one person's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification.
- If, because of the trespass of one, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one, Jesus Christ.
- Therefore just as the trespass of one led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one leads to justification and life for all.
- For just as by the disobedience of one person the many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one person the many will be made righteous.
- But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

21 so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 40.6-7a, 7b-8, 9-10ab, 16+17c (R.7a-8a)

- **R.** Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.
- 6 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.
- Then I said. "Here I am." R.
 - In the scroll of the book it is written of me:
- "I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." R.
- 9 I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.
- 10 I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation. R.
- 16 May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!"
- 17 You are my help and my deliverer. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.36

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful, pray constantly,

that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

GOSPEL Luke 12.35-38

Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples:

- "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; 35
- 36 be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

- "Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.
- If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves."

The gospel of the Lord.

475 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 6.12-18

Present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions.
- No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness.
- For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.
- What then?
 Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace?
 By no means!
- Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?
- 17 But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted,
- and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 124.1-3, 4-6, 7-8 (R.8a)

- **R.** Our help is in the name of the Lord.
- If it had not been the Lord who was on our side —let Israel now say—
- if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,
- then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us. *R*.
- Then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
- then over us would have gone the raging waters.
- Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth. *R.*
- We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 24.42a, 44

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

GOSPEL Luke 12.39-48

From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples:

- "Know this:
 - if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into.
- You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."
- Peter said,
 - "Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for everyone?"
- 42 And the Lord said,
 - "Who then is the faithful and prudent manager whom his master will put in charge of his slaves, to give them their allowance of food at the proper time?
- Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives.

- Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions.
- "But if that slave says to himself,
 'My master is delayed in coming,'
 and if he begins to beat the other slaves, men and women,
 and to eat and drink and get drunk,
- the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know, and will cut him in pieces, and put him with the unfaithful.
- 47 "That slave who knew what his master wanted, but did not prepare himself or do what was wanted, will receive a severe beating.
- But the one who did not know and did what deserved a beating will receive a light beating.

"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded."

The gospel of the Lord.

476 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 6.19-23

Now that you have been freed from sin, you are now enslaved to God.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

- I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.
- When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

- So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death.
- But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification.

 The end is eternal life.
- For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R. Ps 40.5)

R. Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

- Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers:
- but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. *R.*
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
 In all that they do, they prosper. R.
- The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 3.8-9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I count all things worthless but this: to gain Jesus Christ and to be found in him.

GOSPEL Luke 12.49-53

"Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth?

No, I tell you, but rather division!"

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples,

- "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!
- I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed!
- "Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!
- From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three;
- they will be divided:
 father against son and son against father,
 mother against daughter and daughter against mother,
 mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
 and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

The gospel of the Lord.

477 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 7.18-25a

Wretched that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?

A reading from the letter of Paul to the of Romans.

- I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh.I can will what is right, but I cannot do it.
- For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.
- Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.
- So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand.

- For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self,
- but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.
- Wretched man that I am!
 Who will rescue me from this body of death?
- Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.66+68, 76-77, 93-94 (R.68)

R. Teach me your laws, O Lord.

- Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.
- You are good and do good; teach me your statutes. **R**.
- Let your steadfast love become my comfort according to your promise to your servant.
- Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight. *R*.
- I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.
- I am yours; save me, for I have sought your precepts. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Luke 12.54-59

You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens.
- And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens.
- You hypocrites!
 You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?
- "And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?
- Thus, when you go with your accuser before a magistrate, on the way make an effort to settle the case, or you may be dragged before the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer throw you in prison.
- I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny." The gospel of the Lord.

478 SATURDAY

FIRST READING Romans 8.1-11

The Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- Now there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.
- For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
- so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

- For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.
- To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.
- For this reason
 the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God;
 it does not submit to God's law
 —indeed it cannot,
- and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
- 9 But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

- But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
- If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24.1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 (R.6)

- **R.** Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
- The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;
- for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. **R**.
- Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
- Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false. *R.*
- They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.
- Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ezekiel 33.11

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I do not wish the sinner to die, says the Lord, but to turn to me and live.

GOSPEL Luke 13.1-9

Unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

When Jesus was teaching the crowds

- some of those present told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
- Jesus asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?
- No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.
- Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?
- No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."
- Then Jesus told this parable:

 "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard;
 and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.
- 7 So he said to the gardener,

'See here!

For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none.

Cut it down!

Why should it be wasting the soil?'

- "The gardener replied,'Sir, let it alone for one more year,until I dig around it and put manure on it.
- If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTIETH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

479 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 8.11-17++

By the Spirit of God we are his children. It is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit when we cry, "Abba! Father!

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- If the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, 11 he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.
- So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh. 12 to live according to the flesh-
- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; 13 but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.
- For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 14
- For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, 15 but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!"
- it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit 16 that we are children of God.
- and if children, then heirs, 17 heirs of God and joint heirs with Christif, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 68.1+3, 5-6ab, 19-20 (R.20a)

R. Our God is the God of salvation.

- 1 Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered: let those who hate him flee before him.
- But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God: let them be jubilant with joy. **R**.

- Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation
- God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity. R.
- Blessed be the Lord who daily bears us up; God is our salvation.
- Our God is a God of salvation, and to God, the Lord, belongs escape from death. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 17.17b,a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth.

GOSPEL Luke 13.10-17

Ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath,
- and just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years.

 She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight.
- When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment."
- When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.
- But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day."
- But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites!

 Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water?
- And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?"

When Jesus said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.The gospel of the Lord.

480 TUESDAY

FIRST READING Romans 8.18-25

Creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.
- For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God;
- for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it,
- in hope that the creation itself
 will be set free from its bondage to decay
 and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.
- We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now;
- and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.
- For in hope we were saved.

 Now hope that is seen is not hope.

 For who hopes for what is seen?
- But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 126.1-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 (R.3a)

- **R.** The Lord has done great things for us.
- When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
- Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. *R*.

 Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
- The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. *R*.
- Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the desert of the Negev.
- May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. **R**.
- Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Luke 13.18-21

The seed grew and became a tree.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus said,"What is the kingdom of God like?And to what should I compare it?
- It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."
- And again Jesus said,
 "To what should I compare the kingdom of God?
- It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

481 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 8.26-30

All things work together for good for those who love God.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.
- And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.
- We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.
- For those whom the Father foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
- And those whom the Father predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 13.4-5a, 5b-6 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** All my hope, O Lord, is in your loving kindness.
- My enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.
- But I trusted in your steadfast love. R.My heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
- I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Thessalonians 2.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God has called us with the gospel, to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 13.22-30

People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem.
- Someone asked him,
 "Lord, will only a few be saved?"

 Jesus said to them,
- "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able.
- "Once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you stand outside and begin to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then in reply he will say to you, 'I do not know where you come from.'
- Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'
- 27 But he will say,
 'I do not know where you come from;
 go away from me, all you evildoers!'
- ²⁸ "There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out.
- Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.
- "Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

482 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 8.31b-39

Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- If God is for us, who is against us?
- He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?
- Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.
- Who is to condemn?
 Is it Christ Jesus,
 who died, and indeed, who was raised,
 who is at the right hand of God,
 who indeed intercedes for us?
- Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
- As it is written,
 "For your sake we are being killed all day long;
 we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."
- No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
- For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, 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.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 109.21-22, 26-27, 30-31 (R.26b)

- **R.** Save me, O Lord, in your kindness.
- O Lord my Lord, act on my behalf for your name's sake; because your steadfast love is good, deliver me.
- For I am poor and needy, and my heart is pierced within me. *R*.
- Help me, O Lord my God!
 Save me according to your steadfast love.
- Let them know that this is your hand; you, O Lord, have done it. **R**.
- With my mouth I will give great thanks to the Lord; I will praise him in the midst of the throng.
- For he stands at the right hand of the needy, to save them from those who would condemn them to death. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 19.38, 2.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord: glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth.

GOSPEL Luke 13.31-35

It is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."
- Jesus said to the Pharisees,
 "Go and tell that fox for me,
 'Listen, I am casting out demons
 and performing cures today and tomorrow,
 and on the third day I finish my work.
- Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'
- "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

"See, your house is left to you.

And I tell you,
you will not see me until the time comes when you say,
'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

483 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 9.1-5

I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- I am speaking the truth in Christ.I am not lying;my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit.
- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.
- For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh.
- They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;
- to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God be blessed forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 147.12-13, 14-15, 19-20 (R.12a)

- **R.** Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.
- Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!
 Praise your God, O Zion!
- For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you. *R.*

- He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.
- He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. *R.*
- He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.
- He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Luke 14.1-6

If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.
- Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had dropsy.
- And Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, "Is it lawful to cure people on the sabbath, or not?"
- But they were silent.So Jesus took him and healed him, and sent him away.
- Then Jesus said to them,
 "If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well,
 will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?"
- 6 And they could not reply to this.

The gospel of the Lord.

484 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 11.1-2a, 11-12, 25-29

Through the stumbling of Israel, salvation has come to the Gentiles.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Beloved.

- I ask, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.
- God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel?
- 11 So I ask, have they stumbled so as to fall? By no means! But through their stumbling salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous.
- Now if their stumbling means riches for the world, 12 and if their defeat means riches for Gentiles. how much more will their full inclusion mean!
- 25 So that you may not claim to be wiser than you are, brothers and sisters. I want you to understand this mystery: a hardening has come upon part of Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.
- And so all Israel will be saved; 26 as it is written, "Out of Zion will come the Deliverer; he will banish ungodliness from Jacob."
- "And this is my covenant with them, 27 when I take away their sins."
- 28 As regards the gospel they are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors;
- 29 for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 94.12-13a, 14-15, 17-18 (R. see 14a)

- **R.** The Lord will not abandon his people.
- Happy are those whom you discipline, O Lord, and whom you teach out of your law,
- giving them respite from days of trouble, until a pit is dug for the wicked. **R**.
- The Lord will not forsake his people; he will not abandon his heritage;
- justice will return to the righteous, and all the upright in heart will follow it. *R.*
- If the Lord had not been my help, my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence.
- When I thought, "My foot is slipping," your steadfast love, O Lord, held me up. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.20ab

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart.

GOSPEL Luke 14.1, 7-11

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.
- When Jesus noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable.
- When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host;
- and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place.

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- "But when you are invited, 10 go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.
- "For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, 11 and those who humble themselves will be exalted." The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTY-FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

485 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 11.29-36

God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.
- Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience,
- so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy.
- For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.
- O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!
- "For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counsellor?"
- "Or who has given a gift to him, to receive a gift in return?"
- For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 69.29-30, 32-33, 35-36 (R.14c)

- **R.** Lord, in your great love, answer me.
- I am lowly and in pain; let your salvation, O God, protect me.
- I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving. *R*.
- Let the oppressed see it and be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive.
- For the Lord hears the needy, and does not despise his own that are in bonds. *R*.

- For God will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah; and his servants shall live there and possess it;
- the children of his servants shall inherit it, and those who love his name shall live in it. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.31b-32

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If you stay in my word, you will indeed be my disciples, and you will know the truth, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 14.12-14

When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

One sabbath Jesus was at the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal.

- Jesus said to the one who had invited him,
 "When you give a luncheon or a dinner,
 do not invite your friends or your brothers or sisters
 or your relatives or rich neighbours,
 in case they may invite you in return,
 and you would be repaid.
- "But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.
- And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The gospel of the Lord.

486 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 12.5-16a

So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.
- We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;
- 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching;

- the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.
- Let love be genuine;hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;
- love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour.
- Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
- Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
- 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
- Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
- Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
- Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 131.1, 2, 3 (R. see 2)

- **R.** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.
- O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high;
 I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvellous for me. *R*.
- But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me. *R*.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord from this time on and forevermore. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 14.15-24

Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

One sabbath Jesus was at the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal.

- One of the dinner guests said to Jesus, "Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!"
- Then Jesus said to him, "Someone gave a great dinner and invited many."
- At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.'
- "But they all alike began to make excuses.The first said to him,'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.'
- Another said,
 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out;
 please accept my regrets.'
- Another said, 'I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.'
- So the slave returned and reported this to his master.

 "Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave,
 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town
 and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.'
- And the slave said, 'Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.'
- "Then the master said to the slave,
 'Go out into the roads and lanes,
 and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.
- For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner."

The gospel of the Lord.

487 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 13.8-10

The one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters:

- 8 Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.
- The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbour as yourself."
- Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 4-5, 9 (R. see 5)

- **R.** Happy the merciful who give to those in need.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. **R**.
- They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice. **R**.
- They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their name is exalted in honour. **R**.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of God rests upon you.

GOSPEL Luke 14.25-33

> Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Now large crowds were travelling with Jesus; 25 and he turned and said to them,
- "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, 26 wife and children, brothers and sisters. yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.
- Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me 27 cannot be my disciple.
- "For which of you, intending to build a tower, 28 does not first sit down and estimate the cost. to see whether he has enough to complete it?
- Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, 29 all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying,
- 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' 30
- "Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, 31 will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand?
- 32 If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.
- "So therefore, none of you can become my disciple 33 if you do not give up all your possessions."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

488 THURSDAY

FIRST READING Romans 14.7-12

Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

My brothers and sisters,

- 7 we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
- If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
- For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.
- Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister?
 Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?
 For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.
- For it is written,
 "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."
- So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 27.1, 4, 13-14 (R.13)

- **R.** I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.
- The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
 The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? *R*.
- One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. *R*.

- 13 I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
- 14 Wait for the Lord; be strong. and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 15.1-10

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. 1
- And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 2 "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- 3 So Jesus told them this parable:
- "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?
- 5 When he has found it. he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.
- And when he comes home, 6 he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'
- Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
- "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
- 9 When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, 'Rejoice with me. for I have found the coin that I had lost.'
- Just so, I tell you, 10 there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

489 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 15.14-21

God gave me the grace to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- I myself feel confident about you, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another.
- Nevertheless on some points
 I have written to you rather boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God
- to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
- In Christ Jesus, then,
 I have reason to boast of my work for God.
- For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to win obedience from the Gentiles, by word and deed,
- by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and as far around as Illyricum I have fully proclaimed the good news of Christ.
- Thus I make it my ambition to proclaim the good news, not where Christ has already been named, so that I do not build on someone else's foundation,
- but as it is written,
 "Those who have never been told of him shall see,
 and those who have never heard of him shall understand."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 (R.2b)

- **R.** The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.
- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. **R.**
- 2 The Lord has made known his victory: he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- 3 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. R.
 - All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 2.5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God.

GOSPEL Luke 16.1-8

> The children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property.
- "So the rich man summoned the manager and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.'
- 3 "Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.
- I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'

- "So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'
- He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.'
 He said to him,
 - 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'
- 7 Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'
- "And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light."

The gospel of the Lord.

490 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Romans 16.3-9, 16, 22-27

Greet one another with a holy kiss.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- Greet Prisca and Aquila, who work with me in Christ Jesus,
- and who risked their necks for my life,
 to whom not only I give thanks,
 but also all the churches of the Gentiles.
- Greet also the church in their house.
 Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert in Asia for Christ.
- 6 Greet Mary, who has worked very hard among you.
- Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives who were in prison with me; they are prominent among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.
- 8 Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord.
- Greet Urbanus, our co-worker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys.
- Greet one another with a holy kiss.
 All the churches of Christ greet you.
- I, Tertius, the writer of this letter, greet you in the Lord.

- 23 Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus, greet you.
- 25 Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed,
- 26 and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—
- 27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145.2-3, 4-5, 10-11 (R. see 2)

- **R.** I will praise your name for ever, Lord.
- 2 Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. **R.**
- 4 One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.
- 5 On the glorious splendour of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. R.
- 10 All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.
- 11 They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 8.9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

GOSPEL Luke 16.9-15

If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus said to his disciples,
 "I tell you,
 make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth
 so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.
- "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.
- If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?
- And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?
- "No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other.

 You cannot serve God and wealth."
- The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they ridiculed Jesus.
- So he said to them,
 "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of others;
 but God knows your hearts;
 for what is prized by human beings is an abomination in the sight of God."
 The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTY-SECOND WEEK **IN ORDINARY TIME**

491 MONDAY

FIRST READING Wisdom 1.1-7

Wisdom is a kindly spirit; the Spirit of the Lord has filled the world.

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

- Love righteousness, you rulers of the earth, think of the Lord in goodness and seek him with sincerity of heart;
- because he is found by those who do not put him to the test, 2 and manifests himself to those who do not distrust him.
- For perverse thoughts separate people from God, 3 and when his power is tested, it exposes the foolish;
- because wisdom will not enter a deceitful soul. 4 or dwell in a body enslaved to sin.
- For a holy and disciplined spirit will flee from deceit, 5 and will leave foolish thoughts behind, and will be ashamed at the approach of unrighteousness.
- For wisdom is a kindly spirit, but will not free blasphemers from the guilt of their words; because God is witness of their inmost feelings, and a true observer of their hearts, and a hearer of their tongues.
- 7 Because the spirit of the Lord has filled the world, and that which holds all things together knows what is said.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 139.1-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10 (R.24b)

- **R.** Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.
- O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.
- You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. *R.*
- Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.
- You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
- Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. **R**.
- Where can I go from your spirit?
 Or where can I flee from your presence?
- If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. *R*.
- If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 2.15d, 16a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

GOSPEL Luke 17.1-6

If the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, 'I repent,' you must forgive.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus said to his disciples,
 "Occasions for stumbling are bound to come,
 but woe to anyone by whom they come!
- It would be better for you if a millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea than for you to cause one of these little ones to stumble.
- "Be on your guard! If another disciple sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive.

- And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, 'I repent,' you must forgive."
- The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"
- The Lord replied,

 "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed,
 you could say to this mulberry tree,
 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,'
 and it would obey you."

The gospel of the Lord.

492 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Wisdom 2.23 – 3.9

In the eyes of the foolish the righteous seemed to have died, but they are at peace.

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

- God created us for incorruption, and made us in the image of his own eternity,
- but through the devil's envy death entered the world, and those who belong to his company experience it.
- But 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 a disaster,
- and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace.
- For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality.
- 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.
- 7 In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble.
- They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them forever.

Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.2-3, 16-17, 18-19 (R. see 2)

R. I will bless the Lord at all times.

- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together. *R.*
- The face of the Lord is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
- When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles. *R.*
- The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.
- Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Luke 17.7-10

"We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples,

- "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'?
- Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'?

TUESDAY 1311

- Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded?
- So you also. 10 when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!" The gospel of the Lord.

493 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Wisdom 6.1-11 Listen, O kings, and understand.

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

- Listen therefore, O kings, and understand; 1 learn, O judges of the ends of the earth.
- Give ear, you that rule over multitudes, 2 and boast of many nations.
- 3 For your dominion was given you from the Lord, and your sovereignty from the Most High; he will search out your works and inquire into your plans.
- Because as servants of his kingdom 4 you did not rule rightly, or keep the law, or walk according to the purpose of God,
- he will come upon you terribly and swiftly, 5 because severe judgment falls on those in high places.
- 6 For the lowliest may be pardoned in mercy, but the mighty will be mightily tested.
- 7 For the Lord of all will not stand in awe of anyone, or show deference to greatness; because he himself made both small and great, and he takes thought for all alike.
- But a strict inquiry is in store for the mighty. 8
- To you then, O monarchs, my words are directed, so that you may learn wisdom and not transgress.
- For they will be made holy 10 who observe holy things in holiness, and those who have been taught them will find a defense.
- Therefore set your desire on my words; 11 long for them, and you will be instructed.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 82.3-4, 6-7 (R.8)

- **R.** Rise up, O God, bring judgment to the earth.
- Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.
- Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." *R*.
- I say, "You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you;
- 7 nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince." **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Thessalonians 5.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. For all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects of you in Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 17.11-19

Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee.
- As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying,
- "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"
- When Jesus saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean.
- Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.
- He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.
- Then Jesus asked,
 "Were not ten made clean?
 But the other nine, where are they?
- Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"
- Then Jesus said to the Samaritan, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

494 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Wisdom 7.22 – 8.1

Wisdom is a breath of the power of God, and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

- Wisdom, the fashioner of all things, taught me.
 There is in her a spirit that is intelligent, holy,
 unique, manifold, subtle,
 mobile, clear, unpolluted,
 distinct, invulnerable, loving the good,
 keen, irresistible,
- beneficent, humane, steadfast, sure, free from anxiety, all-powerful, overseeing all, and penetrating through all spirits that are intelligent, pure, and altogether subtle.
- For wisdom is more mobile than any motion; because of her pureness she pervades and penetrates all things.
- For she is a breath of the power of God, and a pure emanation of the glory of the Almighty; therefore nothing defiled gains entrance into her.
- For she is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of his goodness.
- Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things; in every generation she passes into holy souls and makes them friends of God, and prophets;
- for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom.
- She is more beautiful than the sun, and excels every constellation of the stars.

- Compared with the light she is found to be superior,
- for it is succeeded by the night, but against wisdom evil does not prevail.
- She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other, and she orders all things well.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.89-90, 91+130, 135+175 (R.89)

R. Your word is for ever, O Lord.

- The Lord exists forever; your word is firmly fixed in heaven.
- Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast. *R.*
- By your appointment they stand today, for all things are your servants.
- The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. *R*.
- Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.
- Let me live that I may praise you, and let your ordinances help me. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord: those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

GOSPEL Luke 17.20-25

The kingdom of God is among you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Once Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered,
 - "The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed;
- nor will they say,
 - 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!'
 - For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you."

THURSDAY 1315

- Then Jesus said to the disciples,
 "The days are coming
 when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man,
 and you will not see it.
- They will say to you,
 'Look there!' or 'Look here!'

 Do not go, do not set off in pursuit.
- For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day.
- But first he must endure much suffering and be rejected by this generation."

The gospel of the Lord.

495 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Wisdom 13.1-9

If the foolish had the power to know so much that they could investigate the world, how did they fail to find sooner the Lord of these things?

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

- All people who were ignorant of God were foolish by nature; and they were unable from the good things that are seen to know the one who exists, nor did they recognize the artisan while paying heed to his works;
- but they supposed that either fire or wind or swift air, or the circle of the stars, or turbulent water, or the luminaries of heaven were the gods that rule the world.
- If through delight in the beauty of these things people assumed them to be gods, let them know how much better than these is their Lord, for the author of beauty created them.
- And if people were amazed at their power and working, let them perceive from them how much more powerful is the one who formed them.
- For from the greatness and beauty of created things comes a corresponding perception of their Creator.

- Yet these people are little to be blamed, for perhaps they go astray while seeking God and desiring to find him.
- For while they live among his works, they keep searching, and they trust in what they see, because the things that are seen are beautiful.
- 8 Yet again, not even they are to be excused;
- for if they had the power to know so much that they could investigate the world, how did they fail to find sooner the Lord of these things?

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.1-2, 3-4ab (R.2)

- **R.** The heavens proclaim the glory of God.
- The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. **R**.
- There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard.
- Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

GOSPEL Luke 17.26-37

It will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples;

- "Just as it was in the days of Noah, so too it will be in the days of the Son of Man.
- They were eating and drinking, and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed all of them.

FRIDAY 1317

- Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot: they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building,
- but on the day that Lot left Sodom, it rained fire and sulphur from heaven and destroyed all of them
- —it will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.
- "On that day, anyone on the housetop who has belongings in the house must not come down to take them away; and likewise anyone in the field must not turn back.
- Remember Lot's wife.
- Those who try to make their life secure will lose it, but those who lose their life will keep it.
- "I tell you, on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other left.
- There will be two women grinding meal together; one will be taken and the other left."
- Then they asked him, "Where, Lord?"
 Jesus said to them,
 "Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather."
 The gospel of the Lord.

496 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Wisdom 18.14-16: 19.6-9

Dry land emerged where water had stood before, an unhindered way out of the Red Sea, and the Israelites rejoiced like lambs.

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

- While gentle silence enveloped all things, and night in its swift course was now half gone,
- your all-powerful word leaped from heaven, from the royal throne, into the midst of the land that was doomed,
- a stern warrior carrying the sharp sword of your authentic command, and stood and filled all things with death, and touched heaven while standing on the earth.

- For the whole creation in its nature was fashioned anew, complying with your commands, so that your children might be kept unharmed.
- The cloud was seen overshadowing the camp, and dry land emerging where water had stood before, an unhindered way out of the Red Sea, and a grassy plain out of the raging waves,
- where those protected by your hand passed through as one nation, after gazing on marvellous wonders.
- For they ranged like horses, and leaped like lambs, praising you, O Lord, who delivered them.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.2-3, 36-37, 42-43 (R.5a)

- **R.** Remember the marvels the Lord has done.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Sing to the Lord, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.
- Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. *R.*
- He struck down all the firstborn in their land, the first issue of all their strength.
- Then he brought Israel out with silver and gold, and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled. *R.*
- For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant.
- So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Thessalonians 2.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God has called us with the gospel, to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 18.1-8

God grants justice to his chosen ones who cry to him.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always 1 and not to lose heart.
- He said. "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people.
- 3 In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.'
- 4 "For a while the judge refused; but later he said to himself. 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone,
- 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming."
- And the Lord said, 6 "Listen to what the unjust judge says.
- And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones 7 who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?
- I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. 8 And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"
 - The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

497 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Maccabees 1.10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-64

Very great wrath came upon Israel.

A reading from the first book of Maccabees.

- From the successor of Alexander the Great came forth a sinful root, Antiochus Epiphanes, son of King Antiochus; he had been a hostage in Rome.

 He began to reign in the one hundred thirty-seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks.
- In those days certain renegades came out from Israel and misled many, saying,
 "Let us go and make a covenant with the Gentiles around us, for since we separated from them many disasters have come upon us."
- This proposal pleased them,
- and some of the people eagerly went to the king, who authorized them to observe the ordinances of the Gentiles.
- So they built a gymnasium in Jerusalem, according to Gentile custom,
- and removed the marks of circumcision,and abandoned the holy covenant.They joined with the Gentiles and sold themselves to do evil.
- Then the king wrote to his whole kingdom that all should be one people,
- and that all should give up their particular customs.
- All the Gentiles accepted the command of the king. Many even from Israel gladly adopted his religion; they sacrificed to idols and profaned the sabbath.
- Now on the fifteenth day of Chisley, in the one hundred forty-fifth year, they erected a desolating sacrilege on the altar of burnt offering. They also built altars in the surrounding towns of Judah,
- and offered incense at the doors of the houses and in the streets.
- The books of the law that they found they tore to pieces and burned with fire.

- 57 Anyone found possessing the book of the covenant, or anyone who adhered to the law. was condemned to death by decree of the king.
- But many in Israel stood firm 62 and were resolved in their hearts not to eat unclean food.
- They chose to die rather than to be defiled by food 63 or to profane the holy covenant; and they did die.
- Very great wrath came upon Israel. 64

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.53+61, 134+150, 155+158 (R. see 88)

R. Give me life, O Lord, and I will do your commands

- 53 Hot indignation seizes me because of the wicked, those who forsake your law.
- 61 Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me, I do not forget your law. R.
- 134 Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.
- 150 Those who persecute me with evil purpose draw near; they are far from your law. R.
- 155 Salvation is far from the wicked. for they do not seek your statutes.
- 158 I look at the faithless with disgust, because they do not keep your commands. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the light of the world, says the Lord: whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL Luke 18.35-43

What do you want me to do for you? Lord, let me see again.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- As Jesus approached Jericho, a man who was blind was sitting by the roadside begging.
- When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening.
- They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by."
- Then he shouted,
 "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"
- Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"
- Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him,
- "What do you want me to do for you?"
 The man said, "Lord, let me see again."
- Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you."
- Immediately he regained his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

The gospel of the Lord.

498 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Maccabees 6.18-31

Eleazar left in his death an example of nobility and a memorial of courage, not only to the young but to the great body of his nation.

A reading from the second book of Maccabees.

- Eleazar, one of the scribes in high position, a man now advanced in age and of noble presence, was being forced to open his mouth to eat swine's flesh.
- But he, welcoming death with honour rather than life with pollution, went up to the rack of his own accord, spitting out the flesh,
- as all ought to do who have the courage to refuse things that it is not right to taste, even for the natural love of life.

- 21 Those who were in charge of that unlawful sacrifice took the man aside because of their long acquaintance with him, and privately urged him to bring meat of his own providing, proper for him to use, and to pretend that he was eating the flesh of the sacrificial meal that had been commanded by the king,
- 22 so that by doing this he might be saved from death, and be treated kindly on account of his old friendship with them.
- 23 But making a high resolve, worthy of his years and the dignity of his old age and the grey hairs that he had reached with distinction and his excellent life even from childhood, and, moreover, according to the holy God-given law, he declared himself quickly, telling them to send him to Hades.
- 24 "Such pretence is not worthy of our time of life," he said, "for many of the young might suppose that Eleazar in his ninetieth year had gone over to an alien religion,
- and through my pretence, 25 for the sake of living a brief moment longer, they would be led astray because of me, while I defile and disgrace my old age.
- 26 Even if for the present I would avoid the punishment of mortals, yet whether I live or die I shall not escape the hands of the Almighty.
- 27 Therefore, by bravely giving up my life now, I will show myself worthy of my old age
- 28 and leave to the young a noble example of how to die a good death willingly and nobly for the revered and holy laws."
 - When he had said this, Eleazar went at once to the rack.
- 29 Those who a little before had acted toward him with goodwill now changed to ill will, because the words he had uttered were in their opinion sheer madness.
- When he was about to die under the blows, 30 he groaned aloud and said: "It is clear to the Lord in his holy knowledge that, though I might have been saved from death, I am enduring terrible sufferings in my body under this beating, but in my soul I am glad to suffer these things because I fear him."

So in this way Eleazar died, leaving in his death an example of nobility and a memorial of courage, not only to the young but to the great body of his nation.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 3.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.5b)

- **R.** The Lord upholds me.
- O Lord, how many are my foes!
 Many are rising against me;
- many are saying to me, "There is no help for you in God." *R.*
- But you, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.
- I cry aloud to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy hill. *R.*
- I lie down and sleep;
 I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.
- I am not afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 4.10b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God first loved us and sent his Son to take away our sins.

GOSPEL Luke 19.1-10

The Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it.
- A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich.
- He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature.
- So Zacchaeus ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way.

- When Jesus came to the place,
 he looked up and said to him,
 "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down;
 for I must stay at your house today."
- So Zacchaeus hurried down and was happy to welcome Jesus.
- All who saw it began to grumble and said,"He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner."
- Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much."
- Then Jesus said of him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham.
- For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

 The gospel of the Lord.

499 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Maccabees 7.1, 20-31

The creator of the world will give life and breath back to you again.

A reading from the second book of Maccabees.

- It happened that seven brothers and their mother were arrested and were being compelled by King Antiochus, under torture with whips and thongs, to partake of unlawful swine's flesh.
- The mother was especially admirable and worthy of honourable memory. Although she saw her seven sons perish within a single day, she bore it with good courage because of her hope in the Lord.
- She encouraged each of them in the language of their ancestors. Filled with a noble spirit, she reinforced her woman's reasoning with a man's courage, and said to them,
- "I do not know how you came into being in my womb.

 It was not I who gave you life and breath,

 nor I who set in order the elements within each of you.
- Therefore the Creator of the world, who shaped the beginning of the human race and devised the origin of all things,

will in his mercy give life and breath back to you again, since you now forget yourselves for the sake of his laws."

- Antiochus felt that he was being treated with contempt, 24 and he was suspicious of her reproachful tone. The youngest brother being still alive, Antiochus not only appealed to him in words, but promised with oaths that he would make him rich and enviable if he would turn from the ways of his ancestors, and that he would take him for his friend and entrust him with public affairs.
- 25 Since the young man would not listen to him at all, the king called the mother to him and urged her to advise the youth to save himself.
- 26 After much urging on his part, she undertook to persuade her son.
- But, leaning close to him, 27 she spoke in their native language as follows, deriding the cruel tyrant: "My son, have pity on me. I carried you nine months in my womb, and nursed you for three years, and have reared you and brought you up to this point in your life, and have taken care of you.
- 28 I beg you, my child, to look at the heaven and the earth and see everything that is in them, and recognize that God did not make them out of things that existed. And in the same way the human race came into being.
- Do not fear this butcher. 29 but prove worthy of your brothers. Accept death, so that in God's mercy I may get you back again along with your brothers."
- While she was still speaking, the young man said, 30 "What are you waiting for? I will not obey the king's command, but I obey the command of the law that was given to our ancestors through Moses.
- But you, who have contrived all sorts of evil against the Hebrews, 31 will certainly not escape the hands of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 17.1, 5-6, 8b+15 (R.15)

- **R.** Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.
- Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit. *R*.
- My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped.
- I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words. *R*.
- 6 Guard me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings,
- As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Luke 19.11-28

Why then did you not put my money into the bank?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- As the crowd was listening, Jesus went on to tell a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately.
- So Jesus said,
 "A nobleman went to a distant country
 to get royal power for himself and then return.
- He summoned ten of his slaves, and gave them ten pounds, and said to them,
 - 'Do business with these until I come back.'
- But the citizens of his country hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to rule over us.'
- When he returned, having received royal power, he ordered these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to be summoned so that he might find out what they had gained by trading.

- The first came forward and said, 'Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds.'
- The nobleman said to him, 'Well done, good slave!

 Because you have been trustworthy in a very small thing, take charge of ten cities.'
- Then the second came, saying, 'Lord, your pound has made five pounds.'
- The nobleman said to him, 'And you, rule over five cities.'
- Then the other came, saying, 'Lord, here is your pound.
 I wrapped it up in a piece of cloth,
- for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; you take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.'
- The nobleman said to him,
 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave!
 You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man,
 taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow?
- Why then did you not put my money into the bank?
 Then when I returned, I could have collected it with interest.'
- The nobleman said to the bystanders, 'Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds.'
- And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten pounds!' The nobleman said,
- 'I tell you, to all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.
- 27 But as for these enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and slaughter them in my presence."
- After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

500 THURSDAY

FIRST READING 1 Maccabees 2.15-29

I and my sons and my brothers will continue to live by the covenant of our ancestors.

A reading from the first book of Maccabees.

- The king's officers who were enforcing the apostasy came to the town of Modein to make the people offer sacrifice.
- Many from Israel came to them; and Mattathias and his sons were assembled.
- Then the king's officers spoke to Mattathias as follows: "You are a leader, honoured and great in this town, and supported by sons and brothers.
- Now be the first to come and do what the king commands, as all the Gentiles and the people of Judah and those that are left in Jerusalem have done.

 Then you and your sons will be numbered among the friends of the king, and you and your sons will be honoured with silver and gold and many gifts."
- But Mattathias answered and said in a loud voice:
 "Even if all the nations
 that live under the rule of the king obey him,
 and have chosen to obey his commandments,
 everyone of them abandoning the religion of their ancestors,
- I, and my sons, and my brothers will continue to live by the covenant of our ancestors.
- Far be it from us to desert the law and the ordinances.
- We will not obey the king's words by turning aside from our religion to the right hand or to the left."
- When he had finished speaking these words, a Jew came forward in the sight of all to offer sacrifice on the altar in Modein, according to the king's command.
- When Mattathias saw it,
 he burned with zeal and his heart was stirred.
 He gave vent to righteous anger;
 he ran and killed the man on the altar.
- At the same time he killed the king's officer who was forcing them to sacrifice, and he tore down the altar.

26

- Thus he burned with zeal for the law. just as Phinehas did against Zimri son of Salu.
- Then Mattathias cried out in the town with a loud voice, saying: 27 "Let every one who is zealous for the law and supports the covenant come out with me!"
- Then he and his sons fled to the hills 28 and left all that they had in the town.
- 29 At that time many who were seeking righteousness and justice went down to the wilderness to live there.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50.1-2, 5-6, 14-15 (R.23b)

- **R.** To the upright I will show the saving power of God.
- The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. R.
- 5 "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"
- The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. R.
- Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, 14 and pay your vows to the Most High.
- 15 Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Luke 19.41-44

If you had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- As Jesus came near Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it, saying,
- 42 "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.
- 43 "Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side.
- They will crush you to the ground, 44 you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."

The gospel of the Lord.

501 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Maccabees 4.36-37, 52-59

The people celebrated the dedication of the altar and joyfully offered burnt offerings.

A reading from the first book of Maccabees.

Judas, who was called Maccabeus, took command of the army in place of his father, Mattathias, and he defeated the army of King Antiochus, which was commanded by Lysias.

- Then Judas and his brothers said. 36 "See, our enemies are crushed; let us go up to cleanse the sanctuary and dedicate it."
- 37 So all the army assembled and went up to Mount Zion.
- Early in the morning on the twenty-fifth day of the ninth month, 52 which is the month of Chisley, in the one hundred forty-eighth year,
- 53 they rose and offered sacrifice, as the law directs, on the new altar of burnt offering that they had built.

- At the very season and on the very day that the Gentiles had profaned it, it was dedicated with songs and harps and lutes and cymbals.
- All the people fell on their faces and worshipped and blessed Heaven, who had prospered them.
- So they celebrated the dedication of the altar for eight days, and joyfully offered burnt offerings; they offered a sacrifice of well-being and a thanksgiving offering.
- They decorated the front of the temple with golden crowns and small shields; they restored the gates and the chambers for the priests, and fitted them with doors.
- There was very great joy among the people, and the disgrace brought by the Gentiles was removed.
- Then Judas and his brothers and all the assembly of Israel determined that every year at that season the days of dedication of the altar should be observed with joy and gladness for eight days, beginning with the twenty-fifth day of the month of Chisley.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE 1 Chronicles 29.10b, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd (R.13b)

- **R.** We praise your glorious name, O mighty God.
- Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, forever and ever. **R**.
- Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours. *R*. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.
- Riches and honour come from you. *R*.

 You rule over all.
 In your hand are power and might;
 it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Luke 19.45-48

You have made my Father's house a den of robbers.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there;
- and he said, "It is written,
 'My house shall be a house of prayer';
 but you have made it a den of robbers."
- Every day he was teaching in the temple.

 The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him;
- but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

The gospel of the Lord.

502 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Maccabees 6.1-13

In Jerusalem I seized all its vessels of gold and silver. It is because of this that these misfortunes have come upon me.

A reading from the first book of Maccabees.

- King Antiochus was going through the upper provinces when he heard that Elymais in Persia was a city famed for its wealth in silver and gold.
- Its temple was very rich, containing golden shields, breastplates, and weapons left there by Alexander, son of Philip, the Macedonian king who first reigned over the Greeks.
- So he came and tried to take the city and plunder it, but he could not because his plan had become known to the citizens
- and they withstood him in battle.
 So he fled
 and in great disappointment left there to return to Babylon.
- Then someone came to him in Persia and reported that the armies that had gone into the land of Judah had been routed;
- that Lysias had gone first with a strong force, but had turned and fled before the Jews; that the Jews had grown strong

- from the arms, supplies, and abundant spoils that they had taken from the armies they had cut down;
- that they had torn down the abomination that he had erected on the altar in Jerusalem; and that they had surrounded the sanctuary with high walls as before, and also Beth-zur, his town.
- When the king heard this news, he was astounded and badly shaken. He took to his bed and became sick from disappointment, because things had not turned out for him as he had planned.
- 9 He lay there for many days, because deep disappointment continually gripped him, and he realized that he was dying.
- So he called all his friends and said to them, "Sleep has departed from my eyes and I am downhearted with worry.
- I said to myself, 'To what distress I have come!
 And into what a great flood I now am plunged!
 For I was kind and beloved in my power.'
- But now I remember the wrong I did in Jerusalem.
 I seized all its vessels of silver and gold,
 and I sent to destroy the inhabitants of Judah without good reason.
- I know that it is because of this that these misfortunes have come upon me; here I am, perishing of bitter disappointment in a strange land."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 9.1-2, 3+5, 16+18 (R. see 14b)

R. I will rejoice in your salvation, O Lord.

- I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
- I will be glad and exult in you;
 I will sing praise to your name, O Most High. *R.*
- When my enemies turned back, they stumbled and perished before you.
- You have rebuked the nations, you have destroyed the wicked; you have blotted out their name forever and ever. *R*.
- The Lord has made himself known, he has executed judgment; the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands.
- For the needy shall not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor perish forever. **R**.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Luke 20.27-40

He is God not of the dead, but of the living.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection,
- came to Jesus and asked him a question,
 "Teacher,
 Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies,
 leaving a wife but no children,
 the man shall marry the widow
 and raise up children for his brother.
- Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless;
- then the second
- and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless.
- Finally the woman also died.
- In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."
- Jesus said to them,
 "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage;
- but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage.
- Indeed they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection.
- "And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.
- Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."
- Then some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, you have spoken well."
- For they no longer dared to ask him another question.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTY-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

503 MONDAY

FIRST READING Daniel 1.1-6, 8-20

No one was found to compare with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

- In the third year of the reign of King Jehoiakim of Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.
- The Lord let King Jehoiakim of Judah fall into his power, as well as some of the vessels of the house of God.

 These he brought to the land of Shinar, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his gods.
- Then the king commanded his palace master Ashpenaz to bring some of the Israelites of the royal family and of the nobility,
- young men without physical defect and handsome, versed in every branch of wisdom, endowed with knowledge and insight, and competent to serve in the king's palace; they were to be taught the literature and language of the Chaldeans.
- The king assigned them a daily portion of the royal rations of food and wine. They were to be educated for three years, so that at the end of that time they could be stationed in the king's court.
- 6 Among them were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, from the tribe of Judah.
- But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the royal rations of food and wine; so he asked the palace master to allow him not to defile himself.
- Now God allowed Daniel to receive favour and compassion from the palace master.
- The palace master said to Daniel,
 "I am afraid of my lord the king;
 he has appointed your food and your drink.
 If he should see you in poorer condition
 than the other young men of your own age,
 you would endanger my head with the king."

- Then Daniel asked the guard whom the palace master had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:
- "Please test your servants for ten days.Let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink.
- You can then compare our appearance with the appearance of the young men who eat the royal rations, and deal with your servants according to what you observe."
- So he agreed to this proposal and tested them for ten days.
- At the end of ten days it was observed that they appeared better and fatter than all the young men who had been eating the royal rations.
- So the guard continued to withdraw their royal rations and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.
- To these four young men God gave knowledge and skill in every aspect of literature and wisdom;

 Daniel also had insight into all visions and dreams.
- At the end of the time that the king had set for them to be trained, the palace master brought them into the presence of Nebuchadnezzar,
- and the king spoke with them.

 And among them all, no one was found to compare with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they were stationed in the king's court.
- In every matter of wisdom and understanding concerning which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Daniel 3.52, 53, 54, 55, 56 (R.52b)

- **R.** Glory and praise for ever!
- Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our ancestors, and to be praised and highly exalted forever. *R.*
- And blessed is your glorious, holy name, and to be highly praised and highly exalted forever. *R.*
- Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory, and to be extolled and highly glorified forever. **R**.

- Blessed are you who look into the depths, and to be praised and highly exalted forever. *R.*
- Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom, and to be extolled and highly exalted forever. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 24.42a, 44

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

GOSPEL Luke 21.1-4

Jesus also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury;
- he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.
- He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them;
- for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

The gosxpel of the Lord.

504 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Daniel 2.3, 9a, 10a, 27a, 31-45++

God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, it shall crush all kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever.

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

King Nebuchadnezzar summoned the sages of Babylon and said,

- "I have had such a dream that my spirit is troubled by the desire to understand it.
- 9 Tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation."
- The Chaldeans answered the king, "There is no one on earth who can reveal what the king demands!"
- Daniel answered the king,
- "You were looking, O king, and lo! there was a great statue. This statue was huge, its brilliance extraordinary; it was standing before you, and its appearance was frightening.

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- 32 The head of that statue was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its middle and thighs of bronze,
- its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. 33
- 34 As you looked on, a stone was cut out, not by human hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and broke them in pieces.
- 35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, were all broken in pieces and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.
- 36 "This was the dream; now we will tell the king its interpretation.
- You, O king, the king of kings— 37 to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the might, and the glory,
- into whose hand he has given human beings, wherever they live, 38 the wild animals of the field, and the birds of the air, and whom he has established as ruler over them all you are the head of gold.
- 39 "After you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over the whole earth.
- And there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron; 40 just as iron crushes and smashes everything, it shall crush and shatter all these.
- "As you saw the feet and toes partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, 41 it shall be a divided kingdom; but some of the strength of iron shall be in it, as you saw the iron mixed with the clay.
- 42 As the toes of the feet were part iron and part clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle.
- As you saw the iron mixed with clay, 43 so will they mix with one another in marriage, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay.

- "And in the days of those kings
 the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed,
 nor shall this kingdom be left to another people.
 It shall crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end,
 and it shall stand forever;
- just as you saw that a stone was cut from the mountain not by hands, and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. The great God has informed the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation trustworthy."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Daniel 3.57, 58, 59, 60, 61 (R.59b)

- **R.** Give glory and praise to the Lord for ever.
- Blessed are you in the firmament of heaven, and to be sung and glorified forever. **R**.
- Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. **R**.
- Bless the Lord, you heavens; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, you angels of the Lord; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. **R**.
- Bless the Lord, all you waters above the heavens; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 2.10c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be faithful until death, says the Lord, and I will give you the crown of life.

GOSPEL Luke 21.5-11

The days will come when not one stone will be left upon another.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God,
- 6 Jesus said,

"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

TUESDAY 1341

- 7 They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?"
- And Jesus said,
 "Beware that you are not led astray;
 for many will come in my name and say,
 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!'
 Do not go after them.
- "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."
- Then Jesus said to them,
 "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;
- there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

505 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Daniel 5.1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28

The fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall.

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

- King Belshazzar made a great festival for a thousand of his lords, and he was drinking wine in the presence of the thousand.
- Under the influence of the wine,
 Belshazzar commanded that they bring in the vessels of gold and silver that his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his lords, his wives and his concubines might drink from them.
- So they brought in the vessels of gold and silver that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives and his concubines drank from them.
- They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

- Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand.

 The king was watching the hand as it wrote.
- Then the king's face turned pale, and his thoughts terrified him.
 His limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together.
- Then Daniel was brought in before the king.
 The king said to Daniel,
 "So you are Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah,
 whom my father the king brought from Judah?
- I have heard of you that a spirit of the gods is in you, and that enlightenment, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you.
- "But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you are able to read the writing and tell me its interpretation, you shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around your neck, and rank third in the kingdom."
- Then Daniel answered in the presence of the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, or give your rewards to someone else! Nevertheless I will read the writing to the king and let him know the interpretation.
- "You have exalted yourself against the Lord of heaven!
 The vessels of his temple have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines have been drinking wine from them.
 You have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know; but the God in whose power is your very breath, and to whom belong all your ways, you have not honoured.
- "So from his presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed.
- And this is the writing that was inscribed: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, and PARSIN.

- This is the interpretation of the matter:

 MENE, God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end;
- TEKEL, you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting;
- PERES, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Daniel 3.62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 (R.59b)

- **R.** Give glory and praise to the Lord for ever.
- Bless the Lord, all you powers of the Lord; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R*.
- Bless the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, stars of heaven; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, all rain and dew; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R*.
- Bless the Lord, all you winds; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, fire and heat; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 2.10c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be faithful until death, says the Lord, and I will give you the crown of life.

GOSPEL Luke 21.12-19

You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come. He said,

"Before all the tribulations occur, the authorities will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.

- "This will give you an opportunity to testify.
- So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance;
- for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.
- "You will be betrayed even by parents, by brothers and sisters, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.
- You will be hated by all because of my name.
- But not a hair of your head will perish.
- By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The gospel of the Lord.

506 THURSDAY

FIRST READING Daniel 6.11-28

My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths.

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

Daniel distinguished himself above all the other presidents and satraps and thus roused their jealousy.

So the presidents and satraps tried to find grounds for complaint.

- One day the conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God.
- Then they approached the king and said, "O king!

Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?"

The king answered,
"The thing stands fast,
according to the law of the Medes and Persians,
which cannot be revoked."

Then the conspirators responded to the king, "Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day."

- 14 When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him.
- Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, 15 "Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed."
- Then the king gave the command, 16 and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!"
- 17 A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel.
- Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; 18 no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.
- Then, at break of day, 19 the king got up and hurried to the den of lions.
- When he came near the den where Daniel was, 20 he cried out anxiously to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?"
- Daniel then said to the king, 21 "O king, live forever!
- My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths 22 so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong."
- Then the king was exceedingly glad 23 and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him. because he had trusted in his God.
- The king gave a command, 24 and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

- Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: "May you have abundant prosperity!
- I make a decree,
 that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear
 before the God of Daniel:
 For he is the living God, enduring forever.
 His kingdom shall never be destroyed,
 and his dominion has no end.
- 27 He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions."
- So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Daniel 3.68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 (R.59b)

- **R.** Give glory and praise to the Lord for ever.
- Bless the Lord, winter cold and summer heat; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, dews and falling snow; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, nights and days; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R*.
- Bless the Lord, light and darkness; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. **R**.
- Bless the Lord, ice and cold; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, frosts and snows; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. **R**.
- Bless the Lord, lightnings and clouds; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

GOSPEL Luke 21.20-28

Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come. He said,

- "When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, 20 then know that its desolation has come near.
- Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, 21 and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it;
- for these are days of vengeance, 22 as a fulfillment of all that is written.
- 23 "Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people;
- 24 they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.
- "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, 25 and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.
- People will faint from fear and foreboding 26 of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
- 27 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory.
- Now when these things begin to take place, 28 stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

The gospel of the Lord.

507 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Daniel 7.1-14++

I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven.

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

- In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon,
 Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed.
 Then he wrote down the dream:
- I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea,
- and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.
- The first was like a lion and had eagles' wings.
 Then, as I watched, its wings were plucked off,
 and it was lifted up from the ground
 and made to stand on two feet like a human being;
 and a human mind was given to it.
- Another beast appeared, a second one, that looked like a bear. It was raised up on one side, had three tusks in its mouth among its teeth and was told, "Arise, devour many bodies!"
- After this, as I watched, another appeared, like a leopard. The beast had four wings of a bird on its back and four heads; and dominion was given to it.
- After this I saw in the visions by night a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong.

 It had great iron teeth and was devouring, breaking in pieces, and stamping what was left with its feet.

 It was different from all the beasts that preceded it, and it had ten horns.
- I was considering the horns, when another horn appeared, a little one coming up among them; to make room for it, three of the earlier horns were plucked up by the roots. There were eyes like human eyes in this horn, and a mouth speaking arrogantly.

- As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne. his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.
- A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. 10 A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.
- I watched then because of the noise of the arrogant words 11 that the horn was speaking. And as I watched, the beast was put to death, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.
- As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, 12 but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.
- As I watched visions in the night, 13 I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.
- To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, 14 that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Daniel 3.75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81 (R.59b)

- **R.** Give glory and praise to the Lord for ever.
- 75 Let the earth bless the Lord: sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. R.
- 76 Bless the Lord, mountains and hills: sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. R.
- 77 Bless the Lord, all that grows in the ground; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. R.
- 78 Bless the Lord, seas and rivers: sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. R.
- 79 Bless the Lord, you springs; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. R.

- Bless the Lord, you whales and all that swim in the waters; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. **R**.
- Bless the Lord, all birds of the air; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

GOSPEL Luke 21.29-33

When you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come.

- He told them a parable:
 - "Look at the fig tree and all the trees;
- as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near.
- So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.
- "Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place.
- Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

The gospel of the Lord.

508 SATURDAY

FIRST READING Daniel 7.15-27

The kingship and dominion shall be given to the people of the Most High.

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

- As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me.
- I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter:

- 17 "As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth.
- But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom 18 and possess the kingdom forever and ever."
- Then I desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, 19 which was different from all the rest. exceedingly terrifying, with its teeth of iron and claws of bronze. and which devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped what was left with its feet;
- 20 and concerning the ten horns that were on its head, and concerning the other horn, which came up and to make room for it, three of them fell out the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke arrogantly, and that seemed greater than the others.
- As I looked, this horn made war with the holy ones 21 and was prevailing over them,
- until the Ancient One came; then judgment was given for the holy ones of the Most High, and the time arrived when the holy ones gained possession of the kingdom.
- 23 This is what the attendant said: "As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth that shall be different from all the other kingdoms; it shall devour the whole earth. and trample it down, and break it to pieces.
- "As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them. This one shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings.
- He shall speak words against the Most High, 25 shall wear out the holy ones of the Most High, and shall attempt to change the sacred seasons and the law; and they shall be given into his power for a time, two times, and half a time.
- "Then the court shall sit in judgment, 26 and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and totally destroyed.

The kingship and dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the holy ones of the Most High; their kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey them."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Daniel 3.82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87 (R.59b)

- **R.** Give glory and praise to the Lord for ever.
- Bless the Lord, all wild animals and cattle; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, all people on earth; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, O Israel; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, you priests of the Lord; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. **R**.
- Bless the Lord, you servants of the Lord; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. *R.*
- Bless the Lord, spirits and souls of the righteous; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.36

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

GOSPEL Luke 21.34-36

Be alert, that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come. He said,

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.

SATURDAY 1353

- For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth.
- Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The gospel of the Lord.

509 GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONS – ORDINARY TIME

For the weekdays of Ordinary Time

These texts may be used in place of the texts proposed for each day.

1 Samuel 3.9; John 6.68c

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening; you have the words of everlasting life.

See Psalm 19.9

Your words, O Lord, give joy to my heart, your teaching is light to my eyes.

Psalm 25.4b, 5a

Teach me your paths, my God, and lead me in your truth.

See Psalm 27.11

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a straight road.

Psalm 95.8

If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

Psalm 111.7b-8a

Your laws are all made firm, O Lord, established for evermore.

Psalm 119.18

Unveil my eyes, O Lord, and I will see the marvels of your law.

Psalm 119.27

Instruct me in the way of your rules, and I will reflect on all your wonders.

Psalm 119.34

Teach me the meaning of your law, O Lord, and I will guard it with all my heart.

Psalm 119.36a, 29b

Turn my heart to do your will; teach me your law, O God.

Psalm 119.88

Give me life, O Lord, and I will do your commands.

Psalm 119,105

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

Psalm 119.135

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

See Psalm 130.5

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

Psalm 145.13cd

The Lord is faithful in all his words and holy in all his deeds.

Psalm 147.12a, 15a

Jerusalem, praise the Lord, who speaks and the word speeds forth to the earth.

Matthew 4.4b

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

See Matthew 11.25

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth: you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

See Luke 8.15

Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

See John 6.63c, 68c

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life.

John 8.12

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

John 10.27

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

John 14.6

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

John 14.23

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

John 15.15b

I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

See John 17.17b, a

Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth.

See Acts 16.14b

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

2 Corinthians 5.19

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

See Ephesians 1.17-18

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Philippians 2.15d, 16a

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

See Colossians 3.16a, 17c

Give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord, and may the fullness of his message live within you.

See 1 Thessalonians 2.13

Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God.

See 2 Thessalonians 2.14

God has called us with the gospel, to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

See 2 Timothy 1.10

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

Hebrews 4.12

The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

James 1.18

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the firstfruits of his creation.

James 1.21bc

Receive and submit to the word planted in you.

Peter 1.25

The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the good news.

John 2.5

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God.

Last Week in Ordinary Time:

Matthew 24.42a, 44

Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Luke 21.28

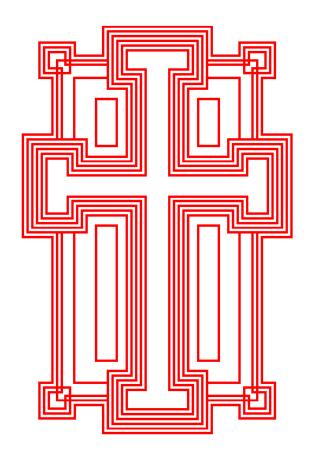
Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

Luke 21.36

Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

Revelation 2.10c

Be faithful until death, says the Lord, and I will give you the crown of life.



THE SEASON OF THE YEAR

WEEKDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR II

SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

335 MONDAY

FIRST READING James 1.1-11

Your faith is tested to give you endurance, so that you may be fully mature believers.

A reading from the letter of James.

- From James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ: To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings.
- My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy,
- because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance;
- and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.
- If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.
- But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind;
- for the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way,
- 8 must not expect to receive anything from the Lord.
- Let the believer who is lowly boast in being raised up,
- and the rich in being brought low, because the rich will disappear like a flower in the field.
- For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the field; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes.

 It is the same way with the rich; in the midst of a busy life, they will wither away.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.67-68, 71-72, 75-76 (R.77a)

- **R.** Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.
- Before I was humbled I went astray, but now I keep your word.
- You are good and do good; teach me your statutes. **R**.
- It is good for me that I was humbled, so that I might learn your statutes.
- The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces. *R*.
- I know, O Lord, that your judgments are right, and that in faithfulness you have humbled me.
- Let your steadfast love become my comfort according to your promise to your servant. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Mark 8.11-13

Why does this generation ask for a sign?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- The Pharisees came to Jesus and began to argue with him, asking him for a sign from heaven, to test him.
- And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to this generation."
- And Jesus left them, and getting into the boat again, he went across to the other shore.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

336 TUESDAY

FIRST READING James 1.12-18

God tempts no one.

A reading from the letter of James.

- Blessed is anyone who endures temptation.
 Such a one has stood the test and will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.
- No one, when tempted, should say, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one.
- But one is tempted by one's own desire, being lured and enticed by it;
- then, when that desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and that sin, when it is fully grown, gives birth to death.
- Do not be deceived, my beloved.
- Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
- In fulfilment of his own purpose
 God gave us birth by the word of truth,
 so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 94.12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 (R.12a)

- **R.** Happy are those you teach, O Lord.
- Happy are those whom you discipline, O Lord, and whom you teach out of your law,
- giving them respite from days of trouble. **R**.
- For the Lord will not forsake his people; he will not abandon his heritage;
- For justice will return to the righteous, and all the upright in heart will follow it. *R.*
- When I thought, "My foot is slipping," your steadfast love, O Lord, held me up.
- When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me, will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Mark 8.14-21

Beware the yeast of the Pharisees and Herod.

₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

After feeding the crowd, Jesus sent them away and got into the boat with the disciples to return to the other side of the lake.

- Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat.
- And Jesus cautioned them, saying, "Watch out beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod."
- They said to one another, "It is because we have no bread."
- And becoming aware of it, Jesus said to them, "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened?
- Do you have eyes, and fail to see?
 Do you have ears, and fail to hear?
 And do you not remember?
- When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?" They said to him, "Twelve."
- "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?" And they said to him, "Seven."
- Then Jesus said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"

The gospel of the Lord.

337 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

James 1.19-27

Be doers of the word not merely hearers.

A reading from the letter of James.

- You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger;
- for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.
- Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.
- But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.
- For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror;
- for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.
- But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.
- If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.
- 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15.2-3ab, 3cd-4ab, 5 (R.2a+1b)

- **R.** The just shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord.
- Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;
- who do not slander with their tongue. **R**.

 Those who do no evil to their friends,
 nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;
- in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the Lord. *R.*
 - Those who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
- Those who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

 Those who do these things shall never be moved. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Ephesians 1.17-18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

GOSPEL Mark 8.22-26

The sight of the man who was blind was restored and he saw everything clearly.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus and the disciples came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a man to Jesus who was blind and begged Jesus to touch him.
- Jesus took the man who was blind by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Can you see anything?"
- And the man looked up and said, "I can see people, but they look like trees, walking."
- Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and the man looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.
- Then Jesus sent the man away to his home, saying, "Do not even go into the village."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

338 THURSDAY

FIRST READING James 2.1-9

Has not God chosen the poor? But you have dishonoured them.

A reading from the letter of James.

- My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ?
- For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in,
- and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet,"
- 4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?
- Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters.

 Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him?
- But you have dishonoured the poor.
 Is it not the rich who oppress you?
 Is it not they who drag you into court?
- Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?
- You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself."
- But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.6)

- **R.** The Lord hears the cry of the poor.
- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise ever on my lips.
- 2 My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- 3 O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me. and delivered me from all my fears. **R**.
- 5 Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- 6 This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6.63b, 68b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.

GOSPEL Mark 8.27-33

> Peter answered: You are the Messiah. Jesus said: The Son of Man must suffer much.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus went with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; 27 and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"
- And they answered him, "John the Baptist; 28 and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."
- Jesus asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" 29 Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah."
- And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. 30
- Then Jesus began to teach them 31 that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.
- 32 He said all this quite openly.

And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But turning and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan!
For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The gospel of the Lord.

339 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

James 2.14-24, 26

As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead.

A reading from the letter of James.

- What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you?
- 15 If a brother or sister is without clothes and lacks daily food,
- and one of you says to them,
 "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,"
 and yet you do not supply their bodily needs,
 what is the good of that?
- So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.
- But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith.
- You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder.
- Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith apart from works is barren?
- Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?
- You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works.
- Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," and he was called the friend of God.

- You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.
- For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1b)

- **R.** Happy are those who do what the Lord commands.
- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. *R*.
- Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.
- They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. *R.*
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.15b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

GOSPEL Mark 8.34-38 - 9.1

Those who lose their life for my sake and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

- ₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
- For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.
- For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?
- Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

FRIDAY 1369

- "Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."
- And Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

 The gospel of the Lord.

340 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

James 3.1-10

No one can tame the tongue.

A reading from the letter of James.

- Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.
- For all of us make many mistakes.

 Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle.
- If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies.
- Or look at ships:
 though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them,
 yet they are guided by a very small rudder
 wherever the will of the pilot directs.
- So also the tongue is a small member,yet it boasts of great exploits.How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire!
- And the tongue is a fire.

 The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell.
- For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species,
- but no one can tame the tongue a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

- With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God.
- From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 12.1-2, 3-4, 6-7 (R.8a)

R. You will protect us, Lord.

- Help us, O Lord, for there is no longer anyone who is godly; the faithful have disappeared from humanity.
- They utter lies to each other; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak. *R.*
- May the Lord cut off all flattering lips, the tongue that makes great boasts,
- those who say, "With our tongues we will prevail; our lips are our own—who is our master?" **R**.
- The promises of the Lord are promises that are pure, silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.
- You, O Lord, will protect us; you will guard us from this generation forever. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Mark 9.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.

GOSPEL Mark 9.2-13

Jesus was transfigured before the three disciples.

₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them,
- and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.
- 4 And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

SATURDAY 1371

- Then Peter said to Jesus, 5 "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tents one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."
- Peter did not know what to say, for they were terrified.
- Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"
- Suddenly when they looked around, 8 they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.
- As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
- So they kept the matter to themselves, 10 questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.
- Then they asked him, 11 "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"
- Jesus said to them, 12 "Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt?
- But I tell you that Elijah has come, 13 and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him."

The gospel of the Lord.

SEVENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

341 MONDAY

FIRST READING

James 3.13-18

If you have selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast.

A reading from the letter of James.

Brothers and sisters,

- who is wise and understanding among you?

 Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom.
- But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth.
- Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish.
- For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind.
- But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.
- And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 14 (R.8a)

- **R.** The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple. *R.*
- The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. *R*.

- The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. *R.*
- Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1.10b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Mark 9.14-29

Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

Jesus, Peter, James and John, came down the mountain to rejoin the other disciples.

- When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them.
- When the whole crowd saw Jesus, they were immediately overcome with awe, and they ran forward to greet him.
- He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?"
- Someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak;
- and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so."
- Jesus answered them, "You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you?
 How much longer must I put up with you?
 Bring him to me."
- And they brought the boy to him.

 When the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth.

21

Jesus asked the father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood.

- It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us."
- Jesus said to him,"If you are able!—All things can be done for the one who believes."
- Immediately the father of the child cried out, "I believe; help my unbelief!"
- When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!"
- After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead."
- But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand.
- When Jesus had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"
- He said to them, "This kind can come out only through prayer and fasting."

The gospel of the Lord.

342 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

James 4.1-10

You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly.

A reading from the letter of James.

Beloved,

those conflicts and disputes among you,where do they come from?Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you?

2

You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask.

- You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.
- Adulterers!

 Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God?

Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

- Or do you suppose that it is for nothing that the scripture says, "God yearns jealously for the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"?
- But he gives all the more grace; therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."
- Submit yourselves therefore to God.Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
- Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
- Lament and mourn and weep.
 Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy into dejection.
- Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 55.6-7, 8-9a, 9b-10, 22 (R.22a)

- **R.** Throw your cares on the Lord, and the Lord will support you.
- O that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest;
- truly, I would flee far away;
 I would lodge in the wilderness. *R*.
- I would hurry to find a shelter for myself from the raging wind and tempest.
- 9 Confuse, O Lord, confound their speech. *R.*

For I see violence and strife in the city.

10

Day and night they go around it on its walls; and iniquity and trouble are within it. **R**.

Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Galatians 6.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

GOSPEL Mark 9.30-37

The Son of Man is betrayed. Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus and the disciples passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;
- for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."
- But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.
- Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house Jesus asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?"
- But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.
- Jesus sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."
- Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,
- "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The gospel of the Lord.

343 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

James 4.13-17

You do not even know what tomorrow will bring. For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

A reading from the letter of James.

- Come now, you who say,
 "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town
 and spend a year there,
 doing business and making money."
- Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring.
 What is your life?
 For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.
- Instead you ought to say,
 "If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that."
- As it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil.
- Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 49.1-2, 5-6, 7-9, 10+13 (R. Mt 5.3)

- **R.** Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.
- Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
- both low and high, rich and poor together. *R.*
- Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,
- those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches? *R*.
- 7 Truly, no ransom avails for one's life, there is no price one can give to God for it.
- For the ransom of life is costly, and can never suffice
- 9 that one should live on forever and never see the grave. *R*.

- When we look at the wise, they die; and leave their wealth to others.
- Such is the fate of the foolhardy, the end of those who are pleased with their lot. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Mark 9.38-40

Whoever is not against us is for us.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- John, one of the disciples, said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."
- But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me.
- Whoever is not against us is for us."

The gospel of the Lord.

344 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

James 5.1-6

The wages you kept back from labourers by fraud cry out, and their cries reach the ears of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of James.

- Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you.
- Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten.
- Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire.
 You have laid up treasure for the last days.

- 4 Listen!
 - The wages of the labourers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.
- You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.
- You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 49.13-14ab, 14cd-15, 16-17, 18-19 (R. Mt 5.3)

- **R.** Blessed are the poor in spirit, the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
- Such is the fate of the foolhardy, the end of those who are pleased with their lot.
- Like sheep they are bound to die;
 Death shall be their shepherd. R.
 Straight to the grave they descend, and their form shall waste away;
- But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for he will receive me. **R**.
- Do not be afraid when some become rich, when the wealth of their houses increases.
- For when they die they will carry nothing away; their wealth will not go down after them. **R**.
- Though in their lifetime they count themselves happy—for you are praised when you do well for yourself—
- they will go to the company of their ancestors, who will never again see the light. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Thessalonians 2.13

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God.

GOSPEL Mark 9.41-50

It is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell.

⚠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus said to the disciples:
 "Truly I tell you,
 whoever gives you a cup of water to drink
 because you bear the name of Christ
 will by no means lose the reward.
- "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.
- "If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.
- And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell.
- And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell,
- where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.
- "For everyone will be salted with fire, and every sacrifice will be salted with salt.
- Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you restore it?

 Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

The gospel of the Lord.

345 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

James 5.9-12

The Judge is standing at the doors.

A reading from the letter of James.

- Beloved,do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged.See, the Judge is standing at the doors!
- As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
- Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.
- Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "Yes" be yes and your "No" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12 (R.8a)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. R.
- It is the Lord who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
- who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. *R.*
- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- 9 He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. R.
- For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. *R*.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth.

GOSPEL Mark 10.1-12

What God has joined together, let no one separate.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus continued his journey and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. And crowds again gathered around him; and, as was his custom, he again taught them.
- Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"
- 3 Jesus answered them, "What did Moses command you?"
- They said,
 "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her."
- But Jesus said to them,
 "Because of your hardness of heart
 he wrote this commandment for you.
- But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.'
- ⁷ 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,
- and the two shall become one flesh.'
 So they are no longer two, but one flesh.
- Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."
- Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.
- Jesus said to them,
 "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her;
- and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

346 SATURDAY

FIRST READING James 5.13-20

The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

A reading from the letter of James.

- My brothers and sisters, are any among you suffering?
 They should pray.
 Are any cheerful?
 They should sing songs of praise.
- Are any among you sick?
 They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.
- The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.
- Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.
- Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.
- Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.
- My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another,
- you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 141.1-2, 3+8 (R.2a)

- **R.** Let my prayer come like incense before you.
- I call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me; give ear to my voice when I call to you.
- Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. **R**.
- Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips.
- But my eyes are turned toward you, O God, my Lord; in you I seek refuge; do not leave me defenceless. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Mark 10.13-16

Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, will never enter it.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- People were bringing little children to Jesus in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them.
- But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.
- Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it."
- And Jesus took the children up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The gospel of the Lord.

EIGHTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

347 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Peter 1.3-9

You have not seen Christ, yet you believe in him, and believing, you rejoice with indescribable joy.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! 3 By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead:
- a birth into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,
- who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
- In this you rejoice, 6 even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials,
- so that the genuineness of your faith —being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.
- Although you have not seen him, you love him; 8 and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,
- for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 111.1-2, 5-6, 9+10c (R.5b)

- **R.** The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. **R**.
- He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. *R*.
- He sent redemption to his people;
 he has commanded his covenant forever.
 Holy and awesome is his name.
- His praise endures forever. \mathbf{R} .

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 8.9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

GOSPEL Mark 10.17-27

Go sell what you own and come follow me.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.
- You know the commandments:
 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery;
 You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness;
 You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.'"
- The man said to Jesus, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth."
- Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor,

- and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."
- When he heard this, the man was shocked and went away grieving, 22 for he had many possessions.
- Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 23 "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"
- And the disciples were perplexed at these words. 24 But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!
- It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle 25 than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."
- They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 26 "Then who can be saved?"
- 27 Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

The gospel of the Lord.

348 TUESDAY

FIRST READING 1 Peter 1.10-16

The prophets foretold the grace that is yours; prepare your minds for action.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Beloved.

- the prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours 10 made careful search and inquiry concerning this salvation,
- 11 inquiring about the person or time that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated when it testified in advance to the sufferings and the subsequent glory destined for Christ.
- 12 It was revealed to the prophets that they were serving not themselves but you, in regard to the things that have now been announced to you through those who brought you good news

by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look!

- Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed.
- Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance.
- Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct;
- for it is written,
 "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 3c-4 (R.2a)

- **R.** The Lord has made known his salvation.
- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. *R.*
- The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. *R*.
 - All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Mark 10.28-31

You will receive a hundredfold now in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Peter began to say to Jesus, "Look, we have left everything and followed you."
- Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,
- who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age
 —houses, brothers and sisters,
 mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—
 and in the age to come eternal life.
- "But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

The gospel of the Lord.

349 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Peter 1.18-25

You were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Brothers and sisters,

- you know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold,
- but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.
- He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.
- Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.
- Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from a pure heart.

- You have been born anew, 23 not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.
- For "All flesh is like grass 24 and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls,
- but the word of the Lord endures forever." 25

That word is the good news that was announced to you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 147.12-13, 14-15, 19-20 (R.12a)

R. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- 12 Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!
- 13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you. R.
- 14 He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.
- 15 He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly. R.
- 19 He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.
- 20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

The Son of Man came to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for all.

GOSPEL Mark 10.32-45

We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus and the disciples were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying,
- "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles;
- they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again."
- James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."
- And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?"
- And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."
- But Jesus said to them,
 "You do not know what you are asking.
 Are you able to drink the cup that I drink,
 or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"
 They replied, "We are able."
- Then Jesus said to them,
 "The cup that I drink you will drink;
 and with the baptism with which I am baptized,
 you will be baptized;
- but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."
- When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John.
- So Jesus called them and said to them,
 "You know that among the Gentiles
 those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them,
 and their great ones are tyrants over them.

- But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant,
- and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.
- For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

The gospel of the Lord.

350 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

1 Peter 2.2-5, 9-12

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that you may proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called you.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- Like newborn infants, you should long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—
- if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight,
- and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.
- Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.
- Beloved,
 I urge you as aliens and exiles
 to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul.

12 Conduct yourselves honourably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honourable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 100.1-2, 3, 4, 5 (R.2b)

- **R.** Come with joy into the presence of the Lord.
- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. **R**.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God.
 It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. R.
- Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

 Give thanks to him, bless his name, R.
- For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL

Mark 10.46-52

My teacher, let me see again.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho.
 As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho,
 Bartimaeus, son of Timaeus, a blind beggar,
 was sitting by the roadside.
- When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"
- Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

- Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here."

 And they called the man who was blind, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you."
- 50 So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus.
- Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?"
 The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again."
- Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately Bartimaeus regained his sight and followed Jesus on the way.

The gospel of the Lord.

351 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Peter 4.7-13

Be good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- 7 The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers.
- Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.
- 9 Be hospitable to one another without complaining.
- Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.
- Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.
- Beloved,
 do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal
 that is taking place among you to test you,
 as though something strange were happening to you.
- But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 96.10, 11-12, 13 (R.13b)

- **R.** The Lord comes to judge the earth.
- Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.

 He will judge the peoples with equity." R.
- Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
- let the field exult, and everything in it.
 Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy. *R*.
- Rejoice before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Mark 11.11-25

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations. Have faith in God.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

After his triumphant entry into Jerusalem,

- Jesus went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.
- One day, when Jesus and the disciples came from Bethany, he was hungry.
- Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see whether he would find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.
- He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard it.
- Then they came to Jerusalem.
 And he entered the temple

and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves;

- and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple.
- He was teaching and saying,"Is it not written,'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'?But you have made it a den of robbers."
- And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching.
- And when evening came,
 Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.
- In the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots.
- Then Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered."
- Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God.
- Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you.
- So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.
- "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses."

352 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Jude 17-25++

The power of God can keep you from falling, and bring you without stain to the vision of God's glory.

A reading from the letter of Jude.

- Beloved brothers and sisters, you must remember the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ;
- for they said to you,

 "In the last time there will be scoffers, indulging their own ungodly lusts."
- 19 It is these worldly people, devoid of the Spirit, who are causing divisions.
- But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit;
- keep yourselves in the love of God; look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.
- And have mercy on some who are wavering;
- save others by snatching them out of the fire; and have mercy on still others with fear, hating even the tunic defiled by their bodies.
- Now to him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of his glory with rejoicing,
- to the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 63.1, 2-3, 4-5 (R.1)

- **R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
- O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. *R*.

- So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
- Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. *R*.
- So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.
- My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Colossians 3.16a, 17c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord, and may the fullness of his message live within you.

GOSPEL Mark 11.27-33

By what authority are you doing these things?

- ★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus and the disciples came to Jerusalem.
 As he was walking in the temple,
 - the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders came to Jesus
- and said, "By what authority are you doing these things? Who gave you this authority to do them?"
- Jesus said to them,
 "I will ask you one question;
 answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.
- Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?

 Answer me."
- They argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?'
- But shall we say, 'Of human origin'?"
 —they were afraid of the crowd,
 for all regarded John as truly a prophet.
- So they answered Jesus, "We do not know."
 And Jesus said to them,
 "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."
 The gospel of the Lord.

NINTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

353 MONDAY

FIRST READING

2 Peter 1.1-7

God has given us precious and very great promises, so we may become participants of the divine nature.

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

- Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, sends this letter to those who have received a faith as precious as ours through the righteousness of our God and Saviour Jesus Christ:
- May grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.
- His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.
- Thus he has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust, and may become participants of the divine nature.
- For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge,
- and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness,
- 7 and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 91.1-2, 14-15ab, 15c-16 (R. see 2b)

- **R.** In you, my God, I place my trust.
- You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
- will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." **R.**
- Those who love me, I will deliver;
 I will protect those who know my name.
- When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble. *R*.

 I will rescue them and honour them.
- With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 1.5ab

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness, firstborn from the dead; you have loved us and washed away our sins in your blood.

GOSPEL Mark 12.1-12

The tenants seized the beloved son, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus began to speak to the high priests and the scribes in parables. "A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watchtower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country.
- When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard.
- But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed.
- "And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted.
- Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed.
- "He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'

 \triangleright

- But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.'
- So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.
- "What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others.
- Have you not read this scripture:

 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
- this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?"
- When the high priests and the scribes realized that Jesus had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

354 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Peter 3.12-15a, 17-18

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

Beloved,

- what sort of persons should you be waiting for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire?
- But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.
- Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish;
- and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

- You therefore, beloved, since you are forewarned, beware that you are not carried away with the error of the lawless and lose your own stability.
- But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

 To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 90.1-2, 3-4, 10, 14+16 (R.1)

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

- Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
- Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. *R.*
- You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
- For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. *R*.
- The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. *R*.
- Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Ephesians 1.17-18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

GOSPEL Mark 12.13-17

Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Some Pharisees and some Herodians were sent to Jesus to trap him in what he said.
- And they came and said to him,
 "Teacher, we know that you are sincere,
 and show deference to no one;
 for you do not regard people with partiality,
 but teach the way of God in accordance with truth.
 Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?
- Should we pay them, or should we not?"
 But knowing their hypocrisy, Jesus said to them,
 "Why are you putting me to the test?
 Bring me a denarius and let me see it."
- And they brought one.
 Then he said to them,
 "Whose head is this, and whose title?"
 They answered, "The emperor's."
- Jesus said to them,
 "Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's,
 and to God the things that are God's."
 And they were utterly amazed at him.

355 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Timothy 1.1-3, 6-12

Rekindle the gift of God which is within you through the laying on of my hands.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus:
- To Timothy, my beloved child:
 Grace, mercy, and peace
 from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
- I am grateful to God
 —whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—
 when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.
- For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands;
- for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.
- Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God,
- who saved us and called us with a holy calling,
 not according to our works
 but according to his own purpose and grace.
 This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,
- but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.
- For this gospel
 I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,
- and for this reason I suffer as I do.
 But I am not ashamed,
 for I know the one in whom I have put my trust,
 and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day
 what I have entrusted to him.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 123.1-2a, 2bcd (R.1)

R. To you, O Lord, I lift up my eyes.

- To you I lift up my eyes,
 O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
- As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master. *R*.

 As the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he has mercy upon us. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 11.25, 26

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

GOSPEL Mark 12.18-27

He is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus and asked him a question, saying,
- "Teacher,
 Moses wrote for us that,
 "if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no child,
 the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother."
- "There were seven brothers; the first married and, when he died, left no children;
- and the second married her and died, leaving no children; and the third likewise;
- 22 none of the seven left children. Last of all the woman herself died.
- In the resurrection whose wife will she be? For the seven had married her."
- Jesus said to them,
 "Is not this the reason you are wrong,
 that you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God?
- For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

- "And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?
- "He is God not of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong."

The gospel of the Lord.

356 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

2 Timothy 2.8-15

If we die with Christ, we shall also live with him.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- My dear brother, Timothy, remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—
- that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained.
- Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.
- The saying is sure:
 If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
- if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us;
- if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.
- Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening.
- Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 25.4bc-5ab, 8-9, 10+14 (R.4)

- **R.** Teach me your ways, O Lord.
- Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.
- Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. *R.*
- Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
- 9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. *R*.
- All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.
- The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See 2 Timothy 1.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Mark 12.28-34

There is no other commandment greater than these.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- One of the scribes came near to Jesus and asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?"
- Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;
- you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'
- "The second is this,
 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'
 There is no other commandment greater than these."
- Then the scribe said to him,
 "You are right, Teacher;
 you have truly said that 'he is one,
 and besides him there is no other';

- and 'to love him with all the heart,
 and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,'
 and 'to love one's neighbour as oneself,'
 —this is much more important
 than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."
- When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

 After that no one dared to ask him any question.

The gospel of the Lord.

357 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

2 Timothy 3.10-17

All who want to live a godly life in Christ will be persecuted.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- You have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness,
- my persecutions and suffering the things that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra.
 What persecutions I endured!
 Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.
- Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.
- But wicked people and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived.
- But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it,
- and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.
- All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,
- so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 119.157+160, 161+165, 166+168 (R.165a)

- **R.** Lord, great is the peace for those who love your law.++
- or: O Lord, great peace have they who love your law.
- Many are my persecutors and my adversaries, yet I do not swerve from your decrees.
- The sum of your word is truth; and every one of your righteous ordinances endures forever. **R.**
- Princes persecute me without cause, but my heart stands in awe of your words.
- Great peace have those who love your law; nothing can make them stumble. **R**.
- I hope for your salvation, O Lord, and I fulfill your commandments.
- I keep your precepts and decrees, for all my ways are before you. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Mark 12.35-37

How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David?

- ₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David?
- David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.'
- David himself calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?" And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

358 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

2 Timothy 4.1-8

Do the work of an evangelist. I am already being poured out as libation, and the Lord will give me the crown of righteousness.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you:
- proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.
- For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires,
- and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.
- As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.
- As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come.
- I have fought the good fight,I have finished the race,I have kept the faith.
- From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 71.8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22 (R. see 15)

- **R.** I will sing of your salvation.
- My mouth is filled with your praise, and with your glory all day long.
- Do not cast me off in the time of old age; do not forsake me when my strength is spent. *R*.
- But I will hope continually, and will praise you yet more and more.
- My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all day long. **R**.
- I will come praising the mighty deeds of the Lord God, I will praise your righteousness, yours alone.
- O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. *R*.
- I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God;
 I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.3

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Mark 12.38-44

This poor widow has put in more than all the others.

🔀 A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- When Jesus was teaching the crowd, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces,
- and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets!
- They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers.

 They will receive the greater condemnation."
- Jesus sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums.

- A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.
- Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury.
- 44 For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

TENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

359 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Kings 17.1-6

Elijah stood before the Lord, the God of Israel.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- Elijah the Tishbite, said to king Ahab,
 "As the Lord the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand,
 there shall be neither dew nor rain these years,
 except by my word."
- The word of the Lord came to him, saying,
- "Go from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan.
- You shall drink from the wadi, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."
- So he went and did according to the word of the Lord; he went and lived by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan.
- The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the wadi.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 121.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.2)

- **R**. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
- I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?
- My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. *R.*
- He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
- 4 He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. R.
- The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
- The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. *R*.

7 The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.12a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Rejoice and be glad: your reward will be great in heaven.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.1-12

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
- Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
- 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will 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 people 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, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

FIRST READING 1 Kings 17.7-16

The jar of meal was not empty according to the word God spoke to Elijah.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- After a while the wadi where Elijah was hiding dried up, because there was no rain in the land.
- 8 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,
- "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there;
 - for I have commanded a widow there to feed you."
- So he set out and went to Zarephath.
 - When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said,
 - "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink."
- As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."
- But she said, "As the Lord your God lives,
 I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar,
 and a little oil in a jug;
 I am now gathering a couple of sticks,
 so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son,
 that we may eat it, and die."
- Elijah said to her,
 "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said;
 but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me,
 and afterwards make something for yourself and your son.
- For thus says the Lord the God of Israel:
 The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth."
- She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days.
- The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 4.1-2, 3-4, 6-7 (R.6b)

- **R.** Lord, let your face shine on us.
- Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.
- How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? *R*.
- But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.
- When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. *R.*
- There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!"
- You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Let your light shine before all, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father.

GOSPEL

Matthew 5.13-16

You are the light of the world.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.
- "You are the light of the world.A city built on a hill cannot be hid.
- No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.
- In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

361 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING 1 Kings 18.20-39

May this people know that you, O Lord, are God and that you have won back their hearts.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- King Ahab summoned all the Israelites, and assembled the prophets of Baal at Mount Carmel.
- Elijah then came near to all the people, and said, "How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." The people did not answer him a word.
- Then Elijah said to the people,
 "I, even I only, am left a prophet of the Lord;
 but Baal's prophets number four hundred fifty.
- Let two bulls be given to us;
 let them choose one bull for themselves,
 cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood,
 but put no fire to it;
 I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood,
 but put no fire to it.
- Then you call on the name of your god and I will call on the name of the Lord; the god who answers by fire is indeed God." All the people answered, "Well spoken!"
- Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many; then call on the name of your god, but put no fire to it."
- So they took the bull that was given them, prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, crying, "O Baal, answer us!"
 But there was no voice, and no answer.
 They limped about the altar that they had made.
- At noon Elijah mocked them, saying, "Cry aloud! Surely he is a god; either he is meditating, or he has wandered away, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened."
- Then they cried aloud and, as was their custom, they cut themselves with swords and lances until the blood gushed out over them.

- As midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice, no answer, and no response.
- Then Elijah said to all the people,
 "Come closer to me";
 and all the people came closer to him.
 First he repaired the altar of the Lord that had been thrown down;
- Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord came, saying, "Israel shall be your name";
- with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord. Then he made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed.
- Next he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood.

 He said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood."
- Then he said, "Do it a second time"; and they did it a second time.

 Again he said, "Do it a third time"; and they did it a third time,
- so that the water ran all around the altar, and filled the trench also with water.
- At the time of the offering of the oblation, the prophet Elijah came near and said, "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding.
- Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back."
- Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust, and even licked up the water that was in the trench.
- When all the people saw it,they fell on their faces and said,"The Lord indeed is God; the Lord indeed is God."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 16.1-2a, 4, 5+8, 11 (R.1)

- **R**. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.
- Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord." R.
- Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips. *R*.
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. *R.*
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 25.4c, 5a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Teach me your paths, my God, and lead me in your truth.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.17-19

I have come not to abolish, but to fulfill.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus said to the disciples, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.
- For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.
- "Therefore,
 whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments,
 and teaches others to do the same,
 will be called least in the kingdom of heaven;
 but whoever does them and teaches them
 will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

362 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

1 Kings 18.41-46

Elijah prayed and there was a heavy rain.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

At the foot of Mount Carmel,

- Elijah said to Ahab,
 "Go up, eat and drink;
 for there is a sound of rushing rain."
- So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; there he bowed himself down upon the earth and put his face between his knees.
- He said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea."
 He went up and looked, and said,
 "There is nothing."
 - Then he said, "Go again seven times."
- At the seventh time he said, "Look, a little cloud no bigger than a person's hand is rising out of the sea." Then Elijah said, "Go say to Ahab, 'Harness your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.'"
- In a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind; there was a heavy rain.

 Ahab rode off and went to Jezreel.
- But the hand of the Lord was on Elijah; he girded up his loins and ran in front of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 65. 9abcd, 9e-10, 11-12 (R.1a)

- **R**. It is right to praise you in Zion, O God.
- You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain. *R.*

For so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. *R.*

- You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
- The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.20-26

Anyone who is angry with a brother or sister is liable to judgment.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 20 "For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
- "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.'
- But I say to you
 that if you are angry with a brother or sister,
 you will be liable to judgment;
 and if you insult a brother or sister,
 you will be liable to the council;
 and if you say, 'You fool,'
 you will be liable to the hell of fire.
- "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you,
- leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.
- 25 "Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison.
- Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny."

363 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19.9a, 11-16

Stand on the mountain before the Lord.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

When Elijah reached Horeb the mount of God,

- he came to a cave, and spent the night there.
 Then the word of the Lord came to him.
- He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by."

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake;

- and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.
- When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"
- 14 He answered.

"I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

- Then the Lord said to him,
 "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus;
 when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.
- Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 27.7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14 (R.8b)

- **R.** I long to see your face, O Lord.
- Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
- ⁸ "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" *R*.

Your face, Lord, do I seek.

- Do not hide your face from me.
 Do not turn your servant away in anger,
 you who have been my help. *R.*
- I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
- Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 2.15-16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.27-32

Everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'
- But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
- "If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.
- And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.
- "It was also said,
 "Whoever divorces his wife,
 let him give her a certificate of divorce."

But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery."

The gospel of the Lord.

364 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19.16b, 19-21

Elisha set out and followed Elijah.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

The Lord said to Elijah,

- "You shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place."
- So Elijah set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was ploughing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him.
- Elisha left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?"
- Elisha returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate.

 Then Elisha set out and followed Elijah,

The word of the Lord.

and became his servant.

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 9-10 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;"
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. R.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; 7 in the night also my heart instructs me.
- 8 I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. R.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.
- 10 For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 119.36a, 29b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Turn my heart to do your will; teach me your law, O God.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.33-37

I say to you, do not swear at all.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 33 "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.'
- But I say to you: Do not swear at all, 34 either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,
- or by the earth, for it is his footstool, 35 or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.
- 36 And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.
- Let your word be 'Yes,' if 'Yes'; or 'No,' if 'No'; 37 anything more than this comes from the evil one."

ELEVENTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME

365 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Kings 21.1-16

They stoned Naboth to death.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of King Ahab of Samaria.
- And Ahab said to Naboth, "Give me your vineyard, so that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house;
 I will give you a better vineyard for it; or, if it seems good to you,
 I will give you its value in money."
- But Naboth said to Ahab, "The Lord forbid that I should give you my ancestral inheritance."
- Ahab went home resentful and sullen because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had said to him; for he had said, "I will not give you my ancestral inheritance." He lay down on his bed, turned away his face, and would not eat.
- His wife Jezebel came to him and said, "Why are you so depressed that you will not eat?"
- He said to her, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard for it'; but he answered, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'"
- His wife Jezebel said to him, "Do you now govern Israel?
 Get up, eat some food, and be cheerful;
 I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."
- So she wrote letters in Ahab's name and sealed them with his seal; she sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who lived with Naboth in his city.
- She wrote in the letters,"Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth at the head of the assembly;
- seat two scoundrels opposite him, and have them bring a charge against him, saying,

- 'You have cursed God and the king.'
 Then take him out, and stone him to death."
- The men of his city, the elders and the nobles who lived in his city, did as Jezebel had sent word to them.

 Just as it was written in the letters that she had sent to them,
- they proclaimed a fast and seated Naboth at the head of the assembly.
- The two scoundrels came in and sat opposite him; and the scoundrels brought a charge against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the king."

 So they took him outside the city, and stoned him to death.
- Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, "Naboth has been stoned; he is dead."
- As soon as she heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, Jezebel said to Ahab,

 "Go, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive. but dead."
- As soon as Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab set out to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 5.1-2, 4-5, 6+12 (R.1b)++

- **R.** Lord, listen to my groaning.
- Give ear to my words, O Lord; give heed to my sighing.
- Listen to the sound of my cry, my King and my God. *R*.
- For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil will not sojourn with you.
- The boastful will not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. *R*.
- You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful.
- For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover them with favour as with a shield. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 119.105

I say to you: Do not resist an evildoer.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.38-42

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You have heard that it was said,
 "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."
- But I say to you: Do not resist an evildoer.
 But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek,
 turn the other also;
- and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well;
- and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile.
- Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you."

The gospel of the Lord.

366 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Kings 21.17-29

You have caused Israel to sin.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- The word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying:
- Go down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who rules in Samaria; he is now in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take possession.
- You shall say to him, "Thus says the Lord:
 Have you killed, and also taken possession?"
 You shall say to him, "Thus says the Lord:
 In the place where dogs licked up the blood of Naboth, dogs will also lick up your blood."

- 20 Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" He answered, "I have found you. Because you have sold yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the Lord,
- I will bring disaster on you; I will consume you, 21 and will cut off from Ahab every male, bond or free, in Israel;
- 22 and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha son of Ahijah, because you have provoked me to anger and have caused Israel to sin.
- 23 Also concerning Jezebel the Lord said, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel within the bounds of Jezreel.'
- 24 Anyone belonging to Ahab who dies in the city the dogs shall eat; and anyone of his who dies in the open country the birds of the air shall eat."
- 25 (Indeed, there was no one like Ahab, who sold himself to do what was evil in the sight of the Lord, urged on by his wife Jezebel.
- He acted most abominably in going after idols, 26 as the Amorites had done, whom the Lord drove out before the Israelites.)
- 27 When Ahab heard those words, he tore his clothes and put sackcloth over his bare flesh; he fasted, lay in the sackcloth, and went about dejectedly.
- 28 Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite:
- "Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because he has humbled himself before me. I will not bring the disaster in his days; but in his son's days I will bring the disaster on his house."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 51.1-2, 3-4, 9+14

- **R.** Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
- Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. *R*.
- For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight. *R*.
- 9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
- Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.43-48

Love your enemies.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You have heard that it was said,
 "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy."
- But I say to you,
 Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
- so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.
- "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?

 Do not even the tax collectors do the same?
- And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others?

 Do not even the Gentiles do the same?
- "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."The gospel of the Lord.

367 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING 2 Kings 2.1, 6-14

A chariot of fire appeared and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven.

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.
- Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan."
 But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you."
 So the two of them went on.
- Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.
- Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.
- When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha,
 "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you."
 Elisha said,
 "The said to be a said to Elisha said,"
 - "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit."
- He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not."
- As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven.
- Elisha kept watching and crying out,
 "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!"
 But when he could no longer see him,
 he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.
- He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan.
- He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying,

"Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?"
When he had struck the water,
the water was parted to the one side and to the other,
and Elisha went over.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 31.19, 20, 23 (R.24)

- **R.** Let your heart take comfort, all who hope in the Lord.
- O how abundant is your goodness, O Lord, that you have laid up for those who fear you, and accomplished for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of everyone! *R*.
- In the shelter of your presence you hide them from human plots; you hold them safe under your shelter from contentious tongues. *R.*
- Love the Lord, all you his saints. The Lord preserves the faithful, but abundantly repays the one who acts haughtily. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Matthew 6.1-6, 16-18

Your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

🔀 A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.
- "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others.

 Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

WEDNESDAY 1433

- But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,
- so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
- "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.
- But whenever 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 whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting.

 Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.
- But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,
- so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

The gospel of the Lord.

368 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Sirach 48.1-14

When Elijah was enveloped in the whirlwind, Elisha was filled with his spirit.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- Elijah arose, a prophet like fire, and his word burned like a torch.
- He brought a famine upon them, and by his zeal he made them few in number.
- By the word of the Lord he shut up the heavens, and also three times brought down fire.
- 4 How glorious you were, Elijah, in your wondrous deeds! Whose glory is equal to yours?
- You raised a corpse from death and from Hades, by the word of the Most High.

- You sent kings down to destruction, 6 and famous men, from their sickbeds.
- 7 You heard rebuke at Sinai and judgments of vengeance at Horeb.
- You anointed kings to inflict retribution, and prophets to succeed you.
- You were taken up by a whirlwind of fire. 9 in a chariot with horses of fire.
- At the appointed time, it is written, you are destined 10 to calm the wrath of God before it breaks out in fury, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and to restore the tribes of Jacob.
- Happy are those who saw you 11 and were adorned with your love! For we also shall surely live.
- When Elijah was enveloped in the whirlwind, 12 Elisha was filled with his spirit. He performed twice as many signs, and marvels with every utterance of his mouth. Never in his lifetime did he tremble before any ruler, nor could anyone intimidate him at all.
- Nothing was too hard for him, 13 and when he was dead, his body prophesied.
- 14 In his life he did wonders, and in death his deeds were marvellous.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 97.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8a (R.12a)

- **R.** Let the just rejoice in the Lord.
- 1 The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
- 2 Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. R.
- 3 Fire goes before him, and consumes his adversaries on every side.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. R.

- The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.
- The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory. **R**.
- All worshippers of images are put to shame, those who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before him.
- 8 Zion hears and is glad. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Romans 8.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

GOSPEL Matthew 6.7-15

Pray in this way.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words.
- Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.
- "Pray then in this way:Our Father in heaven,hallowed be your name.
- Your kingdom come.
 Your will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
- Give us this day our daily bread.
- And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
- And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.
- "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you;
- but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

369 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

2 Kings 11.1-4, 9-18, 20

They anointed Joash and shouted, "Long live the king!"

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- When Athaliah, Ahaziah's mother, saw that her son was dead, she set about to destroy all the royal family.
- But Jehosheba, King Joram's daughter, Ahaziah's sister, took Joash son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king's children who were about to be killed; she put him and his nurse in a bedroom.

 Thus she hid him from Athaliah, so that he was not killed;
- he remained with her six years, hidden in the house of the Lord, while Athaliah reigned over the land.
- But in the seventh year Jehoiada summoned the captains of the Carites and of the guards and had them come to him in the house of the Lord. He made a covenant with them and put them under oath in the house of the Lord; then he showed them the king's son.
- The captains did according to all that the priest Jehoiada commanded; each brought his men who were to go off duty on the sabbath, with those who were to come on duty on the sabbath, and came to the priest Jehoiada.
- The priest delivered to the captains the spears and shields that had been King David's, which were in the house of the Lord;
- the guards stood, every man with his weapons in his hand, from the south side of the house to the north side of the house, around the altar and the house, to guard the king on every side.
- Then he brought out the king's son, put the crown on him, and gave him the covenant; they proclaimed him king, and anointed him; they clapped their hands and shouted, "Long live the king!"
- When Athaliah heard the noise of the guard and of the people, she went into the house of the Lord to the people;

- when she looked, there was the king standing by the pillar, according to custom, with the captains and the trumpeters beside the king, and all the people of the land rejoicing and blowing trumpets. Athaliah tore her clothes and cried, "Treason! Treason!"
- Then the priest Jehoiada commanded the captains who were set over the army, "Bring her out between the ranks, and kill with the sword anyone who follows her." For the priest said, "Let her not be killed in the house of the Lord."
- So they laid hands on her; she went through the horses' entrance to the king's house, and there she was put to death.
- Jehoiada made a covenant between the Lord and the king and people, that they should be the Lord's people; also between the king and the people.
- Then all the people of the land went to the house of Baal, and tore it down; his altars and his images they broke in pieces, and they killed Mattan, the priest of Baal, before the altars.
- So all the people of the land rejoiced; and the city was quiet after Athaliah had been killed with the sword at the king's house.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 132.11, 12, 13-14, 17-18 (R.13)

- **R.** The Lord has chosen Zion for his dwelling.
- 11 The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: "One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne." *R.*
- "If your sons keep my covenant and my decrees that I shall teach them, their sons also, forevermore, shall sit on your throne." *R.*

- For the Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his habitation:
- "This is my resting place forever; here I will reside, for I have desired it." *R.*
- "There I will cause a horn to sprout up for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one.
- His enemies I will clothe with disgrace, but on him, his crown will gleam." *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.3

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Matthew 6.19-23

Where your treasure is, your heart will also be.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal;
- but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.
- 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- 22 "The eye is the lamp of the body.
 So, if your eye is healthy,
 your whole body will be full of light;
- but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!"

The gospel of the Lord.

370 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

2 Chronicles 24.17-25

Zechariah was killed between the temple and the altar.

A reading from the second book of Chronicles.

- Now after the death of Jehoiada, the priest, the officials of Judah came and did obeisance to the king; then the king listened to them.
- They abandoned the house of the Lord, the God of their ancestors, and served the sacred poles and the idols.

 And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs.
- Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the Lord; they testified against them, but they would not listen.
- Then the spirit of God took possession of Zechariah son of the priest Jehoiada; he stood above the people and said to them, "Thus says God:
 Why do you transgress the commandments of the Lord, so that you cannot prosper?
 Because you have forsaken the Lord, he has also forsaken you."
- But the officials conspired against Zechariah, and by command of the king they stoned him to death in the court of the house of the Lord.
- King Joash did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him, but killed his son.As he was dying, Zechariah said, "May the Lord see and avenge!"
- At the end of the year the army of Aram came up against Joash. They came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the officials of the people from among them, and sent all the booty they took to the king of Damascus.
- Although the army of Aram had come with few men, the Lord delivered into their hand a very great army,

because they had abandoned the Lord, the God of their ancestors.

Thus they executed judgment on Joash.

When the army of Aram had withdrawn, leaving King Joash severely wounded, his servants conspired against him because of the blood of the son of the priest Jehoiada, and they killed him on his bed. So Joash died; and they buried him in the city of David, but they did not bury him in the tombs of the kings.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 89.3-4, 28-29, 30+32, 33-34 (R.28a)

R. For ever I will pledge my love for my servant.

- I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David:
- I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations. *R*.
- Forever I will keep my steadfast love for him, and my covenant with him will stand firm.
- I will establish his line forever, and his throne as long as the heavens endure. *R.*
- If his children forsake my law and do not walk according to my ordinances,
- I will punish their transgression with the rod and their iniquity with scourges. *R*.
- I will not remove from him my steadfast love, or be false to my faithfulness.
- I will not violate my covenant, or alter the word that went forth from my lips. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 8.93

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

GOSPEL Matthew 6.24-34

Do not worry about tomorrow.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.
- "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?
- "Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?
- And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?
- 28 "And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin,
- yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.
- But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?
- "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?'
- For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.
- But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
- "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own.

 Today's trouble is enough for today."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

TWELFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

371 MONDAY

FIRST READING

2 Kings 17.5-8, 13-15a, 18

The Lord put Israel out of his sight and none was left but the tribe of Judah.

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- The king of Assyria invaded all the land and came to Samaria; for three years he besieged it.
- In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria; he carried the Israelites away to Assyria.

 He placed them in Halah, on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.
- 7 This occurred because the people of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. They had worshipped other gods
- and walked in the customs of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel.
- Yet the Lord warned Israel and Judah by every prophet and every seer, saying,
 "Turn from your evil ways and keep my commandments and my statutes, in accordance with all the law that I commanded your ancestors and that I sent to you by my servants the prophets."
- They would not listen but were stubborn, as their ancestors had been, who did not believe in the Lord their God.
- They despised his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their ancestors, and the warnings that he gave them.
- Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel and removed them out of his sight; none was left but the tribe of Judah alone.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 60.1-2, 3+5, 10-11 (R.6b)

- **R.** Help us with your right hand, O Lord, and answer us.
- O God, you have rejected us, broken our defenses; you have been angry; now restore us!
- You have caused the land to quake; you have torn it open; repair the cracks in it, for it is tottering. *R*.
- You have made your people suffer hard things; you have given us wine to drink that made us reel.
- Give victory with your right hand, and answer us, so that those whom you love may be rescued. *R.*
- Have you not rejected us, O God?
 You do not go out, O God, with our armies.
- O grant us help against the foe, for human help is worthless. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hebrews 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

GOSPEL Matthew 7.1-5

First, take the log out of your own eye.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Do not judge, so that you may not be judged.
- For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get.
- "Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?
- Or how can you say to your neighbour, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye?
- You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye."

The gospel of the Lord.

372 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Kings 19.9b-11, 14-21, 31-36

I will defend this city to save it, for my sake and David's.

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- 9 Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, sent messengers again to Hezekiah, saying,
- "Thus shall you speak to King Hezekiah of Judah:
 Do not let your God on whom you rely deceive you
 by promising that Jerusalem will not be given
 into the hand of the king of Assyria.
- See, you have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, destroying them utterly. Shall you be delivered?
- Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers and read it; then Hezekiah went up to the house of the Lord and spread it before the Lord.
- And Hezekiah prayed before the Lord, and said: "O Lord the God of Israel, who are enthroned above the cherubim, you are God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth.
- Incline your ear, O Lord, and hear; open your eyes, O Lord, and see; hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God.
- Truly, O Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands,
- and have hurled their gods into the fire, though they were no gods but the work of human hands —wood and stone—and so they were destroyed.
- So now, O Lord our God, save us, I pray you, from his hand, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O Lord, are God al one."
- Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I have heard your prayer to me about King Sennacherib of Assyria.

- 21 This is the word that the Lord has spoken concerning him: She despises you, she scorns you, virgin daughter Zion; she tosses her head behind your back, daughter Jerusalem.
- For from Jerusalem a remnant shall go out, 31 and from Mount Zion a band of survivors. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.
- "Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria: 32 He shall not come into this city, shoot an arrow there, come before it with a shield, or cast up a siege ramp against it.
- By the way that he came, by the same he shall return; 33 he shall not come into this city, says the Lord.
- 34 For I will defend this city to save it, for my own sake and for the sake of my servant David."
- 35 That very night the angel of the Lord set out and struck down one hundred eighty-five thousand in the camp of the Assyrians; when morning dawned, they were all dead bodies.
- 36 Then King Sennacherib of Assyria left, went home, and lived at Nineveh.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 48.1-2a, 2b-3, 9-10 (R.8d)

- **R.** God upholds his city for ever.
- 1 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God. His holy mountain,
- beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth. R. Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.
- 3 Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense. R.
- We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.
- 10 Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with victory. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL Matthew 7.6, 12-14

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 6 "Do not give what is holy to dogs; and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.
- "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.
- "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it.
- For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it."

The gospel of the Lord.

373 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Kings 22.8-13; 23.1-3

The king read to the people all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord, and he made a covenant before the Lord.

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- The high priest Hilkiah said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord." When Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, he read it.
- Then Shaphan the secretary came to the king, and reported to the king, "Your servants have emptied out the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of the workers who oversee the house of the Lord."

- 10 Shaphan the secretary informed the king, "The priest Hilkiah has given me a book." Shaphan then read it aloud to the king.
- When the king heard the words of the book of the law, 11 he tore his clothes.
- 12 Then the king commanded the priest Hilkiah, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Achbor son of Micaiah, Shaphan the secretary, and the king's servant Asaiah, saying,
- 13 "Go, inquire of the Lord for me, for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that has been found; for great is the wrath of the Lord that is kindled against us, because our ancestors did not obey the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us."
- Then the king directed that all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem should be gathered to him.
- The king went up to the house of the Lord, and with him went all the people of Judah, all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests, the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord.
- 3 The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to follow the Lord, keeping his commandments, his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. All the people joined in the covenant.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.33-34, 35-36, 37+40 (R.33a)

R. Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. R.

- Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.
- Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain. *R*.
- Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.
- See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.4, 5b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

GOSPEL Matthew 7.15-20

By their fruits you will know them.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.
- You will know them by their fruits.

 Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles?
- In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.
- A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.
- Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
- Thus you will know them by their fruits."

The gospel of the Lord.

374 THURSDAY

FIRST READING 2 Kings 24.8-17

The king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon Jehoiachin and all the men of valour.

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign; 8 he reigned three months in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Nehushta daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.
- 9 He did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, just as his father had done.
- At that time the servants of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon 10 came up to Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.
- King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to the city, 11 while his servants were besieging it;
- King Jehoiachin of Judah gave himself up to the king of Babylon, 12 himself, his mother, his servants, his officers, and his palace officials. The king of Babylon took him prisoner in the eighth year of his reign.
- He carried off all the treasures of the house of the Lord, 13 and the treasures of the king's house; he cut in pieces all the vessels of gold in the temple of the Lord, which King Solomon of Israel had made, all this as the Lord had foretold.
- He carried away all Jerusalem, all the officials, 14 all the warriors, ten thousand captives, all the artisans and the smiths: no one remained, except the poorest people of the land.
- He carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon; 15 the king's mother, the king's wives, his officials, and the elite of the land, he took into captivity from Jerusalem to Babylon.
- The king of Babylon brought captive to Babylon 16 all the men of valour, seven thousand. the artisans and the smiths, one thousand, all of them strong and fit for war.

The king of Babylon made Mattaniah, Jehoiachin's uncle, king in his place, and changed his name to Zedekiah.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 79.1-2, 3-5, 8-9 (R.9b)

- **R.** For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.
- O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.
- They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food, the flesh of your faithful to the wild animals of the earth. *R.*
- They have poured out their blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there was no one to bury them.
- We have become a taunt to our neighbours, mocked and derided by those around us.
- How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever? Will your jealous wrath burn like fire? **R**.
- Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low.
- 9 Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Matthew 7.21-29

The house built on rock and the house built on sand.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.
- On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many deeds of power in your name?'
- Then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; go away from me, you evildoers.'
- ²⁴ "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.
- The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.
- And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand.
- The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"
- Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching,
- for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

375 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

2 Kings 25.1-12

Judah was carried away from his own land.

A reading from the second book of Kings.

- And in the ninth year of Zedekiah's reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem, and laid siege to it; they built siegeworks against it all around.
- So the city was besieged until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah.
- On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine became so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land.
- Then a breach was made in the city wall; the king with all the soldiers fled by night by the way of the gate between the two walls, by the king's garden, though the Chaldeans were all around the city. They went in the direction of the Arabah.
- But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king, and overtook him in the plains of Jericho; all his army was scattered, deserting him.
- Then they captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah, who passed sentence on him.
- 7 They slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, then put out the eyes of Zedekiah; they bound him in fetters and took him to Babylon.
- In the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month
 —which was the nineteenth year
 of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon—
 Nebuzaradan, the captain of the bodyguard,
 a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem.
- 9 He burned the house of the Lord the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem; every great house he burned down.
- All the army of the Chaldeans
 who were with the captain of the guard
 broke down the walls around Jerusalem.

- Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried into exile the rest of the people who were left in the city and the deserters who had defected to the king of Babylon—all the rest of the population.
- But the captain of the guard left some of the poorest people of the land to be vinedressers and tillers of the soil.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 137.1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (R.6ab)

- **R**. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!
- By the rivers of Babylon there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion.
- On the willows there we hung up our harps. *R*.
- For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" *R.*
- How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?
- If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! *R*.
- Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 8.17

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Christ bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.

GOSPEL Matthew 8.1-4

If you choose, you can make me clean.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him;
- and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean."
- Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I do choose. Be made clean!"
 Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.
- Then Jesus said to him,
 "See that you say nothing to anyone;
 but go, show yourself to the priest,
 and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."
 The gospel of the Lord.

376 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Lamentations 2.2, 10-14, 18-19
Cry aloud to the Lord, O wall of daughter Zion!

A reading from the book of Lamentations.

- The Lord has destroyed without mercy all the dwellings of Jacob; in his wrath he has broken down the strongholds of daughter Judah; he has brought down to the ground in dishonour the kingdom and its rulers.
- The elders of daughter Zion sit on the ground in silence; they have thrown dust on their heads and put on sackcloth; the young girls of Jerusalem have bowed their heads to the ground.
- My eyes are spent with weeping; my stomach churns; my bile is poured out on the ground

- because of the destruction of my people, because infants and babes faint in the streets of the city.
- 12 They cry to their mothers, "Where is bread and wine?" as they faint like the wounded in the streets of the city, as their life is poured out on their mothers' bosom.
- 13 What can I say for you, to what compare you, O daughter Jerusalem? To what can I liken you, that I may comfort you O virgin daughter Zion? For vast as the sea is your ruin; who can heal you?
- Your prophets have seen for you false and deceptive visions; they have not exposed your iniquity to restore your fortunes, but have seen oracles for you that are false and misleading.
- Cry aloud to the Lord! 18 O wall of daughter Zion! Let tears stream down like a torrent day and night! Give yourself no rest, your eyes no respite!
- 19 Arise, cry out in the night, at the beginning of the watches! Pour out your heart like water before the presence of the Lord! Lift your hands to him for the lives of your children.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 74.1-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21 (R.19b)

- **R.** Lord, forget not the life of your poor ones.
- O God, why do you cast us off forever?
 Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?
- Remember your congregation, which you acquired long ago, which you redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage.

 Remember Mount Zion, where you came to dwell. R.
- Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins; the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary.
- Your foes have roared within your holy place; they set up their emblems there.
- At the upper entrance they hacked the wooden trellis with axes. **R**.
- And then, with hatchets and hammers, they smashed all its carved work.
- 7 They set your sanctuary on fire; they desecrated the dwelling place of your name, bringing it to the ground. *R.*
- Have regard for your covenant, for the dark places of the land are full of the haunts of violence.
- Do not let the downtrodden be put to shame; let the poor and needy praise your name. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 8.17

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Christ bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.

GOSPEL Matthew 8.5-17

Many will come from east and west, and will eat with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying,
- "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress."
- And Jesus said to him, "I will come and cure him."
- The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed.

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- For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it."
- When Jesus heard him, he was amazed 10 and said to those who followed him, "Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith.
- 11 I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven,
- while the heirs of the kingdom 12 will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."
- 13 And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; let it be done for you according to your faith." And the servant was healed in that hour.
- 14 When Jesus entered Peter's house. he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever;
- 15 he touched her hand, and the fever left her. and she got up and began to serve him.
- That evening they brought to Jesus 16 many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick.
- 17 This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

377 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Amos 2.6-10, 13-16

They trample the head of the poor into the dust.

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

- Thus says the Lord:
 For three transgressions of Israel, and for four,
 I will not revoke the punishment;
 because they sell the righteous for silver,
 and the needy for a pair of sandals—
- they who trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth, and push the afflicted out of the way; father and son go in to the same girl, so that my holy name is profaned;
- they lay themselves down beside every altar on garments taken in pledge; and in the house of their God they drink wine bought with fines they imposed.
- Yet I destroyed the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of cedars, and who was as strong as oaks; I destroyed his fruit above, and his roots beneath.
- Also I brought you up out of the land of Egypt, and led you forty years in the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite.
- So, I will press you down in your place, just as a cart presses down when it is full of sheaves.
- Flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not retain their strength, nor shall the mighty save their lives;
- those who handle the bow shall not stand, and those who are swift of foot shall not save themselves, nor shall those who ride horses save their lives;
- and those who are stout of heart among the mighty shall flee away naked in that day.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50.16bc-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 (R.22a)

- **R.** Remember this, you who never think of God.
- To the wicked God says:
- 16 "What right have you to recite my statutes, or take my covenant on your lips?
- 17 For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you. **R**.
- 18 "You make friends with a thief when you see one, and you keep company with adulterers.
- 19 'You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit. R.
- 20 "You sit and speak against your kin; you slander your own mother's child.
- 21 These things you have done and I have been silent; you thought that I was one just like yourself. But now I rebuke you, and lay the charge before you. **R**.
- 22 "Mark this, then, you who forget God, or I will tear you apart, and there will be no one to deliver.
- 23 Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honour me; to those who go the right way I will show the salvation of God." R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 8.18-22 Follow me.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- 18 When Jesus saw great crowds around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side.
- 19 A scribe then approached and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."
- And Jesus said to him, 20 "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."
- 21 Another of his disciples said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."
- But Jesus said to him, "Follow me, 22 and let the dead bury their own dead."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

378 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Amos 3.1-8; 4.11-12

The Lord God has spoken; who can but prophesy?

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

- Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:
- You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.
- Do two walk together unless they have made an appointment?
- Does a lion roar in the forest, when it has no prey?
 Does a young lion cry out from its den,
 if it has caught nothing?
- Does a bird fall into a snare on the earth, when there is no trap for it?

 Does a snare spring up from the ground, when it has taken nothing?
- Is a trumpet blown in a city, and the people are not afraid?

 Does disaster befall a city, unless the Lord has done it?
- Surely the Lord God does nothing, without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.
- The lion has roared;
 who will not fear?
 The Lord God has spoken;
 who can but prophesy?
- I overthrew some of you, as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and you were like a brand snatched from the fire; yet you did not return to me, says the Lord.

12 Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel; because I will do this to you, prepare to meet your God, O Israel!

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 5.4-5a, 5b-6, 7 (R.8a)

- **R.** Lead me in your justice, Lord.
- 4 For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil will not sojourn with you.
- 5 The boastful will not stand before your eyes. R. You hate all evildoers.
- 6 You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful. R.
- But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house, I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 130.5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.23-27

Jesus rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a calm.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus got into a boat, and his disciples followed him. 23
- A windstorm arose on the sea, 24 so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep.
- And they went and woke him up, saying, 25 "Lord, save us! We are perishing!"
- And Jesus said to them. 26 "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm.

The disciples were amazed, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

The gospel of the Lord.

379 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Amos 5.14-15, 21-24

Take away from me the noise of your songs; let righteousness roll down like an ever-flowing stream.

A reading from the book of Amos.

- Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said.
- Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.
- I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
- Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
 I will not accept them;
 and the communion offerings of your fatted animals I will not look upon.
- Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
- But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50.1a+7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17 (R.23b)

- **R.** To the upright I will show the saving power of God.
- The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth.
- "Hear, O my people, and I will speak,
 O Israel, I will testify against you.
 I am God, your God. R.
- Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.
- I will not accept a bull from your house, or goats from your folds. *R.*
- For every wild animal of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.
- I know all the birds of the air, and all that moves in the field is mine. *R*.
- If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and all that is in it is mine.
- Do I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? *R*.
- What right have you to recite my statutes, or take my covenant on your lips?
- For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you." *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

James 1.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the firstfruits of his creation.

GOSPEL Matthew 8.28-34

Have you come here to torment the demons before the time?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When Jesus came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs coming out of the tombs met him.

 They were so fierce that no one could pass that way.
- Suddenly they shouted,
 "What have you to do with us, Son of God?
 Have you come here to torment us before the time?"
- Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them.

- 31 The demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine."
- And Jesus said to them, "Go!" 32 So they came out and entered the swine; and suddenly, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and perished in the water.
- The swineherds ran off, 33 and on going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the demoniacs.
- Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus: 34 and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighbourhood. The gospel of the Lord.

380 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Amos 7.10-17 Go, prophesy to my people Israel.

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

- 10 Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words.
- 11 For thus Amos has said. 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land."
- 12 And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there;
- 13 but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."
- 14 Then Amos answered Amaziah. "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees,
- and the Lord took me from following the flock, 15 and the Lord said to me. 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

- "Now therefore hear the word of the Lord.
 You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel,
 and do not preach against the house of Isaac.'
- 17 Therefore thus says the Lord:
 'Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,
 and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,
 and your land shall be parcelled out by line;
 you yourself shall die in an unclean land,
 and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.'"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 10 (R.9b)

- **R.** The judgments of the Lord are true, and all of them are just.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple. *R*.
- The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. *R*.
- The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. *R*.
- More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 5.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.1-8

The crowd glorified God who had given such authority to human beings.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- After getting into a boat Jesus crossed the sea and came to his own town.
- And just then some people were carrying a paralyzed man, lying on a bed.
 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven."
- Then some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming."
- But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?
- For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'?
- But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralyzed man—
 "Stand up, take your bed and go to your home."
- 7 And he stood up and went to his home.
- When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

381 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Amos 8.4-6, 9-12

I will send a famine, not of bread, but of hearing the words of the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

- 4 Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
- saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale?
 We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances,
- buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat."
- On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight.
- I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation;
 I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head;
 I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day.
- The time is surely coming, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.
- They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.2+10, 20+30, 40+131 (R. see Mt 4.4)

- **R.** No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
- Happy are those who keep the decrees of the Lord, who seek him with their whole heart,
- With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. *R.*
- My soul is consumed with longing for your ordinances at all times.
- I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your ordinances before me. **R**.
- See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.
- With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.9-13

Those who are well have no need of a physician. I desire mercy not sacrifice.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And Matthew got up and followed him.
- And as Jesus sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples.
- When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
- But when Jesus heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick do.
- Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.'
 For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

382 SATURDAY

FIRST READING Amos 9.11-15

I will restore the fortunes of my people and plant them upon their land.

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

Thus says the Lord:

- On that day I will raise up the booth of David that is fallen, and repair its breaches, and raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old;
- in order that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by my name, says the Lord who does this.
- The time is surely coming, says the Lord, when the one who ploughs shall overtake the one who reaps, and the treader of grapes the one who sows the seed; the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it.
- I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit.
- I will plant them upon their land, and they shall never again be plucked up out of the land that I have given them, says the Lord your God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85.8, 10-11, 12-13 (R.8b)

- **R.** The Lord speaks of peace to his people.
- Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. R.
- Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
- Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. *R.*

- The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.14-17

The wedding guests cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- The disciples of John the Baptist came to Jesus, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"
- And Jesus said to them,
 "The wedding guests cannot mourn
 as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they?
 The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.
- "No one sews a piece of unshrunken cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made.
- Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved."

The gospel of the Lord.

FOURTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

383 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Hosea 2.14, 15b-16, 19-20 I will take you for my spouse forever.

A reading from the book of the prophet Hosea.

Thus says the Lord concerning Israel, his people:

- I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her.
- There she shall respond as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.
- On that day, says the Lord, you will call me, "My husband," and no longer will you call me, "My Baal."
- And I will take you for my wife forever; I will take you for my wife in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy.
- I will take you for my wife in faithfulness; and you shall know the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145.2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (R.8a)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

- Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.
- Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. **R**.
- One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.
- On the glorious splendour of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. *R.*
- The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.
- 7 They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. R.

- The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.18-26

My daughter has just died, but come, and she will live.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- While Jesus was speaking to the disciples of John the Baptist, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live."
- And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples.
- Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak,
- for she said to herself,
 "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well."
- Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well.
- When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,
- he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping."
 And they laughed at him.
- But when the crowd had been put outside, Jesus went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.
- And the report of this spread throughout that district.

The gospel of the Lord.

384 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Hosea 8.4-7, 11-13

They sow the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind.

A reading from the book of the prophet Hosea.

Thus says the Lord:

- They made kings, but not through me; they set up princes, but without my knowledge.
 - With their silver and gold they made idols for their own destruction.
- Your calf is rejected, O Samaria.

 My anger burns against them.

 How long will they be incapable of innocence?
- For it is from Israel,
 an artisan made it;
 it is not God.
 The calf of Samaria shall be broken to pieces.
- For they sow the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind. The standing grain has no heads, it shall yield no meal; if it were to yield, foreigners would devour it.
- When Ephraim multiplied altars to expiate sin, they became to him altars for sinning.
- Though I write for him the multitude of my instructions, they are regarded as a strange thing.
- Though they offer choice sacrifices, though they eat flesh, the Lord does not accept them.

 Now he will remember their iniquity, and punish their sins; they shall return to Egypt.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 115.3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 (R.9a)

- **R.** The house of Israel trusts in the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Our God is in the heavens; he does whatever he pleases.
- Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. **R**.
- They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see.
- They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell. **R**.
- 7 They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; they make no sound in their throats.
- Those who make them are like them; so are all who trust in them. *R*.
- O Israel, trust in the Lord! He is their help and their shield.
- O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord! He is their help and their shield. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.32-38

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

As Jesus was walking along,

- a demoniac who was mute was brought to him.
- And when the demon had been cast out, the one who had been mute spoke; and the crowds were amazed and said, "Never has anything like this been seen in Israel."
- But the Pharisees said, "By the ruler of the demons he casts out the demons."
- Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.

- When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
- therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

The gospel of the Lord.

385 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Hosea 10.1-3, 7-8, 12

It is the time to seek the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Hosea.

- Israel is a luxuriant vine that yields its fruit.
 The more his fruit increased
 the more altars he built;
 as his country improved,
 he improved his pillars.
- Their heart is false; now they must bear their guilt. The Lord will break down their altars, and destroy their pillars.
- For now they will say:
 "We have no king,
 for we do not fear the Lord,
 and a king—what could he do for us?"
- 7 Samaria's king shall perish like a chip on the face of the waters.
- The high places of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed.

 Thorn and thistle shall grow up on their altars.

 They shall say to the mountains, "Cover us," and to the hills, "Fall on us."

Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, that he may come and rain righteousness upon you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (R.4b)

R. Seek always the face of the Lord.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Sing to the Lord, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.
- Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. *R.*
- Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.
- Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered. **R**.
- O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
- 7 He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is near, repent and believe the good news!

GOSPEL Matthew 10.1-7

Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.
- These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;

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- Philip and Bartholomew;
 Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;
 James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;
- Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.
- These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,
- but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

386 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Hosea 11.1, 3-5b, 8c-9

My heart recoils within me.

A reading from the book of the prophet Hosea.

Thus says the Lord:

- When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.
- Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them.
- I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love.

 I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks.

 I bent down to them and fed them.
- 5 But they have refused to return to me.
- My heart recoils within me;my compassion grows warm and tender.
- I will not execute my fierce anger;
 I will not again destroy Ephraim;
 for I am God and no mortal,
 the Holy One in your midst,
 and I will not come in wrath.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 80.1-2, 14-15, 18-19 (R.3b)

- **R.** Let us see your face, Lord, and we shall be saved.
- Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
- Stir up your might, and come to save us! *R*.
- Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine,
- the stock that your right hand planted. and upon the one whom you made strong for yourself. *R.*
- Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.
- Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is near, repent and believe the good news!

GOSPEL Matthew 10.7-15

You receive without payment, give without payment.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "As you go, proclaim the good news,'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'
- 8 Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons.
 You received without payment; give without payment.
 - Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts,
- no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food.
- "Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave.
- As you enter the house, greet it.
- If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.

>

- "If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.
- Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town."

The gospel of the Lord.

387 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Hosea 14.1-9

We will no longer say: 'our God', to the work of our hands.

A reading from the book of the prophet Hosea.

Thus says the Lord:

- 1 Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity.
- Take words with you and return to the Lord; say to him, "Take away all guilt; accept that which is good, and we will offer the fruit of our lips.
- Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses; we will say no more, 'Our God,' to the work of our hands.

 In you the orphan finds mercy."
- I will heal their disloyalty;
 I will love them freely,
 for my anger has turned from them.
- I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily, he shall strike root like the forests of Lebanon.
- 6 His shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive tree, and his fragrance like that of Lebanon.
- 7 They shall again live beneath my shadow, they shall flourish as a garden; they shall blossom like the vine, their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

- O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols?
 It is I who answer and look after you.
 I am like an evergreen cypress;
 your faithfulness comes from me.
- Those who are wise understand these things; those who are discerning know them. For the ways of the Lord are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 51.1-2, 6-7, 10-11, 12+15

- **R.** My mouth will declare your praise.
- Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. *R*.
- You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. R.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. *R*.
- Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.13a, 14.26b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will teach you all truth and bring to your mind all I have told you.

GOSPEL Matthew 10.16-23

It is not you who will speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.
- Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues;
- and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles.
- "When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time;
- for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.
- "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death;
- 22 and you will be hated by all because of my name. "But the one who endures to the end will be saved.
- When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

The gospel of the Lord.

388 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 6.1-8

I am a man of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple.
- Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces,

- and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.
- And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."
- The pivots of the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.
- And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"
- Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.
- 7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."
- Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said. "Here am I; send me!"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 93.1ab, 1c-2, 5 (R.1a)

R. The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

- The Lord is king,
 he is robed in majesty;
 the Lord is robed, he is girded with strength. *R*.

 He has established the world: it shall never be moved:
- your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting. *R*.
- Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Peter 4.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of God rests on you.

GOSPEL Matthew 10.24-33

Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master:
- it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher,and the slave like the master.If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul,how much more will they malign those of his household!
- "So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known.
- What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops.
- "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
- Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?

 Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.
- And even the hairs of your head are all counted.
- So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.
- "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others,I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven;
- but whoever denies me before others,
 I also will deny before my Father in heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

FIFTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

389 MONDAY

FIRST READING Isaiah 1.10-17

Wash yourselves, remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz. which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

- 10 Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah!
- 11 What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.
- 12 When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more;
- 13 bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me.
 - New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation— I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.
- Your new moons and your appointed festivals 14 my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them.
 - When you stretch out your hands,
- 15 I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.
- Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; 16 remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil.

learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50.8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23 (R.23b)

- **R.** To the upright I will show the saving power of God.
- ⁸ "Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.
- I will not accept a bull from your house, or goats from your folds. **R**.
- "What right have you to recite my statutes, or take my covenant on your lips?
- For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you. *R*.
- 21 "These things you have done and I have been silent; you thought that I was one just like yourself. But now I rebuke you, and lay the charge before you. R.
- 23 "Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honour me; to those who go the right way I will show the salvation of God." *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice's sake; for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL Matthew 10.34 – 11.1

I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.
- For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
- and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

- Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;
- and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.
- Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.
- "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.
- Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous;
- and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple —truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."
- Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities.

The gospel of the Lord.

390 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 7.1-9

If you do not stand firm in faith, you shall not stand at all.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- In the days of Ahazh, king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and King Pekah, son of Remaliah of Israel went up to attack Jerusalem, but could not mount an attack against it.
- When the house of David heard that Aram had allied itself with Ephraim, the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind.
- Then the Lord said to Isaiah,
 Go out to meet Ahaz, you and your son Shear-jashub,
 at the end of the conduit of the upper pool
 on the highway to the Fuller's Field,

- and say to him, Take heed, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint because of these two smouldering stumps of firebrands, because of the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram and the son of Remaliah.
- Because Aram—with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah has plotted evil against you, saying,
- Let us go up against Judah and cut off Jerusalem and conquer it for ourselves and make the son of Tabeel king in it;
- therefore thus says the Lord God: It shall not stand, and it shall not come to pass.
- For the head of Aram is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin.

 (Within sixty-five years Ephraim will be shattered, no longer a people.)
- The head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah. If you do not stand firm in faith, you shall not stand at all.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 48.1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5, 6-7 (R.8d)

- **R.** God upholds his city for ever.
- Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God.
 His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation,
- is the joy of all the earth. *R*.

 Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.
- Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense. *R.*
- Then the kings assembled, they came on together.
- As soon as they saw it, they were astounded; they were in panic, they took to flight. *R*.
- Trembling took hold of them there, pains as of a woman in labour,
- as when an east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 11.20-24

On the day of judgment, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus began to reproach the cities in which most of his deeds of power had been done, because they did not repent.
- "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!
 For if the deeds of power done in you
 had been done in Tyre and Sidon,
 they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.
- ²² "But I tell you, on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you.
- "And you, Capernaum,
 will you be exalted to heaven?
 No, you will be brought down to Hades.
 For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Sodom,
 it would have remained until this day.
- ²⁴ "But I tell you that on the day of judgment it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom than for you."

The gospel of the Lord.

391 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 10.5-7, 13-16

Does the axe boast over the one who wields it?

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord:

- Ah, Assyria, the rod of my anger the club in their hands is my fury!
- Against a godless nation I send him, and against the people of my wrath I command him, to take spoil and seize plunder, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets.

- But this is not what he intends, nor does he have this in mind; but it is in his heart to destroy, and to cut off nations not a few.
 - For the Lord says:
- "By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom, for I have understanding; I have removed the boundaries of peoples, and have plundered their treasures; like a bull I have brought down those who sat on thrones.
- My hand has found, like a nest, the wealth of the peoples; and as one gathers eggs that have been forsaken, so I have gathered all the earth; and there was none that moved a wing, or opened its mouth, or chirped."
- Shall the axe vaunt itself over the one who wields it, or the saw magnify itself against the one who handles it? As if a rod should raise the one who lifts it up, or as if a staff should lift the one who is not wood!
- Therefore the Sovereign, the Lord of hosts, will send wasting sickness among his stout warriors, and under his glory a burning will be kindled, like the burning of fire.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 94.5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 (R.14a)

- **R.** The Lord will not abandon his people.
- The proud crush your people, O Lord, and afflict your heritage.
- They kill the widow and the stranger, they murder the orphan. *R*.
- 7 They say, "The Lord does not see; the God of Jacob does not perceive."
- Understand, O dullest of the people; fools, when will you be wise? **R**.
- He who planted the ear, does he not hear? He who formed the eye, does he not see?
- He who disciplines the nations, he who teaches knowledge to human beings, does he not chastise? *R*.

- For the Lord will not forsake his people; he will not abandon his heritage;
- for justice will return to the righteous, and all the upright in heart will follow it. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Matthew 11.25-27

You have hidden these things from the wise and revealed them to infants.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- At that time Jesus said,
 "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
 because you have hidden these things
 from the wise and the intelligent
 and have revealed them to infants;
- yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.
- "All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

The gospel of the Lord.

392 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 26.7-9, 12, 16-19

O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- The way of the righteous is level;O Just One, you make smooth the path of the righteous.
- In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you; your name and your renown are the soul's desire.

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- My soul yearns for you in the night, my spirit within me earnestly seeks you. For when your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.
- 12 O Lord, you will ordain peace for us, for indeed, all that we have done, you have done for us.
- O Lord, in distress they sought you, 16 they poured out a prayer when your chastening was on them.
- 17 Like a woman with child, who writhes and cries out in her pangs when she is near her time. so were we because of you, O Lord;
- we were with child, we writhed, 18 but we gave birth only to wind. We have won no victories on earth, and no one is born to inhabit the world.
- 19 Your dead shall live, their corpses shall rise. O dwellers in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a radiant dew, and the earth will give birth to those long dead.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 102.12-14, 15-17, 18-20 (R.19b)

- **R.** From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.
- 12 You. O Lord, are enthroned forever: your name endures to all generations.
- 13 You will rise up and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to favour it;
- 14 For your servants hold its stones dear, and have pity on its dust. R.
- 15 The nations will fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth your glory.
- 16 For the Lord will build up Zion; he will appear in his glory.
- 17 He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer. R.

- Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord:
- that he looked down from his holy height, from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,
- to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 11.28-30

I am gentle and humble of heart.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said:

- ²⁸ "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.
- Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
- For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The gospel of the Lord.

393 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 38.1-6, 21-22, 7-8

I have heard your prayer and I have seen your tears.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came to him, and said, "Thus says the Lord: Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover."
- Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall, and prayed to the Lord:

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- "Remember now, O Lord, I implore you, how I have walked before you in faithfulness with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.
- Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah:
- "Go and say to Hezekiah,
 Thus says the Lord, the God of your ancestor David:
 I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears;
 I will add fifteen years to your life.
- I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria, and defend this city."
- Now Isaiah had said,
 "Let them take a lump of figs, and apply it to the boil, so that he may recover."
- Hezekiah also had said,
 "What is the sign that I shall go up to the house of the Lord?"

 Isaiah replied:
- "This is the sign to you from the Lord, that the Lord will do this thing that he has promised:
- See, I will make the shadow cast by the declining sun on the dial of Ahaz turn back ten steps."
 So the sun turned back on the dial the ten steps by which it had declined.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Isaiah 38.10, 11, 12abcd, 14b+16b (R. see 17b)

- R. You saved my life, O Lord; I shall not die.
- I said: In the noontide of my days
 I must depart;
 I am consigned to the gates of Sheol for the rest of my years. R.
- I said, I shall not see the Lord in the land of the living;
 I shall look upon mortals no more among the inhabitants of the world. R.
- My dwelling is plucked up and removed from me like a shepherd's tent; like a weaver I have rolled up my life; he cuts me off from the loom. **R**.

- My eyes are weary with looking upward. O Lord, I am oppressed; be my security!
- Oh, restore me to health and make me live! *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.17

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Matthew 12.1-8

The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- On the Sabbath, Jesus went through the grainfields; his disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat.
- When the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, "Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the sabbath."
- Jesus said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry?
- He entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him or his companions to eat, but only for the priests.
- Or have you not read in the law that on the sabbath the priests in the temple break the sabbath and yet are guiltless?
- 6 "I tell you, something greater than the temple is here.
- But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless.
- For the Son of Man is lord of the sabbath."

The gospel of the Lord.

394 SATURDAY

FIRST READING Micah 2.1-5

They seized the fields and took the houses.

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The Lord spoke to all the people these words:

- Alas for those who devise wickedness and evil deeds on their beds!
 When the morning dawns, they perform it, because it is in their power.
- They covet fields, and seize them; houses, and take them away; they oppress householder and house, people and their inheritance.
- Therefore thus says the Lord:
 Now, I am devising against this family an evil from which you cannot remove your necks; and you shall not walk haughtily, for it will be an evil time.
- On that day they shall take up a taunt song against you, and wail with bitter lamentation, and say, "We are utterly ruined; the Lord alters the inheritance of my people; how he removes it from me!

 Among our captors he parcels out our fields."
- Therefore you will have no one to cast the line by lot in the assembly of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 10.1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 (R.12b)

R. Do not forget the poor, O Lord!

- Why, O Lord, do you stand far off?
 Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?
- In arrogance the wicked persecute the poor—let them be caught in the schemes they have devised. *R.*

- For the wicked boast of the desires of their heart, those greedy for gain curse and renounce the Lord.
- In the pride of their countenance the wicked say, "God will not seek it out"; all their thoughts are, "There is no God." *R.*
- 7 Their mouths are filled with cursing and deceit and oppression; under their tongues are mischief and iniquity.
- They sit in ambush in the villages; in hiding places they murder the innocent. **R**.
- But you do see! Indeed you note trouble and grief, that you may take it into your hands; the helpless commit themselves to you; you have been the helper of the orphan. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 5.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

GOSPEL Matthew 12.14-21

Jesus ordered them not to make him known to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophets.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- The Pharisees went out and conspired against Jesus, how to destroy him.
- When Jesus became aware of this, he departed.

 Many crowds followed him, and he cured all of them,
- and he ordered them not to make him known.
- 17 This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah:
- "Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.
- He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets.
- "He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smouldering wick until he brings justice to victory.
- And in his name the Gentiles will hope."

The gospel of the Lord.

SIXTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

395 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Micah 6.1-4, 6-8

I will make known to you, what the Lord asks of you.

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

- Hear what the Lord says:

 "Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.
- Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.
- "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
- For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.
- "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
- Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
 Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
- He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50.5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21+23 (R.23b)

- **R.** To the upright I will show the saving power of God.
- Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"
- The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. **R**.
- "Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.
- I will not accept a bull from your house, or goats from your folds. *R.*
- "What right have you to recite my statutes, or take my covenant on your lips?
- For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you. *R.*
- ²¹ "These things you have done and I have been silent; you thought that I was one just like yourself.
- Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honour me; to those who go the right way I will show the salvation of God." *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 12.38-42

The queen of the south will rise in judgment with this generation.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Jesus, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you."
- But Jesus answered them,
 "An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign,
 but no sign will be given to it
 except the sign of the prophet Jonah.
- For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth.
- "The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it,

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because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here!

"The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!"

The gospel of the Lord.

396 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Micah 7.14-15, 18-20

God will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

- Shepherd your people with your staff, the flock that belongs to you, which lives alone in a forest in the midst of a garden land; let them feed in Bashan and Gilead as in the days of old.
- As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, show us marvellous things.
- Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of your possession? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in showing clemency.
- He will again have compassion upon us; he will tread our iniquities under foot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.
- You will show faithfulness to Jacob and unswerving loyalty to Abraham, as you have sworn to our ancestors from the days of old.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85.1-3, 4-5, 6-7 (R.7a)

- **R.** Lord, show us your mercy and love.
- Lord, you were favourable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.
- You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger. *R.*
- 4 Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us.
- Will you be angry with us forever?Will you prolong your anger to all generations? *R*.
- Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you?
- 7 Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL

Matthew 12.46, 48-50++

Pointing to his disciples, Jesus said, "Here are my mother and my brothers."

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- While Jesus was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers were standing outside, wanting to speak to him.
- But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?"
- And pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!
- For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

The gospel of the Lord.

397 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 1.1, 4-10

I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah, of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin.
- 4 Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,
- "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."
- Then I said, "Ah, Lord God!
 Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy."
- But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you,
- Bo not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord."
- Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth;and the Lord said to me,"Now I have put my words in your mouth.
- See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 71.1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab+17 (R.15ab)

R. I will sing of your salvation.

- In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
- In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. **R**.

- Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.
- Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked. *R.*For you, O Lord, are my hope,
 my trust, O Lord, from my youth.
- Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. R.
- My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all day long,
- O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 13.1-9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.1-9

The seeds` brought forth grain, a hundredfold.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- One day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea.
- Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.
- And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow.
- And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.
- Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.
- But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.
- Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.
- 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.
- "Let anyone with ears listen!"

The gospel of the Lord.

398 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 2.1-3, 7-8, 12-13

They have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug for themselves cracked cisterns.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- The word of the Lord came to me, saying:
- Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem,
 Thus says the Lord:
 I remember the devotion of your youth,
 your love as a bride,
 how you followed me in the wilderness,
 in a land not sown.
- Israel was holy to the Lord, the first fruits of his harvest. All who ate of it were held guilty; disaster came upon them, says the Lord.
- I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things.
 But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.
- The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?"
 Those who handle the law did not know me;
 the rulers transgressed against me;
 the prophets prophesied by Baal,
 and went after things that do not profit.
- Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord,
- for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 36.5-6, 7-8, 9-10 (R.9a)

- **R.** You are the source of life, O Lord.
- Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.
- Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep. *R*.
- How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
 All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
- They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. *R*.
- For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.
- O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart! *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.10-17

To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to others it has not been given.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- The disciples came and asked Jesus, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"
- He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given.
- "For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.
- The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.'
- "With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says: 'You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive.

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- For this people's heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them.'
- "But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.
- 17 Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

The gospel of the Lord.

399 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 3.14-17

I will give you shepherds after my own heart; and all nations will gather in Jerusalem.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- Return, O faithless children, says the Lord, for I am your master;
 I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion.
- I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.
- And when you have multiplied and increased in the land, in those days, says the Lord, they shall no longer say, "The ark of the covenant of the Lord." It shall not come to mind, or be remembered, or missed; nor shall another one be made.
- At that time Jerusalem shall be called the throne of the Lord, and all nations shall gather to it, to the presence of the Lord in Jerusalem, and they shall no longer stubbornly follow their own evil will.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Jeremiah 31.10, 11-12ab, 13 (R.10d)

- **R.** The Lord will guard us, like a shepherd guarding his flock.
- Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." R.
- For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
- They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord. *R.*
- Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.

 I will turn their mourning into joy,
 I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 8.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.18-23

The one who hears the word and understands it, bears fruit.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Hear then the parable of the sower.
- When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.
- 20 "As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
- yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.

FRIDAY 1507

- "As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.
- "But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The gospel of the Lord.

400 SATURDAY

FIRST READING Jeremiah 7.1-11

Has the house which is called by my name become a den of robbers?

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord:
- Stand in the gate of the Lord's house,
 and proclaim there this word, and say,
 Hear the word of the Lord, all you people of Judah,
 you that enter these gates to worship the Lord.
- Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and let me dwell with you in this place.
- Do not trust in these deceptive words:

 "This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord,"
- For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another,
- if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt,
- 7 then I will dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your ancestors forever and ever.
- 8 Here you are, trusting in deceptive words to no avail.

- Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known,
- and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, "We are safe!" —only to go on doing all these abominations?
- Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your sight?
 You know, I too am watching, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 84.2, 3, 4-5a+7a, 10 (R.1)

- **R.** How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!
- My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. *R*.
- Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. *R*.
- 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- Happy are those whose strength is in you,
- 7 They go from strength to strength. R.
- For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

James 1.21

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Receive and submit to the word planted in you; it can save your souls.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.24-30

Let both of them grow until the harvest.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus put before the people another parable:"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;
- but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away.
- "So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.
- And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?'
- He answered, 'An enemy has done this.'

 "The slaves said to him,

 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?'
- But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.
- Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

The gospel of the Lord.

SEVENTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

401 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 13.1-11

This people shall be like this loincloth which is good for nothing.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- Thus said the Lord to me,
 "Go and buy yourself a linen loincloth,
 and put it on your loins, but do not dip it in water."
- So I bought a loincloth according to the word of the Lord, and put it on my loins.
- And the word of the Lord came to me a second time, saying,
- "Take the loincloth that you bought and are wearing, and go now to the Euphrates, and hide it there in a cleft of the rock."
- So I went, and hid it by the Euphrates, as the Lord commanded me.
- And after many days the Lord said to me, "Go now to the Euphrates, and take from there the loincloth that I commanded you to hide there."
- Then I went to the Euphrates, and dug, and I took the loincloth from the place where I had hidden it. But now the loincloth was ruined; it was good for nothing.
- 8 Then the word of the Lord came to me:
- Thus says the Lord: Just so I will ruin the pride of Judah and the great pride of Jerusalem.
- This evil people, who refuse to hear my words, who stubbornly follow their own will and have gone after other gods to serve them and worship them, shall be like this loincloth, which is good for nothing.

For as the loincloth clings to one's loins, so I made the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah cling to me, says the Lord, in order that they might be for me a people, a name, a praise, and a glory.

But they would not listen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE Deuteronomy 32.4+18, 19-20, 21+36ad (R. see 18a)

- **R.** You have forgotten God, who gave you birth.
- The Rock, his work is perfect and all his ways are just.
 A faithful God, without deceit, just and upright is he.
- Yet you were unmindful of the Rock that bore you; you forgot the God who gave you birth. *R.*
- The Lord saw it, and was jealous he spurned his sons and daughters.
- He said: I will hide my face from them,
 I will see what their end will be;
 for they are a perverse generation,
 children in whom there is no faithfulness. R.
- They made me jealous with what is no god, provoked me with their idols.
 So I will make them jealous with what is no people, provoke them with a foolish nation.
- Indeed the Lord will vindicate his people, when he sees that their power is gone. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

James 1.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.31-35

The mustard seed becomes a tree so that the birds of the air nest in its branches.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus put before the people another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;
- it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."
- 33 He told them another parable:
 "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."
- Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing.
- This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: "I will open my mouth to speak in parables;
 I will proclaim what has been hidden from the foundation of the world."

The gospel of the Lord.

402 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 14.17-22

Remember, Lord, do not break your covenant with us.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The Lord said to me,

You shall say to the people this word:

Let my eyes run down with tears night and day, and let them not cease,
for the virgin daughter—my people—
is struck down with a crushing blow, with a very grievous wound.

- If I go out into the field, look—those killed by the sword! And if I enter the city, look—those sick with famine! For both prophet and priest ply their trade throughout the land, and have no knowledge.
- Have you completely rejected Judah?
 Does your heart loathe Zion?
 Why have you struck us down
 so that there is no healing for us?
 We look for peace, but find no good;
 for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.
- We acknowledge our wickedness, O Lord, the iniquity of our ancestors, for we have sinned against you.
- Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonour your glorious throne; remember and do not break your covenant with us.
- Can any idols of the nations bring rain?
 Or can the heavens give showers?
 Is it not you, O Lord our God?
 We set our hope on you,
 for it is you who do all this.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 79.5+8, 9+11, 13 (R.9b)

- **R.** For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.
- How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever?
- Do not remember against us the iniquities of our ancestors; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. *R*.
- Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins, for your name's sake.
- Let the groans of the prisoners come before you; according to your great power preserve those doomed to die. **R**.
- Then we your people, the flock of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.36-43

As the weeds are collected and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus left the crowds and went into the house.

 And his disciples approached him, saying,
 "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field."
- He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man;
- the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one,
- and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.
- "Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.
- The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,
- and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

"Let anyone with ears listen!"

The gospel of the Lord.

403 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 15.10, 16-21

Why is my pain unceasing? If you turn back, I will take you back into my presence.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Jeremiah cried out to the Lord:

- Woe is me, my mother, that you ever bore me, a man of strife and contention to the whole land! I have not lent, nor have I borrowed, yet all of them curse me.
- Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.
- I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.
- Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?

 Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.
- Therefore thus says the Lord:
 If you turn back, I will take you back,
 and you shall stand before me.
 If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
 you shall serve as my mouth.
 It is they who will turn to you,
 not you who will turn to them.
- And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you,

for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord.

I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 59.1-2, 3-4a, 9-10, 16, 17 (R.16d)

- **R.** God is my refuge on the day of distress.
- Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; protect me from those who rise up against me.
- Deliver me from those who work evil; from the bloodthirsty save me. **R**.
- Even now they lie in wait for my life; the mighty stir up strife against me. For no transgression or sin of mine, O Lord,
- for no fault of mine, they run and make ready. **R**.
- O my strength, I will watch for you; for you, O God, are my fortress.
- My God in his steadfast love will meet me; my God will let me look in triumph on my enemies. *R*.
- But I will sing of your might;
 I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.
 For you have been a fortress for me
 and a refuge in the day of my distress. R.
- O my strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I call you my friends, says the Lord,

for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.44-46

He sells all he has and buys that field.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds:

- "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.
- "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
- on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

The gospel of the Lord.

404 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 18.1-6

Like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord:
- ² "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words."
- So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel.
- The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.
- 5 Then the word of the Lord came to me:
- 6 Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.5a)

- **R.** Blest are they whose help is the God of Jacob.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 1 Praise the Lord, O my soul!
- I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
 I will sing praises to my God all my life long. R.
- Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.
- When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish. *R.*
- Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Acts 16.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.47-52

They put the good ones in a basket and throw away the bad.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds:

- "The kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;
- when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.
- "So it will be at the end of the age.The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous
- and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."

 \triangleright

And Jesus said to them,
"Therefore every scribe who has been trained
for the kingdom of heaven
is like the master of a household
who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The gospel of the Lord.

405 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Jeremiah 26.1-9

All the people gathered in the house of the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- At the beginning of the reign of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah, this word came from the Lord:
- Thus says the Lord:
 Stand in the court of the Lord's house,
 and speak to all the cities of Judah
 that come to worship in the house of the Lord;
 speak to them all the words that I command you;
 do not hold back a word.
- It may be that they will listen, all of them, and will turn from their evil way, that I may change my mind about the disaster that I intend to bring on them because of their evil doings.
- You shall say to them:
 Thus says the Lord:
 If you will not listen to me,
 to walk in my law that I have set before you,
- and to heed the words of my servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently—though you have not heeded—
- 6 then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.
- 7 The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the Lord.

- And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the Lord had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, "You shall die!
- Why have you prophesied in the name of the Lord, saying, 'This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant'?" And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 69.1+4ab, 4cd+7, 8-9, 13 (R.13c)

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

- Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck.
- More in number than the hairs of my head are those who hate me without cause. R.
 Many are those who would destroy me, my enemies who accuse me falsely.
- It is for your sake that I have borne reproach, that shame has covered my face. **R**.
- I have become a stranger to my kindred, an alien to my mother's children.
- It is zeal for your house that has consumed me; the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me. *R.*
- But as for me, my prayer is to you, O Lord.
 At an acceptable time, O God,
 in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me
 with your faithful help. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Peter 1.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the good news.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.54-58

Is this not the carpenter's son? Where did this man get all this?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus came to his hometown and began to teach the people in their synagogue, so that they were astounded and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these deeds of power?
- Is not this the carpenter's son?
 Is not his mother called Mary?
 And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?
- And are not all his sisters with us?
 Where then did this man get all this?"
- And they took offense at him.

But Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honour except in their own country and in their own house."

And Jesus did not do many deeds of power there, because of their unbelief.

The gospel of the Lord.

406 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 26.11-16, 24

In truth the Lord sent me to speak all these words to you.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

After Jeremiah had spoken all that the Lord had commanded, the officials of Judah came from the king's house and took their seat at the New Gate of the house of the Lord.

- Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, "This man deserves the sentence of death because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears."
- Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, "It is the Lord who sent me

- to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard.
- Now therefore amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the Lord your God, and the Lord will change his mind about the disaster that he has pronounced against you.
- "But as for me, here I am in your hands.Do with me as seems good and right to you.
- Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will be bringing innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the Lord sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears."
- Then the officials and all the people said to the priests and the prophets, "This man does not deserve the sentence of death, for he has spoken to us in the name of the Lord our God."
- But the hand of Ahikam son of Shaphan was with Jeremiah so that he was not given over into the hands of the people to be put to death.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 69.14-15, 29-30, 32-33 (R. see 13)

- **R.** Lord, in your great love, answer me.
- Rescue me from sinking in the mire; let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.
- Do not let the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up, or the Pit close its mouth over me. R.
- But I am lowly and in pain; let your salvation, O God, protect me.
- I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving. *R.*
- Let the oppressed see it and be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive.
- For the Lord hears the needy, and does not despise his own that are in bonds. *R*.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.1-12

Herod sent and had John beheaded, and his disciples came and told Jesus.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Herod the ruler heard reports about Jesus;
- and he said to his servants,

 "This is John the Baptist;
 he has been raised from the dead,
 and for this reason these powers are at work in him."
- For Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife,
- because John had been telling him,"It is not lawful for you to have her."
- Though Herod wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, because they regarded John as a prophet.
- But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company, and she pleased Herod so much that he promised on oath
- 7 to grant her whatever she might ask.
- Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter."
- The king was grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he commanded it to be given;
- he sent and had John beheaded in the prison.
- The head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, who brought it to her mother.
- His disciples came and took the body and buried it; then they went and told Jesus.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

EIGHTEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

407 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 28.1-17

Hananiah, the Lord has not sent you, and you made this people trust in a lie.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- At the beginning of the reign of King Zedekiah of Judah, in the fifth month of the fourth year, the prophet Hananiah son of Azzur, from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the Lord, in the presence of the priests and all the people, saying,
- ² "Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon.
- Within two years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the Lord's house, which King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon.
- I will also bring back to this place King Jeconiah son of Jehoiakim of Judah, and all the exiles from Judah who went to Babylon, says the Lord, for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon."
- Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord;
- and the prophet Jeremiah said,
 "Amen! May the Lord do so;
 may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied,
 and bring back to this place from Babylon
 the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles.
- But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people.
- The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms.
- As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

- Then the prophet Hananiah took the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, and broke it.
- And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, "Thus says the Lord:
 This is how I will break the yoke of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon from the neck of all the nations within two years."
 At this, the prophet Jeremiah went his way.
- Sometime after the prophet Hananiah had broken the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah:
- Go, tell Hananiah, Thus says the Lord:

You have broken wooden bars only to forge iron bars in place of them!

- 14 For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel:
 I have put an iron yoke on the neck of all these nations so that they may serve King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and they shall indeed serve him;
 I have even given him the wild animals.
- And the prophet Jeremiah said to the prophet Hananiah, "Listen, Hananiah, the Lord has not sent you, and you made this people trust in a lie.
- Therefore thus says the Lord:
 I am going to send you off the face of the earth.
 Within this year you will be dead,
 because you have spoken rebellion against the Lord."
- In that same year, in the seventh month, the prophet Hananiah died.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.29+43, 79-80, 95+102 (R.86b)

- **R.** Teach me your laws, O Lord.
- Put false ways far from me; and graciously teach me your law.
- Do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your ordinances. **R**.
- Let those who fear you turn to me, so that they may know you decrees.
- May my heart be blameless in your statutes, so that I may not be put to shame. **R**.

- The wicked lie in wait to destroy me, but I consider your decrees.
- I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me. *R*.

YEAR A

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1.49

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Master, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.22-36

Command me to come to you on the water.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- After the crowd had eaten enough,
 Jesus made the disciples get into a boat
 and go on ahead to the other side,
 while he dismissed the crowds.
- And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray.

When evening came, he was there alone,

- but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.
- And early in the morning
 Jesus came walking toward them on the sea.
- But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!"

 And they cried out in fear.
- But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."
- Peter answered him,
 "Lord, if it is you,
 command me to come to you on the water."
- Jesus said, "Come."
 So Peter got out of the boat,
 started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.
- But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"
- Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

MONDAY 1527

- When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.
- And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."
- When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.
- After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him,
- and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The gospel of the Lord.

YEARS B and C

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4.4

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.13-21

Jesus looked up to heaven, blessed the loaves and gave them to the disciples; and they gave them to the crowds.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.
- When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick.
- When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."
- Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat."
- They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish."
- And he said, "Bring them here to me."
- Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish,

Jesus looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

- And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.
- And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.

408 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 30.1-2, 12-15, 18-22

Because your sins are so many, I have done these things to you.

I will restore the dwellings of Jacob.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord:
- Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel:
 Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you.
- For thus says the Lord: Your hurt is incurable, your wound is grievous.
- There is no one to uphold your cause, no medicine for your wound, no healing for you.
- All your lovers have forgotten you; they care nothing for you; for I have dealt you the blow of an enemy, the punishment of a merciless foe, because your guilt is great, because your sins are so numerous.
- Why do you cry out over your hurt?
 Your pain is incurable.
 Because your guilt is great,
 because your sins are so numerous,
 I have done these things to you.

- Thus says the Lord:
 I am going to restore the fortunes of the tents of Jacob, and have compassion on his dwellings; the city shall be rebuilt upon its mound, and the citadel set on its rightful site.
- Out of them shall come thanksgiving, and the sound of merrymakers.

 I will make them many, and they shall not be few;
 I will make them honoured, and they shall not be disdained.
- Their children shall be as of old, their congregation shall be established before me; and I will punish all who oppress them.
- Their prince shall be one of their own, their ruler shall come from their midst; I will bring him near, and he shall approach me, for who would otherwise dare to approach me? says the Lord.
- And you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 102.15-17, 18-20, 28+21-22 (R.16)

- **R.** The Lord will build up Zion again, and appear in all his glory.
- The nations will fear the name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth your glory.
- For the Lord will build up Zion; he will appear in his glory.
- He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer. *R.*
- Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord:
- that he looked down from his holy height, from heaven the Lord looked at the earth,
- to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die. **R**.

- The children of your servants shall live secure; their offspring shall be established in your presence.
- so that the name of the Lord may be declared in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem,
- when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the Lord. *R.*

YEAR A

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1.49

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Master, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15.1-2, 10-14

Every plant my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said,
- "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands before they eat."
- Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:
- it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles."
- Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?"
- Jesus answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.
- Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind.
 And if one blind person guides another,
 both will fall into a pit."

The gospel of the Lord.

YEARS B and C

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1.49

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Master, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.22-36

Command me to come to you on the water.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- After the crowd had eaten enough,
 Jesus made the disciples get into a boat
 and go on ahead to the other side,
 while he dismissed the crowds.
- And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,
- but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.
- And early in the morning
 Jesus came walking toward them on the sea.
- But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!"

 And they cried out in fear.
- But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."
- Peter answered him,
 "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."
- Jesus said, "Come."
 So Peter got out of the boat,
 started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.
- But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"
- Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"
- When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.
- And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."
- When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.
- After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him,
- and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

409 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31.1-7

I have loved you with an everlasting love.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.
- Thus says the Lord:
 The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest,
- the Lord appeared to him from far away.
 I have loved you with an everlasting love;
 therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.
- Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
 O virgin Israel!
 Again you shall take your tambourines,
 and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.
- Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit.
- For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God."
- For thus says the Lord:
 Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
 and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
 proclaim, give praise, and say,
 "Save, O Lord, your people,
 the remnant of Israel."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Jeremiah 31.10, 11-12ab, 13 (R.10d)

- **R.** The Lord will guide us, like a shepherd guarding his flock.
- Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." R.
- For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
- They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord. *R.*
- Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.

 I will turn their mourning into joy,
 I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 7.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15.21-28

Woman, great is your faith.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon.
- And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting,
 "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon."
- But Jesus did not answer her at all.
 And his disciples came and urged him, saying,
 "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us."
- He answered,
 - "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."
- But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."
- Jesus answered,"It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."

- She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."
- Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith!
 Let it be done for you as you wish."
 And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel of the Lord.

410 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31.31-34

I will make a new covenant with them, and remember their sins no more.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
- It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.
- But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord:
 I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
- No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 51.10-11, 12-13, 16-17

- **R.** Create a clean heart in me, O God.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. *R*.
- Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. *R.*
- For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
- The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 16.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold against it.

GOSPEL Matthew 16.13-23

You are Peter and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"
- 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
- He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
- Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Christ, the Son of the living God."
- And Jesus answered him,
 "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!
 For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.

- And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.
- I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
- Then Jesus sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah, the Christ.
- From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
- And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you."
- But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The gospel of the Lord.

411 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Nahum 1.15c; 2.2; 3.1-3, 6-7

Woe to the City of bloodshed.

A reading from the book of the prophet Nahum.

- Look!
 - On the mountains are the feet of one who brings good tidings, who proclaims peace!
 Celebrate your festivals, O Judah,
 fulfill your vows,
 for never again shall the wicked invade you;
 they are utterly cut off.
- For the Lord is restoring the majesty of Jacob, as well as the majesty of Israel, though ravagers have ravaged them and ruined their branches.

- Ah! City of bloodshed, utterly deceitful, full of booty no end to the plunder!
- The crack of whip and rumble of wheel, galloping horse and bounding chariot!
- Horsemen charging, flashing sword and glittering spear, piles of dead, heaps of corpses, dead bodies without end they stumble over the bodies!
- I will throw filth at you and treat you with contempt, and make you a spectacle.
- 7 Then all who see you will shrink from you and say, "Nineveh is devastated; who will bemoan her?" Where shall I seek comforters for you?

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Deuteronomy 32.35-36, 39, 41 (R.39c)

- **R.** It is I who deal death and give life.
- The day of their calamity is at hand, their doom comes swiftly.
- Indeed the Lord will vindicate his people, have compassion on his servants. **R**.
- See now that I, even I, am he; there is no god besides me. I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal. R.
- When I whet my flashing sword, and my hand takes hold on judgment; I will take vengeance on my adversaries, and will repay those who hate me. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL Matthew 16.24-28

What will they give in return for their life?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus told his disciples,
 "If any want to become my followers,
 let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
- For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.
- For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?

 Or what will they give in return for their life?
- 27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.
- Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord.

412 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Habakkuk 1.12 - 2.4

The righteous live by faith.

A reading from the book of the prophet Habakkuk.

- Are you not from of old,
 O Lord my God, my Holy One?
 You shall not die.
 O Lord, you have marked them for judgment;
 and you, O Rock, have established them for punishment.
- Your eyes are too pure to behold evil, and you cannot look on wrongdoing; why do you look on the treacherous, and are silent when the wicked swallow those more righteous than they?

>

- You have made people like the fish of the sea, like crawling things that have no ruler.
- The enemy brings all of them up with a hook; he drags them out with his net, he gathers them in his seine; so he rejoices and exults.
- Therefore he sacrifices to his net and makes offerings to his seine; for by them his portion is lavish, and his food is rich.
- Is he then to keep on emptying his net, and destroying nations without mercy?
- I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint.
- Then the Lord answered me and said:
 Write the vision;
 make it plain on tablets,
 so that a runner may read it.
- For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie.
 If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay.
- Look at the proud!

 Their spirit is not right in them,
 but the righteous live by their faith.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 9.7-8, 9-10, 11-12 (R.10b)

- **R.** You will never abandon those who seek you, Lord.
- 7 The Lord sits enthroned forever, he has established his throne for judgment.
- He judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with equity. **R**.
- The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.
- And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you. *R.*

Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion. Declare his deeds among the peoples.

For he who avenges blood is mindful of them; he does not forget the cry of the afflicted. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Matthew 17.14-20

If you have faith, nothing will be impossible for you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

After the transfiguration,
Jesus with Peter, James and John came down from the mountain.
When they came to the crowd,
a man came to Jesus, knelt before him, and said,

- "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water.
- And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him."
- Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you?How much longer must I put up with you?Bring him here to me."
- And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly.
- Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?"
- Jesus said to them, "Because of your little faith.
 For truly I tell you,
 if you have faith the size of a mustard seed,
 you will say to this mountain,
 'Move from here to there,' and it will move;
 and nothing will be impossible for you."

The gospel of the Lord.

NINETEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

413 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 1.2-5, 24-28c

This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord.

- On the fifth day of the month (it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin),
- the word of the Lord came to the priest Ezekiel son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the Lord was on him there.
- As I looked, a stormy wind came out of the north: a great cloud with brightness around it and fire flashing forth continually, and in the middle of the fire, something like gleaming amber.
- In the middle of it was something like four living creatures. This was their appearance: they were of human form.
- When they moved, I heard the sound of their wings like the sound of mighty waters, like the thunder of the Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of an army; when they stopped, they let down their wings.
- And there came a voice from above the dome over their heads; when they stopped, they let down their wings.
- And above the dome over their heads there was something like a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the likeness of a throne was something that seemed like a human form.
- Upward from what appeared like the loins
 I saw something like gleaming amber,
 something that looked like fire enclosed all around;
 and downward from what looked like the loins
 I saw something that looked like fire,
 and there was a splendour all around.

Like the bow in a cloud on a rainy day, such was the appearance of the splendour all around. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. When I saw it, I fell on my face.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 148.1-2, 11-12, 13, 14

R. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
- Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! R.
- Praise the Lord, Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- Young men and women alike, old and young together! *R.*
- Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. *R.*
- He has raised up salvation for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord! **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Thessalonians 2.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God has called us with the gospel, to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Matthew 17.22-27

The Son of Man will be killed and he will be raised. The children are free from the tax.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- As the disciples were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands,
- and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised."

 And they were greatly distressed.
- When they reached Capernaum, the collectors of the temple tax came to Peter and said, "Does your teacher not pay the temple tax?"
- Peter said, "Yes, he does."

 And when he came home, Jesus spoke of it first, asking, "What do you think, Simon?

 From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tribute?

 From their children or from others?"
- When Peter said, "From others,"
 Jesus said to him, "Then the children are free.
- However, so that we do not give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook; take the first fish that comes up; and when you open its mouth, you will find a coin; take that and give it to them for you and me."

The gospel of the Lord.

414 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 2.8 – 3.4

He gave me the scroll to eat, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord:

- But you, mortal, hear what I say to you; do not be rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you.
- I looked, and a hand was stretched out to me, and a written scroll was in it.
- He spread it before me;it had writing on the front and on the back,

and written on it were words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

- He said to me, O mortal, eat what is offered to you; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel.
- So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat.
- He said to me,
 Mortal, eat this scroll that I give you
 and fill your stomach with it.
 Then I ate it; and in my mouth it was as sweet as honey.
- He said to me:
 Mortal, go to the house of Israel and speak my very words to them.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.14+24, 72+103, 111+131 (R.103a)

- **R.** How sweet to my taste is your promise!
- I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches.
- Your decrees are my delight, they are my counsellors. **R**.
- The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.
- How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! **R**.
- Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.
- With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.29

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

Take my yoke upon you,

learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
- ² Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, and said,
- "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.
- "Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.
- "What do you think?

 If a shepherd has a hundred sheep,
 and one of them has gone astray,
 does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains
 and go in search of the one that went astray?
- And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray.
- "So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

415 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 9.1-7; 10.18-22

Go through Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of those who sigh and groan over her abominations.

- The Lord cried in my hearing with a loud voice, saying, "Draw near, you executioners of the city, each with his destroying weapon in his hand."
- And six men came from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with his weapon for slaughter in his hand; among them was a man clothed in linen, with a writing case at his side.

 They went in and stood beside the bronze altar.
- Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub on which it rested to the threshold of the house.

 The Lord called to the man clothed in linen, who had the writing case at his side,
- and said to him,
 "Go through the city, through Jerusalem,
 and put a mark on the foreheads of those who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it."
- To the others he said in my hearing, "Pass through the city after him, and kill; your eye shall not spare, and you shall show no pity.
- Cut down old men, young men and young women, little children and women, but touch no one who has the mark.
 And begin at my sanctuary."
 So they began with the elders who were in front of the house.
- Then the Lord said to them,
 "Defile the house,
 and fill the courts with the slain. Go!"
 So they went out and killed in the city.
- Then the glory of the Lord went out from the threshold of the house and stopped above the cherubim.

- The cherubim lifted up their wings and rose up from the earth in my sight as they went out with the wheels beside them.

 They stopped at the entrance of the east gate of the house of the Lord; and the glory of the God of Israel was above them.
- These were the living creatures that I saw underneath the God of Israel by the river Chebar; and I knew that they were cherubim.
- Each had four faces, each four wings, and underneath their wings something like human hands.
- As for what their faces were like, they were the same faces whose appearance I had seen by the river Chebar. Each one moved straight ahead.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.4b)

- **R.** The glory of the Lord is higher than the skies.
- Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.
- Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. *R*.
- From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. *R*.
- Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,
- who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 5.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.15-20

If a member listens to you, you have regained that one.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the brother or sister listens to you, you have regained that one.
- But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.
- If the brother or sister refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.
- "Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.
- Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.
- For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The gospel of the Lord.

416 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 12.1-16++

You shall go out by day when they can see you.

- The word of the Lord came to me:
- Mortal, you are living in the midst of a rebellious house, who have eyes to see but do not see, who have ears to hear but do not hear;
- for they are a rebellious house.

 Therefore, mortal, prepare for yourself an exile's baggage, and go into exile by day in their sight; you shall go like an exile from your place to another place in their sight.

 Perhaps they will understand, though they are a rebellious house.
- You shall bring out your baggage by day in their sight, as baggage for exile; and you shall go out yourself at evening in their sight, as those do who go into exile.
- Dig through the wall in their sight, and carry the baggage through it.
- In their sight you shall lift the baggage on your shoulder, and carry it out in the dark; you shall cover your face, so that you may not see the land; for I have made you a sign for the house of Israel.
- I did just as I was commanded.
 I brought out my baggage by day, as baggage for exile, and in the evening I dug through the wall with my own hands; I brought it out in the dark, carrying it on my shoulder in their sight.
- In the morning the word of the Lord came to me:
- 9 Mortal, has not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said to you, "What are you doing?"
- Say to them, "Thus says the Lord God:
 This oracle concerns the prince in Jerusalem and all the house of Israel in it."
- Say, "I am a sign for you: as I have done, so shall it be done to them; they shall go into exile, into captivity."

- And the prince who is among them shall lift his baggage on his shoulder in the dark, and shall go out; he shall dig through the wall and carry it through; he shall cover his face, so that he may not see the land with his eyes.
- I will spread my net over him, and he shall be caught in my snare; and I will bring him to Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans, yet he shall not see it; and he shall die there.
- I will scatter to every wind all who are around him, his helpers and all his troops; and I will unsheathe the sword behind them.
- And they shall know that I am the Lord, when I disperse them among the nations and scatter them through the countries.
- But I will let a few of them escape from the sword, from famine and pestilence, so that they may tell of all their abominations among the nations where they go; then they shall know that I am the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 78.56-57, 58-59, 61-62 (R. see 7b)

- **R.** Do not forget the works of the Lord!
- Our ancestors tested the Most High God, and rebelled against him. They did not observe his decrees,
- but turned away and were faithless like their ancestors; they twisted like a treacherous bow. *R.*
- For they provoked him to anger with their high places; they moved him to jealousy with their idols.
- When God heard, he was full of wrath, and he utterly rejected Israel. *R.*
- The Lord delivered his power to captivity, his glory to the hand of the foe.
- He gave his people to the sword, and vented his wrath on his heritage. **R**.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18.21-35 - 19.1

Not seven times, I tell you, but seventy-seven.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Peter came to Jesus and said,
 "Lord, if a brother or sister sins against me,
 how often would I forgive?
 As many as seven times?"
- Jesus said to Peter, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.
- ²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.
- When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him;
- and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.
- So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'
- And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.
- "But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'
- Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'
- But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.
- "When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.
- Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

- Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'
- And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.
- "So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."
- When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan.

The gospel of the Lord.

417 FRIDAY

An alternative reading follows this one.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 16.1-15, 60, 63

Your beauty was perfect because of the splendour I bestowed on you, and you played the harlot.

- The word of the Lord came to me:
- Mortal, make known to Jerusalem her abominations, and say,
- Thus says the Lord God to Jerusalem:
 Your origin and your birth were in the land of the Canaanites;
 your father was an Amorite, and your mother a Hittite.
- As for your birth, on the day you were born your navel cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to cleanse you, nor rubbed with salt, nor wrapped in cloths.
- No eye pitied you, to do any of these things for you out of compassion for you; but you were thrown out in the open field, for you were abhorred on the day you were born.
- I passed by you, and saw you flailing about in your blood. As you lay in your blood, I said to you, "Live!
- ⁷ and grow up like a plant of the field."

You grew up and became tall and arrived at full womanhood; your breasts were formed, and your hair had grown; yet you were naked and bare.

- 8 I passed by you again and looked on you; you were at the age for love. I spread the edge of my cloak over you, and covered your nakedness: I pledged myself to you and entered into a covenant with you, says the Lord God, and you became mine.
- 9 Then I bathed you with water and washed off the blood from you, and anointed you with oil.
- 10 I clothed you with embroidered cloth and with sandals of fine leather; I bound you in fine linen and covered you with rich fabric.
- I adorned you with ornaments: 11 I put bracelets on your arms, a chain on your neck,
- 12 a ring on your nose, earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown upon your head.
- You were adorned with gold and silver, 13 while your clothing was of fine linen, rich fabric, and embroidered cloth. You had choice flour and honey and oil for food. You grew exceedingly beautiful, fit to be a queen.
- Your fame spread among the nations on account of your beauty, 14 for it was perfect because of my splendour that I had bestowed on you, says the Lord God.
- 15 But you trusted in your beauty, and played the whore because of your fame, and lavished your whorings on any passer-by.
- 60 Yet I will remember my covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish with you an everlasting covenant
- 63 in order that you may remember and be confounded, and never open your mouth again because of your shame, when I forgive you all that you have done, says the Lord God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Ezekiel 16.59-63

I will remember my covenant with you that you may be confounded.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- Thus says the Lord God:
 I will deal with you as you have done,
 you who have despised the oath, breaking the covenant;
- yet I will remember my covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish with you an everlasting covenant.
- Then you will remember your ways, and be ashamed when I take your sisters, both your elder and your younger, and give them to you as daughters, but not on account of my covenant with you.
- I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall know that I am the Lord,
- in order that you may remember and be confounded, and never open your mouth again because of your shame, when I forgive you all that you have done, says the Lord God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Isaiah 12.2, 3+4bc, 4d-6 (R.1c)

- **R.** You have turned from your anger to comfort me.
- Surely God is my salvation;
 I will trust, and will not be afraid,
 for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
 he has become my salvation. *R*.
- With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
- And you will say in that day:
 Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
 make known his deeds among the nations. *R*.
 - Proclaim that his name is exalted.

 Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;

let this be known in all the earth.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. *R.*

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God.

GOSPEL Matthew 19.3-12

> Because you were so hard-hearted Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- 3 Some Pharisees came to Jesus, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?"
- Jesus answered, 4
 - "Have you not read that the one who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,'
- 5 and said.
 - 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,
 - and the two shall become one flesh'?
- So they are no longer two, but one flesh. 6 Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."
- 7 They said to him, "Why then did Moses command us to give a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her?"
- Jesus said to them, "It was because you were so hard-hearted 8 that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.
- And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, 9 except for unchastity, and marries another commits adultery."
- His disciples said to him, 10 "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry."
- But Jesus said to them, "Not everyone can accept this teaching, 11 but only those to whom it is given.
- For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, 12 and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.
 - "Let anyone accept this who can."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

418 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18.1-10, 13b, 30-32

I will judge all of you according to your ways.

- The word of the Lord came to me:
- What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"?
- As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel.
- Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.
- If a man is righteous and does what is lawful and right—
- if he does not eat upon the mountains or lift up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, does not defile his neighbour's wife or approach a woman during her menstrual period,
- does not oppress anyone,
 but restores to the debtor his pledge,
 commits no robbery, gives his bread to the hungry
 and covers the naked with a garment,
- does not take advance or accrued interest, withholds his hand from iniquity, executes true justice between contending parties,
- follows my statutes, and is careful to observe my ordinances, acting faithfully—such a one is righteous; he shall surely live, says the Lord God.
- If he has a son who is violent, a shedder of blood,
- shall he then live?
 He shall not.
 He has done all these abominable things; he shall surely die; his blood shall be upon himself.
- Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God.

- Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.
- Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel?
- For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God.
 Turn, then, and live.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 51.10-11, 12-13, 16-17

- **R.** Create a clean heart in me. O God.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. *R*.
- Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. *R.*
- For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
- The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Matthew 19.13-15

Let the little ones come to me, do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Little children were being brought to Jesus in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them;
- but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."
- And Jesus laid his hands on the children and went on his way.

 The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTIETH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

419 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 24.15-24

Ezekiel shall be a sign to you; you shall do just as he has done.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- The word of the Lord came to me:
- Mortal, with one blow I am about to take away from you the delight of your eyes; yet you shall not mourn or weep, nor shall your tears run down.
- Sigh, but not aloud; make no mourning for the dead. Bind on your turban, and put your sandals on your feet; do not cover your upper lip or eat the bread of mourners.
- So I spoke to the people in the morning, and at evening my wife died.

 And on the next morning I did as I was commanded.
- Then the people said to me, "Will you not tell us what these things mean for us, that you are acting this way?"
- Then I said to them: The word of the Lord came to me:
- Say to the house of Israel,
 Thus says the Lord God:
 I will profane my sanctuary, the pride of your power,
 the delight of your eyes, and your heart's desire;
 and your sons and your daughters whom you left behind
 shall fall by the sword.
- And you shall do as I have done; you shall not cover your upper lip or eat the bread of mourners.
- Your turbans shall be on your heads and your sandals on your feet; you shall not mourn or weep, but you shall pine away in your iniquities and groan to one another.
- Thus Ezekiel shall be a sign to you;you shall do just as he has done.When this comes, then you shall know that I am the Lord God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Deuteronomy 32.18-19, 20, 21 (R.18a)

- **R.** You have forgotten God who gave you birth.
- You were unmindful of the Rock that bore you; you forgot the God who gave you birth.
- The Lord saw it, and was jealous he spurned his sons and daughters. *R.*
- He said: I will hide my face from them,
 I will see what their end will be;
 for they are a perverse generation,
 children in whom there is no faithfulness. R.
- They made me jealous with what is no god, provoked me with their idols.
 So I will make them jealous with what is no people, provoke them with a foolish nation. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.3

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Matthew 19.16-22

If you wish to be perfect, sell what you have, and you will have treasure in heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- A man came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?"
- And Jesus said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good.

 If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments."
- The man said to him, "Which ones?"
 And Jesus said, "You shall not murder;
 You shall not commit adultery;
 You shall not steal;
 You shall not bear false witness;
- Honour your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbour as yourself."
- The young man said to him, "I have kept all these; what do I still lack?"

- Jesus said to him,
 "If you wish to be perfect,
 go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor,
 and you will have treasure in heaven;
 then come, follow me."
- When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

The gospel of the Lord.

420 TUESDAY

FIRST READING Ezekiel 28.1-10

You are a mortal and no god, yet you compare your mind with the mind of God.

- The word of the Lord came to me:
- Mortal, say to the prince of Tyre,
 Thus says the Lord God:
 Because your heart is proud
 and you have said, "I am a god;
 I sit in the seat of the gods,
 in the heart of the seas,"
 yet you are but a mortal, and no god,
 though you compare your mind with the mind of a god.
- You are indeed wiser than Daniel; no secret is hidden from you;
- by your wisdom and your understanding you have amassed wealth for yourself, and have gathered gold and silver into your treasuries.
- By your great wisdom in trade you have increased your wealth, and your heart has become proud in your wealth.
- Therefore thus says the Lord God:
 Because you compare your mind with the mind of a god,
- therefore, I will bring strangers against you, the most terrible of the nations; they shall draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom and defile your splendour.

- They shall thrust you down to the Pit, and you shall die a violent death in the heart of the seas.
- Will you still say, "I am a god," in the presence of those who kill you, though you are but a mortal, and no god, in the hands of those who wound you?
- You shall die the death of the uncircumcised by the hand of foreigners.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Deuteronomy 32.26-27ab, 27cd-28a, 30, 35cd-36ab (R.39c)

- **R.** It is I who deal death and give life.
- The Lord said, "I thought to scatter them and blot out the memory of them from humanity;
- but I feared provocation by the enemy, for their adversaries might misunderstand." R.
 Let them not say, "Our hand is triumphant; it was not the Lord who did all this."
- They are a nation void of sense; there is no understanding in them. **R**.
- How could one have routed a thousand, and two put a myriad to flight, unless their Rock had sold them, the Lord had given them up? *R*.
- The day of their calamity is at hand, their doom comes swiftly.
- Indeed the Lord will vindicate his people, have compassion on his servants. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Corinthians 8.9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

GOSPEL Matthew 19.23-30

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus said to his disciples,
 "Truly I tell you,
 it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."
- When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, "Then who can be saved?"
- But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible."
- Then Peter said in reply,
 "Look, we have left everything and followed you.
 What then will we have?"
- Jesus said to them,
 "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things,
 when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory,
 you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones,
 judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
- "And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.
- "But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

421 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Ezekiel 34.1-11

I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so they will not be food for them.

- The word of the Lord came to me:
- Mortal, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel: prophesy, and say to them—to the shepherds:
 Thus says the Lord God:
 Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves!
 Should not shepherds feed the sheep?
- You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep.
- You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them.
- So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd; and scattered, they became food for all the wild animals.
- My sheep were scattered, they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill; my sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with no one to search or seek for them.
- Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord:
- As I live, says the Lord God, because my sheep have become a prey, and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd; and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep.
- 9 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord:
- Thus says the Lord God,
 I am against the shepherds;
 and I will demand my sheep at their hand,
 and put a stop to their feeding the sheep;

no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

For thus says the Lord God: 11 I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (R.1)

- **R.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
- 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
- 3 he restores my soul. R.
 - He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me: your rod and your staff — they comfort me. R.
- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. R.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hebrews 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of God is living and active;

it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

GOSPEL Matthew 20.1-16a

Are you envious because I am generous?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples:

- "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard.
- After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.
- When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace;
- and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'
 So they went.
- When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same.
- And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them,
 - 'Why are you standing here idle all day?'
- 7 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'
- "When evening came,
 the owner of the vineyard said to his manager,
 'Call the labourers and give them their pay,
 beginning with the last and then going to the first.'
- When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.
- "Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage.
- And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying,
- 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.'
- "But he replied to one of them,
 "Friend, I am doing you no wrong;
 did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?

- Take what belongs to you and go;
 I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.
- Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?'
- "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

 The gospel of the Lord.

422 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 36.23-28

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord:

- I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them; and the nations shall know that I am the Lord, says the Lord God, when through you I display my holiness before their eyes.
- I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land.
- I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannes, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.
- A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.
- I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances.
- Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 51.10-11, 12-13, 16-17

- **R.** I will pour clean water on you and wash away all your sins.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. *R*.
- Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. **R**.
- For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
- The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.1-14

Invite everyone you find to the wedding feast.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people in parables, saying:
- The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.
- 3 He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come.
- "Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet."
- But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business,

- 6 while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.
- 7 The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.
- "Then he said to his slaves,'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.
- Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.
- Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.
- "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,
- and the king said to him,
 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?'
 And he was speechless.
- "Then the king said to the attendants,
 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness,
 where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
- For many are called, but few are chosen."

The gospel of the Lord.

423 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37.1-14

Dry bones hear the word of the Lord. I will bring you out of your graves, O people of Israel.

- The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.
- He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry.
- He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know."

- Then he said to me,
 "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them:
 O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.
- Thus says the Lord God to these bones:
 I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.
- I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."
- So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.
- I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them.
- Then he said to me,
 "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal,
 and say to the breath:
 Thus says the Lord God:
 Come from the four winds,
 O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."
- I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.
- Then he said to me,
 "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel.
 They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.'
- Therefore prophesy, and say to them,
 Thus says the Lord God:
 I am going to open your graves,
 and bring you up from your graves, O my people;
 and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.
- And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people.
- I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 107.1-2, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (R.1)

- **R** Give thanks to the Lord, God's love is everlasting.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.
- 2 Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble. **R**.
- 4 Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;
- 5 hungry and thirsty. their soul fainted within them. R.
- 6 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress:
- he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town. R.
- 8 Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to human beings.
- For he satisfies the thirsty. and the hungry he fills with good things. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 25.4b, 5a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Teach me your paths, my God, and lead me in your truth.

GOSPEL Matthew 22.34-40

Love the Lord your God, and your neighbour as yourself.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, 34 they gathered together,
- and one of them, a lawyer, 35 asked him a question to test him.
- "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" 36
- Jesus said to him, 37 "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'
- This is the greatest and first commandment. 38
- "And a second is like it: 39 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'
- On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." 40

The gospel of the Lord.

424 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 43.1-7a

The glory of the Lord entered the temple.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- The angel brought me to the gate, the gate facing east.
- And there, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the east; the sound was like the sound of mighty waters; and the earth shone with his glory.
- The vision I saw was like the vision that I had seen when he came to destroy the city, and like the vision that I had seen by the river Chebar; and I fell upon my face.
- 4 As the glory of the Lord entered the temple by the gate facing east,
- the spirit lifted me up, and brought me into the inner court; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple.
- While the man was standing beside me, I heard someone speaking to me out of the temple.
- He said to me:
 Mortal, this is the place of my throne
 and the place for the soles of my feet,
 where I will reside among the people of Israel forever.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85.8ab-9, 10-11, 12-13 (R.9b)

- **R.** The glory of the Lord will dwell in our land.
- Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people,
- Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. *R*.
- Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
- Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. *R.*

- The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 23.9b, 10b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Matthew 23.1-12

The scribes and Pharisees do not practice what they teach.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples,
- ² "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat;
- therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practise what they teach.
- They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them.
- "They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long.
- They love to have the place of honour at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues,
- 7 and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi.
- But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students.
- And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven.
- Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah.
- 11 The greatest among you will be your servant.
- All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

425 MONDAY

FIRST READING

2 Thessalonians 1.1-5, 11b-12

May the name of our Lord Jesus be glorified in you and you in him.

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

- From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy:
 To the church of the Thessalonians
 in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
- Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of everyone of you for one another is increasing.
- Therefore we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith during all your persecutions and the afflictions that you are enduring.
- This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, and is intended to make you worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering.
- To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith,
- so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 96.1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5 (R.3)

- **R.** Proclaim God's marvellous deeds to all the nations.
- O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- Sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R**.
 - Tell of his salvation from day to day.
- Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples. *R.*
- For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.
- but the Lord made the heavens. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL

Matthew 23.13-22 Woe to you, blind guides.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus said to the crowds,
- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
 For you lock people out of the kingdom of heaven.
 For you do not go in yourselves,
 and when others are going in, you stop them.
- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
 For you cross sea and land to make a single convert, and you make the new convert twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.
- "Woe to you, blind guides, who say,
 'Whoever swears by the sanctuary is bound by nothing,
 but whoever swears by the gold of the sanctuary
 is bound by the oath.'
- You blind fools!

 For which is greater,
 the gold or the sanctuary that has made the gold sacred?
- "And you say, 'Whoever swears by the altar is bound by nothing, but whoever swears by the gift that is on the altar is bound by the oath.'

- 19 How blind you are!
 For which is greater,
 the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred?
- So whoever swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it;
- and whoever swears by the sanctuary, swears by it and by the one who dwells in it;
- and whoever swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by the one who is seated upon it."

 The gospel of the Lord.

426 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Thessalonians 2.1-3a, 14-17 Hold fast to the traditions that you were taught.

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

- As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters,
- 2 not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here.
- Let no one deceive you in any way.
- 14 For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.
- Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope,
- comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 96.10, 11-12a, 12b-13 (R.13b)

- **R**. The Lord comes to judge the earth.
- Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.

 He will judge the peoples with equity." R.
- Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
- let the field exult, and everything in it. **R**.

 Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
- before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth.

 He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hebrews 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our hearts.

GOSPEL Matthew 23.23-26

You ought to have practised justice and mercy, without neglecting the others.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds,

- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practised without neglecting the others.
- You blind guides!
 You strain out a gnat but swallow a came!
- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
 For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.
- You blind Pharisee!
 First clean the inside of the cup,
 so that the outside also may become clean."

The gospel of the Lord.

427 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

2 Thessalonians 3.6-10, 16-18

Anyone unwilling to work should not eat.

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

- Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us.
- For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you,
- and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you.
- This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate.
- For even when we were with you, we gave you this command:

 Anyone unwilling to work should not eat.
- Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with all of you.
- I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand.
 This is the mark in every letter of mine; it is the way I write.
- The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128.1-2, 4-5 (R.1)

- **R.** Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- Happy is the one who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.
- You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. *R*.

- Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.
- The Lord bless you from Zion.

 May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 2.5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God.

GOSPEL Matthew 23.27-32

You are descendants of those who murdered the prophets.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds.

- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!
 For you are like whitewashed tombs,
 which on the outside look beautiful,
 but inside they are full of the bones of the dead
 and of all kinds of filth.
- So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.
- "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous,
- and you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'
- Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets.
- Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors."

The gospel of the Lord.

428 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 1.1-9

In every way you have been enriched in Christ.

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

- From Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and from our brother Sosthenes:
- To the church of God that is in Corinth. 2 to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus. called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:
- Grace to you and peace 3 from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- I give thanks to my God always for you 4 because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,
- for in every way you have been enriched in him, 5 in speech and knowledge of every kind—
- 6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-
- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift 7 as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- He will also strengthen you to the end, 8 so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- God is faithful; 9 by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 145.2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (R. see 1)

- **R.** I will praise your name for ever, Lord.
- Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.
- Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable. **R**.
- One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.
- On the glorious splendour of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. *R.*
- The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.
- They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 24.42a, 44

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

GOSPEL Matthew 24.42-51

You must be ready.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus spoke to his disciples:

- "Keep awake,
 - for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.
- 43 But understand this:
 - if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake 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 unexpected hour.
- "Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom his master has put in charge of his household, to give the other slaves their allowance of food at the proper time?
- Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives.

Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions.

- "But if that wicked slave says to himself, 'My master is delayed,'
- and he begins to beat his fellow slaves, and eats and drinks with drunkards,
- the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know.
- He will cut him off and put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The gospel of the Lord.

429 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 1.17-25

We preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to men and women, but to those who are called, the wisdom of God.

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

Brothers and sisters,

- 17 Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.
- For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- For it is written,
 "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
 and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."
- Where is the one who is wise?
 Where is the scribe?
 Where is the debater of this age?
 Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?
- For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

- For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,
- but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
- but to those who are the called,both Jews and Greeks,Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.1-2, 4-5, 10ab+11 (R.5b)

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

- Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright.
- Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings. R.
- For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. **R**.
- The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
- The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.36

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.1-13

Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples:

- "The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
- ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

- When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them;
- but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
- "As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.
- But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
- 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.
- "The foolish said to the wise,'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
- But the wise replied,'No! there will not be enough for you and for us;you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'
- "And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.
- Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'
- But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'
- "Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The gospel of the Lord.

430 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 1.26-31

God chose what is weak in the world.

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

- Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.
- 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;
- God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are,
- so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God. and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

in order that, as it is written, 31 "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.12-13, 18-19, 20-21 (R.12b)

- **R** Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.
- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven: he sees all human beings. R.
- 18 Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,
- 19 to deliver their soul from death. and to keep them alive in famine. R.
- 20 Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield.
- 21 Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL

Because you have been trustworthy in few things, enter into the joy of your master.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus told this parable to the disciples:
- "The kingdom of heaven will be like this.

 It is as if a man, going on a journey,
 summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them;
- to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.
- "The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents.
- In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.
- But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.
- "After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.
- Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.'
- His master said to him,
 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
 you have been trustworthy in a few things,
 I will put you in charge of many things;
 enter into the joy of your master.'
- "And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.'
- His master said to him,

 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
 you have been trustworthy in a few things,
 I will put you in charge of many things;
 enter into the joy of your master.'

"Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed;

- 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'
- 26 "But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?
- Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, 27 and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.
- So take the talent from him, 28 and give it to the one with the ten talents.
- 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.
- 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

431 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 2.1-5

I proclaimed to you the knowledge of Christ crucified.

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

- When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom.
- For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
- And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.
- My speech and my proclamation
 were not with plausible words of wisdom,
 but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
- so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.97-98, 99-100, 101-102 (R.97a)

R. Lord, I love your commands.

- O Lord, how I love your law!
 It is my meditation all day long.
- Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me. *R*.
- I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.
- I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts. *R.*
- I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.
- I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me. *R*.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Spirit of the Lord now upon me has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

GOSPEL Luke 4.16-30

God sent me to bring good news to the poor... No prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,
- and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:
- "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
- to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."
- And Jesus rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.

 The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.
- Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."
- All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"
- Jesus said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!'
 And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'"
- And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown.
- But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land;
- yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon.

- There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian."
- When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage.
- They got up, drove Jesus out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff.
- But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

 The gospel of the Lord.

432 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 2.10b-16

Those who are unspiritual are unable to discern the gifts of God's Spirit.

Those who are spiritual discern all things.

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

Brothers and sisters,

- the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.
- For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within?
 So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.
- Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.
- And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.
- Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
- Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.
- "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"But we have the mind of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 145.8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14 (R.17a)

- **R.** The Lord is just in all his ways.
- The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. **R**.
- All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.
- They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power. *R*.
- Your faithful make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. *R*. The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.
- The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 7.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

GOSPEL Luke 4.31-37

I know who you are, the Holy One of God.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and was teaching them on the sabbath.
- They were astounded at his teaching, because he spoke with authority.
- In the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice,
- "Let us alone! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?
 Have you come to destroy us?
 I know who you are, the Holy One of God."
- But Jesus rebuked him, saying,
 "Be silent, and come out of him!"

 When the demon had thrown him down before them,
 he came out of him without having done him any harm.

- They were all amazed and kept saying to one another, "What kind of utterance is this? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and out they come!"
- And a report about Jesus began to reach every place in the region.

 The gospel of the Lord.

433 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 3.1-9

We are God's servants; you are God's field, God's building.

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

- Brothers and sisters,
 - I could not speak to you as spiritual people,
 - but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ.
- I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food.
 - Even now you are still not ready,
- for you are still of the flesh.
 - For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations?
- For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos,"
 - are you not merely human?
- What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe,
 - as the Lord assigned to each.
- I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.
- So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.
- The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each.
- For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.
 - The word of the Lord.

Psalm 33.12-13, 14-15, 20-21 (R.12b)

- **R**. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.
- Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all human beings. *R.*
- From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth—
- he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds. **R**.
- Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield.
- Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 4.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

GOSPEL Luke 4.38-44

I must proclaim the good news to other cities, for I was sent for this purpose.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- After leaving the synagogue Jesus entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her.
- Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them.
- As the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them.
- Demons also came out of many, shouting,
 "You are the Son of God!"
 But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah.
- At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place.
 And the crowds were looking for him;
 and when they reached him,
 they wanted to prevent him from leaving them.

- But Jesus said to them,
 "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God
 to the other cities also;
 for I was sent for this purpose."
- So Jesus continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea. The gospel of the Lord.

434 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 3.18-23

All things belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

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

Brothers and sisters.

- do not deceive yourselves.

 If you think that you are wise in this age,
 you should become fools so that you may become wise.
- For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their craftiness,"
- and again,
 "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise,
 that they are futile."
- So let no one boast about human leaders. For all things are yours,
- whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all belong to you,
- and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24.1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 (R.1a)

R. To the Lord belongs the earth and all that fills it.

- The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;
- for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. **R**.

- Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
- Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false. **R**.
- They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.
- Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

GOSPEL Luke 5.1-11

Simon and his partners left everything and followed Jesus.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God,
- he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.
- He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore.

 Then Jesus sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.
- When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."
- Simon answered,
 "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing.
 Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."
- When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.
- So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.
- But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!"
- For Peter and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken;
- and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

The gospel of the Lord.

435 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 4.1-5

The Lord will disclose the purposes of the heart.

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

- Brothers and sisters, think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries.
- Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.
- But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself.
- I am not aware of anything against myself,
 but I am not thereby acquitted.
 It is the Lord who judges me.
- Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

 Then each one will receive commendation from God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 37.3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40 (R.39)

- **R.** The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.
- Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. *R.*

- Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.
- He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. **R**.
- Depart from evil, and do good; so you shall abide forever.
- For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his faithful ones. **R**.
- The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their refuge in the time of trouble.
- The Lord helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL Luke 5.33-39

When the bridegroom is taken away from them, then they will fast.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- The scribes and the Pharisees said to Jesus, "John's disciples, like the disciples of the Pharisees, frequently fast and pray, but your disciples eat and drink.
- Jesus said to them, "You cannot make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you?
- The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days."
- Jesus also told them a parable:
 "No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old.
- And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed.
- But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.
- And no one after drinking old wine desires new wine, but says, 'The old is good.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

436 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 4.6-15

We are hungry and thirsty and poorly clothed.

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

Think of us as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries.

- I have applied this to Apollos and myself for your benefit, brothers and sisters, so that you may learn through us the meaning of the saying, "Nothing beyond what is written," so that none of you will be puffed up in favour of one against another.
- For who sees anything different in you?
 What do you have that you did not receive?
 And if you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift?
- Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich!
 Quite apart from us you have become kings!
 Indeed, I wish that you had become kings,
 so that we might be kings with you!
- For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, as though sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to mortals.
- We are fools for the sake of Christ, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honour, but we in disrepute.
- To the present hour we are hungry and thirsty, we are poorly clothed and beaten and homeless,
- and we grow weary from the work of our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure;
- when slandered, we speak kindly.
 We have become like the rubbish of the world, the dregs of all things, to this very day.
- I am not writing this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children.
- For though you might have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers.

 Indeed, in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 145.17-18, 19-20, 21 (R.18a)

- **R.** The Lord is near to all who call on him.
- The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.
- The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. **R**.
- He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them.
- The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. **R**.
- My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Luke 6.1-5

Why are you doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- One sabbath while Jesus was going through the grainfields, his disciples plucked some heads of grain, rubbed them in their hands, and ate them.
- But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?"
- Jesus answered, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry?
- 4 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 gave some to his companions?"
- Then Jesus said to them,
 "The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

437 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 5.1-8

Clean out the old yeast, for Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed.

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

- It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not found even among pagans; for a man is living with his father's wife.
- And you are arrogant!
 Should you not rather have mourned,
 so that he who has done this
 would have been removed from among you?
- For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present I have already pronounced judgment
- in the name of the Lord Jesus
 on the man who has done such a thing.
 When you are assembled,
 and my spirit is present with the power of our Lord Jesus,
- you are to hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.
- Your boasting is not a good thing.

 Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough?
- Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, as you really are unleavened.
 For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.
- Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 5.1+4, 5-6, 11 (R.8a)

- **R.** Lead me in your justice, Lord.
- Give ear to my words, O Lord; give heed to my sighing.
- For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil will not sojourn with you. R.
- 5 The boastful will not stand before your eyes. You hate all evildoers.
- 6 You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful. R.
- 11 But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me.

GOSPEL Luke 6.6-11

The Pharisees watched Jesus to see whether he would cure on the sabbath.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- On the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered.
- The scribes and the Pharisees watched him to see whether he would cure on the sabbath. so that they might find an accusation against him.
- Even though Jesus knew what they were thinking, 8 he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come and stand here." He got up and stood there.
- Then Jesus said to them, 9
 - "I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?"
- After looking around at all of them, Jesus said to him, 10 "Stretch out your hand." He did so, and his hand was restored.
- But they were filled with fury 11 and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

438 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 6.1-11

One believer goes to court against another and before an unbeliever at that!

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

Brothers and sisters,

- when any of you has a grievance against another, do you dare to take it to court before the unrighteous, instead of taking it before the saints?
- Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you incompetent to try trivial cases?
- Do you not know that we are to judge angels 3 —to say nothing of ordinary matters?
- If you have ordinary cases, then, 4 do you appoint as judges those who have no standing in the church?
- 5 I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to decide between one believer and another,
- but a believer goes to court against a believer 6 —and before unbelievers at that?
- In fact, to have lawsuits at all with one another 7 is already a defeat for you. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—and believers at that. 8
- Do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God?
- 9 Do not be deceived! Fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, sodomites,
- thieves, the greedy, drunkards, revilers, robbers 10 —none of these will inherit the kingdom of God.
- And this is what some of you used to be. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 149.1-2, 3-4, 5-6a+9b (R.4a)

- **R.** The Lord takes delight in his people.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
- Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King. *R.*
- Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.
- For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory. **R**.
- Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.
- Let the high praises of God be in their throats:
- 9 This is glory for all his faithful ones. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Luke 6.12-19

Jesus spent the night in prayer, and he chose twelve of the disciples and named them apostles.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God.
- And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles:
- Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew,
- and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot,
- and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.
- Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

- They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.
- And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

The gospel of the Lord.

439 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 7.1, 17, 25-31++

Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife.

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

- Now concerning the matters about which you wrote:
- let each of you lead the life that the Lord has assigned, to which God called you.This is my rule in all the churches.
- Now concerning virgins, I have no command of the Lord, but I give my opinion as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy.
- I think that, in view of the impending crisis, it is well for you to remain as you are.
- Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife.
- But if you marry, you do not sin, and if a virgin marries, she does not sin.
 Yet those who marry will experience distress in this life, and I would spare you that.
- I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on,
 - let even those who have wives be as though they had none,
- and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions,
- and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it.

 For the present form of this world is passing away.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 45.10-11, 13-14, 15-16 (R.8a)

- **R.** Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.
- Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. *R*.
- All glorious is the princess in her chamber; the princess is decked with golden robes;
- in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow. *R.*
- With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 6.23ab

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Rejoice and be glad; your reward will be great in heaven.

GOSPEL Luke 6.20-26

Blessed are the poor. Woe to you who are rich.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- 21 Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.
 Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.
- "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.
- Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.
- "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

- Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.
- Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets."

The gospel of the Lord.

440 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 8.1b-7, 11-13

When you sin against believers who are weak, you sin against Christ.

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

Brothers and sisters,

- knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.
- Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge;
- but anyone who loves God is known by him.
- Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one."
- Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—
 as in fact there are many gods and many lords—
- yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.
- It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.
- So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.

- But when you thus sin against brothers or sisters, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.
- Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 139.1-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 (R.24b)

R. Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.

- O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.
- You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. *R.*
- For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works. *R.*
- Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.
- See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love.

GOSPEL Luke 6.27-38

Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.

₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
- bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.
- If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

- 30 Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again.
- 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.
- 32 "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.
- If you do good to those who do good to you, 33 what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.
- If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, 34 what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.
- "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, 35 expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.
- Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. 36
- 37 "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;
- 38 give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The gospel of the Lord.

441 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 9.16-19, 22b-27

I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some.

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

- If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!
- For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission.
- What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.
- For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them.
- I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some.
- I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.
- Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize?

 Run in such a way that you may win it.
- Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one.
- So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air;
- but I punish my body and enslave it,so that after proclaiming to othersI myself should not be disqualified.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 84.2, 3, 4-5, 11 (R.1)

- **R.** How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!
- My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. *R*.
- Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. *R*.
- Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose hearts are the highways to Zion. *R*.
- 11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favour and honour.

 No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 17.17ba

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth.

GOSPEL Luke 6.39-42

Can a blind person guide a blind person?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus told his disciples a parable:
 "Can a blind person guide a blind person?
 Will not both fall into a pit?
- A disciple is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher.
- Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?
- Or how can you say to your neighbour, 'Friend, let me take out the speck in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye."

The gospel of the Lord.

442 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 10.14-22a

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

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

- My dear friends, flee from the worship of idols.
- I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say.
- The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?
- Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.
- 18 Consider the people of Israel; are not those who eat the sacrifices partners in the altar?
- What do I imply then?
 That food sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?
- No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God.

 I do not want you to be partners with demons.
- You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons.
 You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.
- Or are we provoking the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 116.12-13, 17-18 (R.17a)

- **R.** To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.
- What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?
- I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. *R*.
- I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.
- I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. *R.*

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Luke 6.43-49

Why do you call me, "Lord, Lord", and do not do what I tell you?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit;
- for each tree is known by its own fruit.

 Figs are not gathered from thorns,
 nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.
- Out of the good treasure of the heart the good person produces good, and out of evil treasure the evil person produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.
- "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I tell you?
- I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them.
- That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built.
- But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

443 MONDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 11.17-26, 33

If there are factions among you, then it is not the Lord's supper you eat.

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

Brothers and sisters,

- in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse.
- For, to begin with, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you; and to some extent I believe it.
- Indeed, there have to be factions among you, for only so will it become clear who among you are genuine.
- When you come together, it is not really to eat the Lord's supper.
- For when the time comes to eat, each of you goes ahead with your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk.
- What! Do you not have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing?
 What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter I do not commend you!
- For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread,
- and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
- In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

 Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- So then, my brothers and sisters, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 40.6-7a, 7b-8, 9, 16 (R. 1 Cor 11.26b)

- **R**. Proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again.
- Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
 but you have given me an open ear.
 Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.
- Then I said, "Here I am." *R.*
 - In the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart. **R**.
- I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord. *R.*
- But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the Lord!" **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 3.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God loved the world so much, he gave his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

GOSPEL Luke 7.1-10

Not even in Israel have I found such faith.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- After Jesus had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered the town of Capernaum.
- A centurion there had a slave whom he valued highly, and who was ill and close to death.
- When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to him, asking him to come and heal his slave.

- When they came to Jesus, the elders appealed to him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy of having you do this for him,
- for he loves our people, and it is he who built our synagogue for us."
- And Jesus went with them,
 but when he was not far from the house,
 the centurion sent friends to say to him,
 "Lord, do not trouble yourself,
 for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof;
- therefore I did not presume to come to you.But only speak the word, and let my servant be healed.
- For I also am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it."
- When Jesus heard this he was amazed at the centurion, and turning to the crowd that followed him, he said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith."
- When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

444 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 12.12-14, 27-31a

You are the body of Christ and members of it.

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

- Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.
- For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body
 —Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—
 and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.
- Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.
- Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
- And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power,

- then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.
- Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?
- Do all possess gifts of healing?
 Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?
- But strive for the greater gifts.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 100.1-2, 3, 4, 5 (R.3c)

- **R.** We are his people: the sheep of his flock.
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. *R*.
 Know that the Lord is God.
 It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. *R*.
- Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.
 Give thanks to him, bless his name. *R.*
- For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 7.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. A great prophet has appeared among us, God has visited his people.

GOSPEL Luke 7.11-17

Young man, I say to you, rise!

- ⚠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him.
- As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son,

and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town.

- When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep."
- Then Jesus came forward and touched the pallet, and the bearers stood still.

 And Jesus said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!"
- The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.
- Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favourably on his people!"
- This word about Jesus spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

The gospel of the Lord.

445 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 12.31 - 13.13

Now faith, hope, and love abide; and the greatest of these is love.

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

- Strive for the greater gifts.

 And I will show you a still more excellent way.
- If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love,I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
- And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.
- If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.
- Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

- 5 It does not insist on its own way: it is not irritable or resentful;
- it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. 6
- 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
- Love never ends. 8 But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.
- For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part;
- but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. 10
- When I was a child, I spoke like a child, 11 I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.
- For now we see in a mirror, dimly, 12 but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.
- And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; 13 and the greatest of these is love.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.2-3, 43-5, 12+22 (R.12b)

- **R.** Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.
- 2 Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.
- 3 Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts. R.
- For the word of the Lord is upright, 4 and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. **R**.
- Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord. 12 the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- 22 Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6.63c, 68c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life, you have the words of everlasting life.

GOSPEL Luke 7.31-35

We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed and you did not weep.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke these words to the crowds:

- "To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like?
- They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not weep.'
- For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon';
- the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'
- Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

The gospel of the Lord.

446 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 15.1-11

So we proclaim and so you have come to believe

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

- I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,
- through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you —unless you have come to believe in vain.

- For I handed on to you as of first importance 3 what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,
- 4 and that he was buried. and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,
- and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 5
- Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time. most of whom are still alive, though some have died.
- Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 7
- Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 8
- For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
- But by the grace of God I am what I am, 10 and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.
- Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim 11 and so you have come to believe.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118.1-2, 16ab-17, 21+28 (R.1a)

- **R.** Give thanks, for the Lord is good.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
- 2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." R.
- 16 The right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."
- I shall not die, but I shall live, 17 and recount the deeds of the Lord. R.
- 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
- 28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. R.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 7.36-50

Her many sins have been forgiven, hence she has shown great love.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table.
- And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment.
- She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair.

 Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.
- Now when the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw it, he said to himself,
 "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner."
- Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "Speak."
- "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.
- When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?"
- Simon answered,
 "I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt."
 And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly."
- Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman?
 I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair.
- You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet.

- You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment.
- Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love.
 But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."
- Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."
- But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"
- And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

The gospel of the Lord.

447 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 15.12-20

If Christ has not been raised, your faith has been in vain.

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

- If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead?
- If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised:
- and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain.
- We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ
 —whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.
- For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.
- If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
- Then those also who have died in Christ have perished.
- If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
- But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 17.1, 6-7, 8b+15 (R.15b)

- **R.** Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.
- Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit. *R*.
- I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words.
- Wondrously show your steadfast love,
 O saviour of those who seek refuge
 from their adversaries at your right hand. R.
- ⁸ Hide me in the shadow of your wings.
- As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Luke 8.1-3

The twelve were with Jesus, as well as some women, who provided for them out of their resources.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him.
- as well as some women
 who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities:
 Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,
- and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for Jesus and the twelve out of their resources.

The gospel of the Lord.

448 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 15.35-37, 42-50++

What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable.

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

- Some will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?"
- Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.
- And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.
- So it is with the resurrection of the dead.
 What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable.
- It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.
- It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.
- Thus it is written,
 "The first man, Adam, became a living being";
 the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.
- But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual.
- The first was from the earth, made of dust; the second is from heaven.
- As was the one of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven.
- Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.
- What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 56.3-4, 9b-11, 12-13 (R. see 13b)

- **R**. I will walk in the presence of God, with the light of the living.
- O Most High, when I am afraid I put my trust in you.
- In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid; what can flesh do to me? *R*.
- ⁹ This I know, that God is for me.
- In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise,
- in God I trust; I am not afraid.
 What can a mere mortal do to me? *R*.
- My vows to you I must perform, O God; I will render thank offerings to you.
- For you have delivered my soul from death, and my feet from falling, so that I may walk before God in the light of life. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Luke 8.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

GOSPEL Luke 8.4-15

Some seed fell into good soil; these are the ones who hear the word, hold it fast and bear fruit in patience.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to Jesus, he said in a parable:
- "A sower went out to sow his seed;and as he sowed,some fell on the path and was trampled on,and the birds of the air ate it up.
- Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture.
- Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it.

- Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!"
- 9 Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant.
- Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that 'looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand.'
- "Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.
- The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.
- The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away.
- As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.
- "But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

449 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Proverbs 3.27-34

The perverse are an abomination to the land.

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

- 27 My child, do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.
- Do not say to your neighbour, "Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it"—when you have it with you.
- Do not plan harm against your neighbour who lives trustingly beside you.
- Do not quarrel with anyone without cause, when no harm has been done to you.
- Do not envy the violent and do not choose any of their ways;
- for the perverse are an abomination to the Lord, but the upright are in his confidence.
- The Lord's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the abode of the righteous.
- Toward the scorners he is scornful, but to the humble he shows favour.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15.1b-3a, 3b-4a, 4b-5 (R.1b-2)

- **R.** The just shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord.
- O Lord, who may dwell on your holy hill?
- Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;
- who do not slander with their tongue. **R**.

 Those who do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;
- in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the Lord. *R.*

Those who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Let your light shine before all, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father.

GOSPEL Luke 8.16-18

A lamp is placed on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the people:

- "No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.
- For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light.
- "Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away."

The gospel of the Lord.

450 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Proverbs 21.1-6, 10-13

To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable than sacrifice.

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

- The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.
- All deeds are right in the sight of the doer, but the Lord weighs the heart.
- To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

TUESDAY 1629

- 4 Haughty eyes and a proud heart the lamp of the wicked—are sin.
- The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to want.
- The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapour and a snare of death.
- The souls of the wicked desire evil; their neighbours find no mercy in their eyes.
- When a scoffer is punished, the simple become wiser; when the wise are instructed, they increase in knowledge.
- The Righteous One observes the house of the wicked; he casts the wicked down to ruin.
- If you close your ear to the cry of the poor, you will cry out and not be heard.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.1+27, 30+34, 35+44 (R.35a)

- **R.** Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.
- Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.
- Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works. *R.*
- I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your ordinances before me.
- Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. *R*.
- Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.
- I will keep your law continually, forever and ever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

GOSPEL Luke 8.19-21

My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.

- ₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus' mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd.
- And he was told, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you."
- But Jesus said to them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."

The gospel of the Lord.

451 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Proverbs 30.5-9

Give me neither poverty or riches; feed me with the food that I need.

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

- Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.
- Do not add to his words, or else he will rebuke you, and you will be found a liar.
- Two things I ask of you;do not deny them to me before I die:
- Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that I need,
- or I shall be full, and deny you, and say, "Who is the Lord?" or I shall be poor, and steal, and profane the name of my God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.29+72, 89+101, 104+163 (R.105a)

- **R.** Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.
- 29 Put false ways far from me; and graciously teach me your law.
- 72 The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces. R.
- 89 The Lord exists forever; your word is firmly fixed in heaven.
- 101 I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word. R.
- 104 Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.
- 163 I hate and abhor falsehood, but I love your law. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is near: repent and believe the good news!

GOSPEL Luke 9.1-6

Jesus sent the twelve to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases,
- and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. 2
- 3 He said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money —not even an extra tunic.
- Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there. 4
- Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them."
- They departed and went through the villages, 6 bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

452 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 1.2-11

There is nothing new under the sun.

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

- Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, 2 vanity of vanities! All is vanity.
- What do people gain from all the toil 3 at which they toil under the sun?
- A generation goes, and a generation comes, 4 but the earth remains forever.
- 5 The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises.
- The wind blows to the south. 6 and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.
- All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full: to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow.
- All things are wearisome; more than one can express; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing.
- What has been is what will be. 9 and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun.
- Is there a thing of which it is said, 10 "See, this is new"? It has already been, in the ages before us.
- The people of long ago are not remembered, 11 nor will there be any remembrance of people yet to come by those who come after them.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 90.3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14+17 (R.1)

- **R.** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
- You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
- For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. *R*.
- You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning;
- in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. *R.*
- So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.
- Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants! *R*.
- Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Luke 9.7-9

John I beheaded; but who is this about whom I hear such things?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Herod the ruler heard about all that Jesus had done, and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had been raised from the dead,
- by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the ancient prophets had arisen.
- Herod said,
 "John I beheaded;
 but who is this about whom I hear such things?"
 And Herod tried to see Jesus.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

453 FRIDAY

FIRST READING Ecclesiastes 3.1-11

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

- For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
- a time to be born, and a time to die;a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
- a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up.
- A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
- a time to throw away stones,
 and a time to gather stones together;
 a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing.
- A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
- a time to tear, and a time to sew;a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.
- A time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.
- 9 What gain have the workers from their toil?
- I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.
- He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 144.1a+2abc, 3-4, 9+15b (R.1a)++

- **R.** Blessed be the Lord, my rock.
- 1 Blessed be the Lord, my rock,
- my steadfast love and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge. *R.*
- O Lord, what are human beings that you regard them, or mortals that you think of them?
- They are like a breath; their days are like a passing shadow. **R**.
- I will sing a new song to you, O God upon a ten-stringed harp I will play to you.
- Happy are the people whose God is the Lord. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all.

GOSPEL Luke 9.18-22

You are the Messiah of God. The Son of Man must undergo great suffering.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Once when Jesus was praying alone, with only the disciples near him, he asked them,
 "Who do the crowds say that I am?"
- They answered, "John the Baptist; but others, Elijah; and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen."
- He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, "The Messiah of God."
- Jesus sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone, saying,
- "The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."

The gospel of the Lord.

454 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 11.9 – 12.8

Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the dust returns to the earth and the breath to the God who gave it.

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

- Rejoice, young man, while you are young, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth.

 Follow the inclination of your heart and the desire of your eyes, but know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment.
- Banish anxiety from your mind, and put away pain from your body; for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.
- Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come, and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no pleasure in them";
- before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return with the rain;
- in the day when the guards of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the women who grind cease working because they are few, and those who look through the windows see dimly;
- when the doors on the street are shut, and the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low;
- when one is afraid of heights, and terrors are in the road; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along and desire fails; because all must go to their eternal home, and the mourners will go about the streets;
- before the silver cord is snapped, and the golden bowl is broken, and the pitcher is broken at the fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern,
- 7 and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the breath returns to God who gave it.
- 8 Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher; all is vanity.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 90.3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14+17 (R.1)

- **R.** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.
- 3 You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. R.
- 5 You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning;
- 6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. **R**.
- 12 So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.
- 13 Turn, O Lord! How long? Have compassion on your servants! **R**.
- 14 Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us, 17 and prosper for us the work of our hands. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 1.10b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Luke 9.43b-45

> The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands. They were afraid to ask him about this saying.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- 43 While everyone was amazed at all that Jesus was doing, he said to his disciples,
- "Let these words sink into your ears: 44 The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands."
- But they did not understand this saying; 45 its meaning was concealed from them, so that they could not perceive it. And the disciples were afraid to ask Jesus about this saying.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

455 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Job 1.6-22

The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Job.

- One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them.
- The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"
 Satan answered the Lord,
 "From going to and fro on the earth,
 and from walking up and down on it."
- The Lord said to Satan,
 "Have you considered my servant Job?
 There is no one like him on the earth,
 a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil."
- Then Satan answered the Lord, "Does Job fear God for nothing?
- Have you not put a fence around him and his house and all that he has, on every side?
 You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.
- But stretch out your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face."
- The Lord said to Satan,
 "Very well, all that he has is in your power;
 only do not stretch out your hand against him!"
 So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.
- One day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the eldest brother's house,
- a messenger came to Job and said,
 "The oxen were ploughing and the donkeys were feeding beside them,
- and the Sabeans fell on them and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you."

- While he was still speaking, another came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; I alone have escaped to tell you."
- While he was still speaking, another came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three columns, made a raid on the camels and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you."
- While he was still speaking, another came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house,
- and suddenly a great wind came across the desert, struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead;
 I alone have escaped to tell you."
- Then Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worshipped.
- He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."
- In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrongdoing.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 17.1, 2-3, 6-7 (R.6b)

- **R.** Lord, bend your ear and hear my prayer.
- Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit. *R*.
- From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right.
- If you try my heart, if you visit me by night, if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me. *R*.
- I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words.
- Wondrously show your steadfast love,
 O saviour of those who seek refuge
 from their adversaries at your right hand. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all.

GOSPEL Luke 9.46-50

The least among all of you is the greatest.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- An argument arose among the disciples as to which one of them was the greatest.
- But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side,
- and said to them,
 "Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me,
 and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me;
 for the least among all of you is the greatest."
- John answered, "Master,
 we saw someone casting out demons in your name,
 and we tried to stop him,
 because he does not follow with us."
- But Jesus said to him,
 "Do not stop him;
 for whoever is not against you is for you."

The gospel of the Lord.

456 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Job 3.1-3, 11-17, 20-23

Why give light to a person in misery?

A reading from the book of Job.

- Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth.
- ² He said:
- "Let the day perish in which I was born, and the night that said, 'A man-child is conceived.'
- Why did I not die at birth, come forth from the womb and expire?

- 12 Why were there knees to receive me, or breasts for me to suck?
- Now I would be lying down and quiet; 13 I would be asleep; then I would be at rest
- with kings and counsellors of the earth 14 who rebuild ruins for themselves.
- 15 or with princes who have gold, who fill their houses with silver.
- Or why was I not buried like a stillborn child, 16 like an infant that never sees the light?
- 17 There the wicked cease from troubling, and there the weary are at rest.
- 20 "Why is light given to one in misery, and life to the bitter in soul,
- who long for death, but it does not come, 21 and dig for it more than for hidden treasures;
- 22 who rejoice exceedingly, and are glad when they find the grave?
- Why is light given to one who cannot see the way, 23 whom God has fenced in?"

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 88.1-2, 3-4, 5, 6-7 (R.2a)

- **R.** Let my prayer come before you, Lord.
- 1 O Lord, God of my salvation, when, at night, I cry out in your presence,
- 2 let my prayer come before you; incline your ear to my cry. **R**.
- 3 For my soul is full of troubles, and my life draws near to Sheol.
- 4 I am counted among those who go down to the Pit; I am like those who have no help. **R**.
- 5 I am like those forsaken among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, like those whom you remember no more. for they are cut off from your hand. **R**.
- 6 You have put me in the depths of the Pit, in the regions dark and deep.
- Your wrath lies heavy upon me, and you overwhelm me with all your waves. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 10.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all.

GOSPEL Luke 9.51-56

Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, 51 he set his face to go to Jerusalem.
- And he sent messengers ahead of him. 52
 - On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him;
- but they did not receive Jesus, 53 because his face was set toward Jerusalem.
- When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 54 "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"
- But he turned and rebuked them. 55
- 56 Then they went on to another village.

The gospel of the Lord.

457 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Job 9.1-12, 14-16

How can a mortal be just before God?

A reading from the book of Job.

- To the reproaches of his friends Job answered: 1
- "How can a mortal be just before God?
- If one wished to contend with him. one could not answer him once in a thousand.
- He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength —who has resisted him, and succeeded?—
- he who removes mountains, and they do not know it, 5 when he overturns them in his anger;
- who shakes the earth out of its place, 6 and its pillars tremble;

- 7 who commands the sun, and it does not rise; who seals up the stars;
- who alone stretched out the heavens and trampled the waves of the Sea;
- who made the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the chambers of the south;
- who does great things beyond understanding, and marvellous things without number.
- Look, he passes by me, and I do not see him; he moves on, but I do not perceive him.
- He snatches away; who can stop him?
 Who will say to him, 'What are you doing?'
- How then can I answer him, choosing my words with him?
- Though I am innocent, I cannot answer him; I must appeal for mercy to my accuser.
- If I summoned him and he answered me,
 I do not believe that he would listen to my voice."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 88.9bc-10, 11-12, 13-14 (R.2a)

R. Let my prayer come before you, Lord.

- Every day I call on you, O Lord; I spread out my hands to you.
- Do you work wonders for the dead?
 Do the shades rise up to praise you? *R*.
- Is your steadfast love declared in the grave, or your faithfulness in Abaddon?
- Are your wonders known in the darkness, or your saving help in the land of forgetfulness? *R*.
- But I, O Lord, cry out to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you.
- O Lord, why do you cast me off?
 Why do you hide your face from me? *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 3.8-9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I count all things worthless but this: to gain Jesus Christ and to be found in him.

GOSPEL Luke 9.57-62

I will follow you wherever you go.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- As Jesus and his disciples were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."
- And Jesus said to him,
 "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests;
 but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."
- To another Jesus said, "Follow me."

 But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."
- But Jesus said to him,
 "Let the dead bury their own dead;
 but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."
- Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home."
- Jesus said to him,
 "No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

458 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Job 19.21-27

I know that my redeemer lives.

A reading from the book of Job.

To those who reproached him, Job said:

- "Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me!
- Why do you, like God, pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh?
- "O that my words were written down!
 O that they were inscribed in a book!
- O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever!
- For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth;

- and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God,
- whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!"

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 27.7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14 (R.13)

- **R.** I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.
- Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
- ⁸ "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" *R.*

Your face, Lord, do I seek.

- Do not hide your face from me.
 Do not turn your servant away in anger,
 you who have been my help. *R*.
- I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
- Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is near: repent and believe the good news!

GOSPEL Luke 10.1-12

Your peace will rest on those who welcome you.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- From among the disciples the Lord appointed seventy and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.
- He said to them,
 "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
 therefore ask the Lord of the harvest
 to send out labourers into his harvest.

- Go on your way.
 See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.
- 4 Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road.
- "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!'
- And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you.
- Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid.
 Do not move about from house to house.
- Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you;
- 9 cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'
- "But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say,
- 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you.

 Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'
- I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town."

 The gospel of the Lord.

459 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Job 38.12-21; 40.3-5

Have you given a command to the dawn or walked in the depths of the sea?

A reading from the book of Job.

From the heart of the tempest the Lord answered Job, saying this:

- "Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place,
- so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it?
- It is changed like clay under the seal, and it is dyed like a garment.
- Light is withheld from the wicked, and their uplifted arm is broken.

- 16 "Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep?
- Have the gates of death been revealed to you, 17 or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?
- Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? 18 Declare, if you know all this.
- "Where is the way to the dwelling of light, 19 and where is the place of darkness,
- that you may take it to its territory 20 and that you may discern the paths to its home?
- 21 Surely you know, for you were born then, and the number of your days is great!"
- Then Job answered the Lord: 3
- "See, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? 4 I lay my hand on my mouth.
- I have spoken once, and I will not answer; twice, but will proceed no further."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 139.1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab (R.24b)

- **R.** Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.
- 1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.
- You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. R.
- 7 Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
- If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. **R**.
- If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
- 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. R.
- 13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Luke 10.13-16

Whoever rejects me, rejects the one who sent me.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the seventy disciples:

- "Woe to you, Chorazin!
 Woe to you, Bethsaida!
 For if the deeds of power done in you
 had been done in Tyre and Sidon,
 they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.
- But at the judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you.
- And you, Capernaum,
 will you be exalted to heaven?
 No, you will be brought down to Hades.
- "Whoever listens to you, listens to me, and whoever rejects you, rejects me, and whoever rejects me, rejects the one who sent me."

The gospel of the Lord.

460 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Job 42.1-3, 5-6, 12-13, 15-17++

Now my eye sees you and I repent in dust and ashes.

A reading from the book of Job.

- Job made this response to the words of the Lord:
- ² "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
- 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.
- "I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;

- 6 therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."
- 12 The Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys.
- 13 He also had seven sons and three daughters.
- In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters; 15 and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers.
- 16 After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations.
- 17 And Job died, old and full of days.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.66+71, 75+91, 125+130 (R.135a)

R. Lord, let your face shine on me.

- 66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.
- 71 It is good for me that I was humbled, so that I might learn your statutes. **R.**
- 75 I know, O Lord, that your judgments are right, and that in faithfulness you have humbled me.
- 91 By your appointment they stand today, for all things are your servants. **R**.
- 125 I am your servant; give me understanding, so that I may know your decrees.
- 130 The unfolding of your words gives light: it imparts understanding to the simple. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. GOSPEL Luke 10.17-24

Rejoice that your names are written in heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- The seventy disciples returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"
- Jesus said to them,
 "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning.
- See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you.
- Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."
- At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.
- All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."
- Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see!
- For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-SEVENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

461 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Galatians 1.6-12

I did not receive the gospel from human beings, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—
- not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are confusing you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.
- But even if we or an angel from heaven should proclaim to you a gospel contrary to what we proclaimed to you, let that one be accursed!
- As we have said before, so now I repeat, if anyone proclaims to you a gospel contrary to what you received, let that one be accursed!
- Am I now seeking human approval, or God's approval?
 Or am I trying to please people?
 If I were still pleasing people, I would not be a servant of Christ.
- For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin;
- for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 111.1-2, 7-8, 9+10c (R.5b)

R. The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. **R**.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.
- They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. *R.*
- He sent redemption to his people;
 he has commanded his covenant forever.
 Holy and awesome is his name.
- His praise endures forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13.34

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

GOSPEL

Luke 10.25-37 Who is my neighbour?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- A lawyer stood up to test Jesus.

 "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"
- The lawyer answered,
 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
 and with all your soul, and with all your strength,
 and with all your mind;
 and your neighbour as yourself."
- And Jesus said to him,
 "You have given the right answer;
 do this, and you will live."
- But wanting to justify himself, the lawyer asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"
- Jesus replied,
 "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers.

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- who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.
- Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.
- So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.
- "But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.
- He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them.

 Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.
- "The next day the Samaritan took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'"

 Jesus asked,
- "Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"
- The lawyer said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The gospel of the Lord.

462 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Galatians 1.13-24

God revealed his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him to the gentiles.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

My brothers and sisters:

- You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it.
- I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors.
- But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me,

- so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being,
- nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus.
- Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days;
- but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother.
- In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!
- Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia,
- 22 and I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea that are in Christ;
- they only heard it said,
 "The one who formerly was persecuting us
 is now proclaiming the faith he once tried to destroy."
- And they glorified God because of me.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 139.1-3, 13-14, 15-16a (R.24b)

- **R.** Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.
- O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.
- You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. *R*.
- For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. *R.*
- My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

GOSPEL Luke 10.38-42

Martha welcomed Jesus into her home. Mary chose the better part.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way,

- he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.
- She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying.
- But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me."
- But the Lord answered her,
 "Martha, Martha,
 you are worried and distracted by many things;
- there is need of only one thing.

 Mary has chosen the better part,
 which will not be taken away from her."

The gospel of the Lord.

463 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Galatians 2.1-2, 7-14

James and Peter and John recognized the grace that had been given to me.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- Fourteen years after I visited Syria and Cilicia, I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me.
- I went up in response to a revelation.
 Then I laid before those in Jerusalem
 (though only in a private meeting with the acknowledged leaders)
 the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles,
 in order to make sure that I was not running,
 or had not run, in vain.
- On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel for the circumcised

- (for he who worked through Peter making him an apostle to the circumcised also worked through me in sending me to the Gentiles),
- and when James and Cephas and John,
 who were acknowledged pillars,
 recognized the grace that had been given to me,
 they gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship,
 agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles
 and they to the circumcised.
- They asked only one thing, that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was eager to do.
- But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned;
- for until certain people came from James,
 he used to eat with the Gentiles.
 But after they came, he drew back
 and kept himself separate for fear of the circumcision faction.
- And the other Jews joined him in this hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.
- But when I saw
 that they were not acting consistently with the truth of the gospel,
 I said to Cephas before them all,
 "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew,
 how can you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?"

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 117.1, 2 (R. Mk 16.15)

- **R.** Go out to all the world and tell the good news.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! *R.*
- For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Romans 8.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

GOSPEL

Luke 11.1-4

Lord, teach us to pray.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."
- Jesus said to them,
 "When you pray, say:
 Father, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come.
- Give us each day our daily bread.
- And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

The gospel of the Lord.

464 THURSDAY

FIRST READING Galatians 3.1-5

Did you receive the Spirit by doing works of the law, or by believing what you heard?

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- You foolish Galatians!
 Who has bewitched you?
 It was before your eyes
 that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified!
- The only thing I want to learn from you is this:
 Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law
 or by believing what you heard?
- Are you so foolish?

 Having started with the Spirit,
 are you now ending with the flesh?
- Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing.
- Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Luke 1.69-70, 71-72, 73-75 (R. see 68)

- **R**. Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who has come to his people.
- The Lord God has raised up a mighty saviour for us in the house of his servant David,
- as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old. *R.*
- God swore that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.
- Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant. *R*.
- This is the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,
- might serve him without fear,
- in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Acts 16.14b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

GOSPEL

Luke 11.5-13

Ask and it will be given to you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus said to the disciples,
 "Suppose one of you has a friend,
 and you go to him at midnight and say to him,
 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread:
- for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'
- And he answers from within,

 'Do not bother me;
 the door has already been locked,
 and my children are with me in bed;
 I cannot get up and give you anything.'
- "I tell you,
 even though he will not get up and give him anything
 because he is his friend,
 at least because of his persistence
 he will get up and give him whatever he needs.
- "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you;

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search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.

- For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.
- "Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish?
- Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion?
- "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

The gospel of the Lord.

465 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Galatians 3.6-14++

Those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- Just as Abraham "believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,"
- 7 so you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham.
- And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you."
- For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.
- For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the things written in the book of the law."
- Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law; for "The one who is righteous will live by faith."
- But the law does not rest on faith; on the contrary, "Whoever does the works of the law will live by them."
- 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us

—for it is written,

"Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"—

in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 111.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.5b)

R. The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. *R*.
- Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. *R*.
- He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 12.31b-32

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The prince of this world will now be cast out, and when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all to myself, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 11.15-26

If it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, the kingdom of God has come to you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

After Jesus had cast out a demon, some of the people said,

- "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons."
- Others, to test him, kept demanding from him a sign from heaven.
- But he knew what they were thinking and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself becomes a desert, and house falls on house.
- If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand?
 - —for you say that I cast out the demons by Beelzebul.

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- Now if I cast out the demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your exorcists cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.
- But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you.
- "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his castle, his property is safe.
- But when one stronger than he attacks him and overpowers him, he takes away his armour in which he trusted and divides his plunder.
- Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.
- "When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it wanders through waterless regions looking for a resting place, but not finding any, it says,
 'I will return to my house from which I came.'
- When it comes, it finds it swept and put in order.
- Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and live there; and the last state of that person is worse than the first."

The gospel of the Lord.

466 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Galatians 3.22-29

In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- The scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.
- Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.
- Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.
- But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian,
- for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.
- As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

- There is no longer Jew or Greek, 28 there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.
- And if you belong to Christ, 29 then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (R.8a)

- **R**. The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 2 Sing to the Lord, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.
- 3 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. R.
- 4 Seek the Lord and his strength: seek his presence continually.
- Remember the wonderful works he has done. 5 his miracles, and the judgments he uttered. R.
- 6 O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
- He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

GOSPEL Luke 11.27-28

Blessed is the womb that bore you! Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- While Jesus was speaking to the people, 27 a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!"
- But Jesus said. 28 "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-EIGHTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

467 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Galatians 4.22-24, 26-27, 31 - 5.1

We were children not of slaves but of the free women.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- It is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and the other by a free woman.
- One, the child of the slave, was born according to the flesh; the other, the child of the free woman, was born through the promise.
- Now this is an allegory:
 these women are two covenants.
 One woman, in fact, is Hagar, from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery.
- But the other woman corresponds to the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother.
- For it is written,

 "Rejoice, you childless one, you who bear no children,
 burst into song and shout, you who endure no birth pangs;
 for the children of the desolate woman
 are more numerous than the children of the one who is married."
- So then, friends, we are children, not of the slave but of the free woman.
- For freedom Christ has set us free.
 Stand firm, therefore,
 and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5a+6-7 (R. see 2)

- **R.** Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.
- Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. **R**.
- From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. *R*.
- Who is like the Lord our God,
- who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?
- He raises the poor from the dust. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Luke 11.29-32

No sign will be given to this generation, except the sign of Jonah.

- ₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When the crowds were increasing, Jesus began to say, "This generation is an evil generation; it asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah.
- For just as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh,
- so the Son of Man will be to this generation.
- "The queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!
- "The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here!"
 - The gospel of the Lord.

468 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Galatians 5.1-6

Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; all that counts is faith working through love.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

My brothers and sisters,

- for freedom Christ has set us free.
 Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.
- Listen! I, Paul, am telling you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you.
- Once again I testify to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obliged to obey the entire law.
- You who want to be justified by the law have cut yourselves off from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.
- For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.
- For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that counts is faith working through love.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.41+43, 44-45, 47-48 (R.41a)

- **R.** Let your loving kindness come to me, O Lord.
- Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord, your salvation according to your promise.
- Do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your ordinances. **R**.
- I will keep your law continually, forever and ever.
- I shall walk at liberty, for I have sought your precepts. *R*.
- I find my delight in your commandments, because I love them.
- I revere your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hebrews 4.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

GOSPEL Luke 11.37-41

Give alms, and everything will be made clean for you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- While Jesus was speaking to the crowds, a Pharisee invited him to dine with him; so Jesus went in and took his place at the table.
- The Pharisee was amazed to see that he did not first wash before dinner.
- Then the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness.
- You fools!
 Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also?
- So give for alms those things that are within; and see, everything will be clean for you."

The gospel of the Lord.

469 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Galatians 5.18-25

Those who believe in Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- If you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.
- Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness,
- idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions,
- envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these.
 I am warning you, as I warned you before:
 those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,

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- gentleness, and self-control.

 There is no law against such things.
- And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
- 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R. see Jn 8.12)

- **R.** Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.
- Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
- but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. **R**.
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
 In all that they do, they prosper. *R*.
- The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Luke 11.42-46

Woe to you Pharisees! Woe to you lawyers!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

The Pharisee, who had invited Jesus to dinner, was amazed to see that Jesus did not first wash before eating. Then the Lord said to him,

"Woe to you Pharisees!
For you tithe mint and rue and herbs of all kinds,
and neglect justice and the love of God;
it is these you ought to have practiced, without neglecting the others.

- "Woe to you, Pharisees!

 For you love to have the seat of honour in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces.
- Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without realizing it."
- One of the lawyers answered him, "Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us too."
- And Jesus said, "Woe also to you, lawyers!

 For you load people with burdens hard to bear,
 and you yourselves do not lift a finger to ease them."

The gospel of the Lord.

470 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 1.1-10

God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God: To the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus:
- Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
- Before the foundation of the world God chose us in Christ to be holy and blameless before him in love.
- God destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of God's will,
- that is for the praise of his glorious grace that God freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
- In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace
- 8 that he lavished on us.

- With all wisdom and insight
- God has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ,
- as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6 (R.2a)

R. The Lord has made known his salvation.

- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. *R.*
- The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. *R*.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. *R*.
- Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.6

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

GOSPEL Luke 11.47-54

The blood of the prophets, from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, will be charged to this generation.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to a lawyer who was at table with him:

"Woe to you!

For you build the tombs of the prophets whom your ancestors killed.

So you are witnesses and approve of the deeds of your ancestors; for they killed them, and you build their tombs.

- Therefore, also the Wisdom of God said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,'
- so that this generation may be charged with the blood of all the prophets shed since the foundation of the world,
- from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be charged against this generation.
- "Woe to you, lawyers!

 For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering."
- When Jesus went outside, the scribes and the Pharisees began to be very hostile toward him and to cross-examine him about many things,
- lying in wait for him, to catch him in something he might say.

The gospel of the Lord.

471 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 1.11-14

We, who were the first to set our hope in Christ, were marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- In Christ we have obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,
- so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.
- In Christ also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, you were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.
- This is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.1-2, 4-5, 12-13 (R.12b)

- **R.** Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.
- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright.
- Praise the Lord with the lyre: make melody to him with the harp of ten strings. R.
- For the word of the Lord is upright, 4 and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice: the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. R.
- 12 Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- 13 The Lord looks down from heaven: he sees all human beings. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 33.22

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

GOSPEL Luke 12.1-7 The hairs of your head are all counted.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- When the crowd had gathered by the thousands, so that they trampled on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples, "Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees, that is, their hypocrisy."
- 2 Nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known.
- Therefore whatever you have said in the dark 3 will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered behind closed doors will be proclaimed from the housetops.
- "I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that can do nothing more.
- But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him!

- "Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies?Yet not one of them is forgotten in God's sight.
- But even the hairs of your head are all counted.Do not be afraid;you are of more value than many sparrows."

The gospel of the Lord.

472 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 1.15-23

God has made Christ the head of the church, which is his body.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints,
- and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.
- I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him,
- so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,
- and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.
- God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,
- far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.
- And God has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,
- which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 8.1-2a, 3-4, 5-6 (R.6)

- **R.** You gave your Son authority over all your creation.
- O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens,
- Out of the mouths of babes and infants, you have founded a bulwark. *R.*
- When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;
- what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? **R**.
- Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honour.
- You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.26b, 27a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Spirit of truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

GOSPEL Luke 12.8-12

The Holy Spirit will teach you what you ought to say.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before others, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God;
- but whoever denies me before others will be denied before the angels of God.
- And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.
- "When they bring you before the synagogues, before the rulers, and the authorities, do not worry about how you are to defend yourselves or what you are to say;
- for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that very hour what you ought to say."

The gospel of the Lord.

TWENTY-NINTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

473 MONDAY

FIRST READING Ephesians 2.1-10

God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly place.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters,

- you were dead through the trespasses and sins
- in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient.
- All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.
- But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us
- even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved.
- And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
- 5 so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
- For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.
- This is not the result of works, so that no one may boast.
- For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 100.1-2, 3, 4, 5 (R.3b)

- **R.** The Lord made us, we belong to him.
- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. *R*.
- Know that the Lord is God.
 It is he that made us, and we are his;
 we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. R.
- Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.
 Give thanks to him, bless his name. R.
- For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.3

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

GOSPEL Luke 12.13-21

This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."
- But Jesus said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"
- And Jesus said to the crowd,
 "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed;
 for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."
- Then Jesus told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly."
- And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'
- Then he said, 'I will do this:
 I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
- And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

- "But God said to him, 'You fool!
 This very night your life is being demanded of you.
 And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?"
- So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The gospel of the Lord.

474 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 2.12-22

Christ is our peace; he has made both groups into one.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters, as Gentiles by birth,

- remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.
- But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
- 14 For Christ is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.
- He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace,
- and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.
- So Christ came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near;
- for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.
- So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,
- built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

- In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;
- in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 85.8ab-9, 10-11, 12-13 (R.8b)

- **R.** The Lord speaks of peace to his people.
- Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people,
- Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. *R*.
- Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
- Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. *R*.
- The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.36

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

GOSPEL Luke 12.35-38

Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples:

- "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit;
- be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.
- "Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you,

he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.

If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves."

The gospel of the Lord.

475 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 3.1-12++

The mystery was made known, and we are sharers of the promise in Christ Jesus.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles.
- For surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you,
- and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words,
- a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.
- In former generations this mystery was not made known to humanity, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:
- that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.
- Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power.
- Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,
- and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;
- so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

- This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,
- in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Isaiah 12.2, 4bcd, 5-6 (R.3)

- **R.** You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.
- Surely God is my salvation;
 I will trust, and will not be afraid,
 for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
 he has become my salvation. *R*.
- Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. *R*.
- Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.
- Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 24.42a, 44

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

GOSPEL Luke 12.39-48

From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples:

- "Know this:

 if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into.
- You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."
- Peter said, "Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for everyone?"
- And the Lord said,
 "Who then is the faithful and prudent manager
 whom his master will put in charge of his slaves,
 to give them their allowance of food at the proper time?
- Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives.
- Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions.
- "But if that slave says to himself,
 'My master is delayed in coming,'
 and if he begins to beat the other slaves, men and women,
 and to eat and drink and get drunk,
- the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know, and will cut him in pieces, and put him with the unfaithful.
- "That slave who knew what his master wanted, but did not prepare himself or do what was wanted, will receive a severe beating.
- But the one who did not know and did what deserved a beating will receive a light beating.

"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded."

The gospel of the Lord.

476 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 3.13-21++

To know the love of Christ surpasses knowledge; it is to have the fullness of God.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- I pray that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; 13 they are your glory.
- For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 14
- from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. 15
- I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, 16 God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit,
- and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, 17 as you are being rooted and grounded in love.
- I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, 18 what is the breadth and length and height and depth,
- and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, 19 so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
- Now to God who by the power at work within us 20 is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,
- to him be glory in the church 21 and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33.1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 (R.5)

- **R.** The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright.
- 2 Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings. R.
- 4 For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. R.

- The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
- Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage. **R**.
- Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,
- to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 3.8-9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I count all things worthless but this: to gain Jesus Christ and to be found in him.

GOSPEL Luke 12.49-53

"Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!"

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples,

- "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!
- I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed!
- "Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division!
- From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three;
- they will be divided:
 father against son and son against father,
 mother against daughter and daughter against mother,
 mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
 and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

The gospel of the Lord.

477 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 4.1-6

There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
- with all humility and gentleness,with patience, bearing with one another in love,
- making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
- one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24.1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 (R.6)

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

- The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;
- for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. **R**.
- Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
- Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false. **R**.
- They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.
- Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *R.*

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Luke 12.54-59

You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus said to the crowds,
 "When you see a cloud rising in the west,
 you immediately say, 'It is going to rain';
 and so it happens.
- And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens.
- "You hypocrites!
 You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?
- "And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?
- Thus, when you go with your accuser before a magistrate, on the way make an effort to settle the case, or you may be dragged before the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer throw you in prison.
- I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny."

 The gospel of the Lord.

478 SATURDAY

FIRST READING Ephesians 4.7-16

Christ is the head from whom the whole body is joined and knit together.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- Each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
- Therefore it is said,

 "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."
- (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth?
- He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)
- The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
- to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
- until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.
- We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.
- But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head,
- into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 122.1-2, 3-4a, 4b-5 (R. see 1)

- **R.** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
- I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
- Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R.*
- Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.
- To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. *R*.

 As was decreed for Israel.
 - to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
- For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ezekiel 33.11

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I do not wish the sinner to die, says the Lord, but to turn to me and live.

GOSPEL Luke 13.1-9

Unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

When Jesus was teaching the crowds

- some of those present told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
- Jesus asked them,
 - "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?
- No, I tell you;
 - but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.
- Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?
- No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."
- Then Jesus told this parable:

 "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard;
 and he came looking for fruit on it and found none.

So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?'

- "The gardener replied, 8 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it.
- If it bears fruit next year, well and good; 9 but if not, you can cut it down."

The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTIETH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

479 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 4.32 – 5.8 Live in love, as Christ loved.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

My brothers and sisters,

- be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.
- Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,
- and live in love, as Christ loved usand gave himself up for us,a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
- But fornication and impurity of any kind, or greed, must not even be mentioned among you, as is proper among saints.
- Entirely out of place is obscene, silly, and vulgar talk; but instead, let there be thanksgiving.
- Be sure of this, that no fornicator or impure person, or one who is greedy (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.
- Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on those who are disobedient.
- Therefore do not be associated with them.
- For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R. see Eph 5.1)

R. Behave like God as beloved children.

- Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
- but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. *R.*

- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. **R**.
- The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- 6 for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 17.17b.a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth.

GOSPEL Luke 13.10-17

> Ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath, 10
- and just then there appeared a woman 11 with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight.
- When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 12 "Woman, you are set free from your ailment."
- When he laid his hands on her, 13 immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.
- But the leader of the synagogue, 14 indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day."
- But the Lord answered him and said, 15 "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water?
- And ought not this woman, 16 a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?"
- When Jesus said this, all his opponents were put to shame; 17 and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

480 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 5.21-33

This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

My brothers and sisters,

- be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.
- Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord.
- For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, the body of which he is the Saviour.
- Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands.
- 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,
- in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word,
- so as to present the church to himself in splendour, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind—yes, so that she may be holy and without blemish.
- In the same way, husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies.

 He who loves his wife loves himself.
- For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church,
- because we are members of his body.
- "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."
- This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church.
- Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, and a wife should respect her husband.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128.1-2, 3, 4-5 (R.1a)

- **R.** Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- 1 Happy is the one who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.
- You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. R.
- 3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. **R**.
- 4 Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord.
- 5 The Lord bless you from Zion. May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL

Luke 13.18-21

The seed grew and became a tree.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus said, 18 "What is the kingdom of God like?

And to what should I compare it?

- It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; 19 it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."
- 20 And again Jesus said,

"To what should I compare the kingdom of God?

It is like yeast that a woman took 21 and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

The gospel of the Lord.

481 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 6.1-9

Obey your earthly masters in singleness of heart as you obey Christ; not only while being watched, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- 1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
- "Honour your father and mother"—this is the first commandment with a promise:
- "so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."
- And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.
- 5 Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, in singleness of heart, as you obey Christ;
- 6 not only while being watched, and in order to please them, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.
- 7 Render service with enthusiasm, as to the Lord and not to men and women,
- knowing that whatever good we do, we will receive the same again from the Lord, whether we are slaves or free.
- And, masters, do the same to your slaves.

 Stop threatening them,
 for you know that both of you have the same Master in heaven,
 and with him there is no partiality.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145.10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14 (R.13c)

- **R.** The Lord is faithful in all his words.
- All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.
- They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power. *R*.
- Make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. *R*.

 The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.
- The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Thessalonians 2.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God has called us with the gospel, to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 13.22-30

People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem.
- Someone asked him,
 "Lord, will only a few be saved?"

 Jesus said to them,
- "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able.
- "Once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you stand outside and begin to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then in reply he will say to you, 'I do not know where you come from.'
- Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

- 27 But he will say,
 'I do not know where you come from;
 go away from me, all you evildoers!'
- ²⁸ "There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out.
- Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.
- "Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

482 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Ephesians 6.10-20

Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.
- Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
- For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.
- Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.
- Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness.
- As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.
- With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

- Take the helmet of salvation. 17 and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
- 18 Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.
- Pray also for me, so that when I speak, 19 a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,
- for which I am an ambassador in chains. 20 Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 144.1, 2, 9-10 (R.1)

- **R.** Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!
- 1 Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle. R.
- The Lord is my steadfast love and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge, who subdues the peoples under me. R.
- 9 I will sing a new song to you, O God; upon a ten-stringed harp I will play to you,
- 10 the one who gives victory to kings, who rescues his servant David. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 19.38, 2.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord: glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth. GOSPEL Luke 13.31-35

It is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."
- Jesus said to the Pharisees,
 "Go and tell that fox for me,
 'Listen, I am casting out demons
 and performing cures today and tomorrow,
 and on the third day I finish my work.
- Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'
- "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!
- "See, your house is left to you.

 And I tell you,
 you will not see me until the time comes when you say,
 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

483 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Philippians 1.1-11

The one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- From Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus: To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:
- Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- I thank my God every time I remember you,
- constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you,

- because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.
- I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.
- It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.
- For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.
- And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight
- to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless,
- having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 111.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.2)

R. How great are the works of the Lord!

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. **R**.
- Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. *R*.
- He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Luke 14.1-6

If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- On one occasion
 when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees
 to eat a meal on the sabbath,
 they were watching him closely.
- Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had dropsy.
- And Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, "Is it lawful to cure people on the sabbath, or not?"
- But they were silent.
 So Jesus took him and healed him, and sent him away.
- Then Jesus said to them,
 "If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well,
 will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?"
- 6 And they could not reply to this.

The gospel of the Lord.

484 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Philippians 1.18b-26

For to me, living is Christ, and dying is gain.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters,

- what matters is this:
 that Christ is proclaimed in every way,
 whether out of false motives or true;
 and in that I rejoice.
 Yes, and I will continue to rejoice,
- for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance.

>

- It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death.
- For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.
- If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer.
- I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better;
- but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you.
- Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith,
- so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 42.1-2, 3-4b, 4cd, 5 (R. see 2a)

R. My soul is thirsting for the living God.

- As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.
- My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
 When shall I come and behold the face of God? *R*.
- My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"
- These things I remember, as I pour out my soul. *R*.

 I went with the thong and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and shouts of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. *R*.
- Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
 Hope in God;
 for I shall again praise him, my help and my God. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.20ab

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart.

GOSPELLuke 14.1, 7-11

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- On one occasion
 when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees
 to eat a meal on the sabbath,
 they were watching him closely.
- When Jesus noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable.
- "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host;
- and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place.
- "But when you are invited,
 go and sit down at the lowest place,
 so that when your host comes, he may say to you,
 'Friend, move up higher';
 then you will be honoured
 in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.
- "For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTY-FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

485 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Philippians 2.1-4

Make my joy complete: be in full accord and of one mind.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Brothers and sisters,

- if there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy,
- make my joy complete:
 be of the same mind, having the same love,
 being in full accord and of one mind.
- Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.
- Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 131.1, 2, 3 (R. see 2)

R. In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

- O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high;
 I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvellous for me. R.
- But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me. R.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord from this time on and forevermore. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.31b-32

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If you stay in my word, you will indeed be my disciples, and you will know the truth, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 14.12-14

When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

One sabbath Jesus was at the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal.

- Jesus said to the one who had invited him,
 "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.
- "But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.
- And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The gospel of the Lord.

486 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Philippians 2.5-11

Jesus humbled himself, being born in human likeness; therefore God highly exalted him.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
- who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
- but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 being born in human likeness.
 And being found in human form,
- be he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

>

- Therefore God highly exalted him 9 and gave him the name that is above every name,
- so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, 10 in heaven and on earth and under the earth.
- and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, 11 to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 22.25b-26, 27, 28-29, 30-31 (R. see 25)

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

- 25 My vows I will pay before those who fear the Lord.
- 26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied: those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever! **R**.
- 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. R.
- 28 For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.
- 29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. **R**.
- 30 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,
- 31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened,

GOSPEL Luke 14.15-24

Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

One sabbath Jesus was at the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal.

- One of the dinner guests, said to Jesus, "Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!"
- Then Jesus said to him, "Someone gave a great dinner and invited many.
- At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.'
- "But they all alike began to make excuses.The first said to him,'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.'
- Another said,
 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.'
- Another said, 'I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.'
- So the slave returned and reported this to his master.

 "Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.'
- And the slave said, 'Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.'
- "Then the master said to the slave,
 'Go out into the roads and lanes,
 and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.
- For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner."

The gospel of the Lord.

487 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

Philippians 2.12-18

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who is at work in you.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- My beloved,
 just as you have always obeyed me,
 not only in my presence,
 but much more now in my absence,
 work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
- for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.
- Do all things without murmuring and arguing,
- so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.
- It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labour in vain.
- But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you,
- and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 27.1, 4, 13-14 (R.1)

- **R.** The Lord is my light and my salvation.
- The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
 The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? *R*.
- One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple. *R*.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Peter 4.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of God rests upon you.

GOSPEL Luke 14.25-33

Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Now large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them,
- "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.
- Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.
- 28 "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?
- Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying,
- This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.
- "Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand?
- If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.
- "So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

488 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Philippians 3.3-8a++

I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

My brothers and sisters,

- It is we who are the circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh—
- even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

 If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh,
 I have more:
- circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;
- as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.
- Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.
- More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 105.2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (R.3b)

- **R.** Let hearts rejoice who search for the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Sing to the Lord, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.
- Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. *R.*

- Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.
- Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered. **R**.
- O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
- 7 He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Luke 15.1-10

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus.
- And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- 3 So Jesus told them this parable:
- "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?
- When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.
- And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'
- Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
- "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
- When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'

Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The gospel of the Lord.

489 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Philippians 3.17-21; 4.1

Christ will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.
- For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.
- Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.
- But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.
- Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 122.1-2, 3-4a, 4b-5 (R.1)

- **R.** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
- I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
- Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R.*
- Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.
- To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord. *R*.

 As was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

 For there the thrones for judgment were set up,

the thrones of the house of David. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 2.5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Whoever keeps the word of Chirst, grows perfect in the love of God.

GOSPEL Luke 16.1-8

The children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus said to the disciples,
 "There was a rich man who had a manager,
 and charges were brought to him
 that this man was squandering his property.
- "So the rich man summoned the manager and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.'
- "Then the manager said to himself,
 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me?
 I am not strong enough to dig,
 and I am ashamed to beg.
- I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'

- "So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'
- 6 He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.'
 He said to him,
 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'
- 7 Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?'
 He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.'
 He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'
- "And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light."

The gospel of the Lord.

490 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Philippians 4.10-19

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me, but had no opportunity to show it.
- Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have.
- I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need.
- I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
- In any case, it was kind of you to share my distress.
- You Philippians indeed know that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone.

- For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me help for my needs more than once.
- Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit that accumulates to your account.
- I have been paid in full and have more than enough;
 I am fully satisfied,
 now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent,
 a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.
- And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 5-6, 8a+9 (R.1a)

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. **R**.
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.
- Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.
- They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their name is exalted in honour. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Corinthians 8.9

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus said to his disciples,
- "I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.
- "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.
- If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?
- And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?
- "No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."
- The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they ridiculed Jesus.
- So he said to them,
 "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of others;
 but God knows your hearts;
 for what is prized by human beings is an abomination in the sight of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTY-SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

491 MONDAY

FIRST READING
Titus 1.1-9

Appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus.

- From Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that is in accordance with godliness,
- in the hope of eternal life that God, who never lies, promised before the ages began.
- In due time he revealed his word through the proclamation with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Saviour.
- To Titus, my loyal child in the faith we share:
 Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Saviour.
- I left you behind in Crete for this reason, so that you should put in order what remained to be done, and should appoint elders in every town, as I directed you:
- someone who is blameless, married only once, whose children are believers, not accused of debauchery and not rebellious.
- For a bishop, as God's steward, must be blameless; he must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or addicted to wine or violent or greedy for gain;
- but he must be hospitable, a lover of goodness, prudent, upright, devout, and self-controlled.
- 9 He must have a firm grasp of the word that is trustworthy in accordance with the teaching, so that he may be able both to preach with sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict it.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24.1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 (R. see 6)

- **R.** Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
- The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;
- for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. **R**.
- Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
- Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false. *R*.
- They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.
- Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 2.15d, 16a

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

GOSPEL Luke 17.1-6

If the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, 'I repent,' you must forgive.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus said to his disciples,
 "Occasions for stumbling are bound to come,
 but woe to anyone by whom they come!
- It would be better for you if a millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea than for you to cause one of these little ones to stumble.
- "Be on your guard! If another disciple sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive.
- And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, 'I repent,' you must forgive."

- The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"
- The Lord replied,
 "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed,
 you could say to this mulberry tree,
 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,'
 and it would obey you."

The gospel of the Lord.

492 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Titus 2.1-8, 11-14

Live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus.

- Teach what is consistent with sound doctrine.
- Tell the older men to be temperate, serious, prudent, and sound in faith, in love, and in endurance.
- Likewise, tell the older women to be reverent in behaviour, not to be slanderers or slaves to drink; they are to teach what is good,
- so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,
- to be self-controlled, chaste, good managers of the household, kind, being submissive to their husbands, so that the word of God may not be discredited.
- 6 Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled.
- Show yourself in all respects a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, gravity, and sound speech
- that cannot be censured; then any opponent will be put to shame, having nothing evil to say of us.
- 11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all,
- training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly,

- while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
- He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 37.3-4, 18+23, 27+29 (R.39)

- **R.** The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.
- Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. *R*.
- The Lord knows the days of the blameless, and their heritage will abide forever;
- Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way. *R*.
- Depart from evil, and do good; so you shall abide forever.
- The righteous shall inherit the land, and live in it forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14.23

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

GOSPEL Luke 17.7-10

"We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples,

- "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'?
- Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'?

- 9 Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded?
- So you also,
 when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say,
 'We are worthless slaves;
 we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

The gospel of the Lord.

493 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING

We ourselves were once foolish, but when the loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, we were saved.

A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus.

- Remind all to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work,
- to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarrelling, to be gentle, and to show every courtesy to everyone.
- For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, and led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, despicable, and hating one another.
- But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared,
- Christ Jesus saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
- This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
- so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Titus 3.1-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (R.1)

- **R.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
- The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
- he restores my soul. **R**.
 - He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. *R*.
- You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. *R*.
- Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Thessalonians 5.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. For all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects of you in Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 17.11-19

Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- On the way to Jerusalem,
 Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee.
- As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him.
- Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"
- When Jesus saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean.
- Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.
- He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.

- Then Jesus asked,
 "Were not ten made clean?
 But the other nine, where are they?
- Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"
- Then Jesus said to the Samaritan, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

The gospel of the Lord.

494 THURSDAY

FIRST READING Philemon 7-20

No longer is Onesimus a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother.

A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon.

- I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.
- For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty,
- yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.
- I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment.
- Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me.
- I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.
- I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel;
- but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.
- Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever,
- no longer as a slave but more than a slave,

a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

- So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me.
- If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account.
- I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand:
 I will repay it.
 I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.
- Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146.6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 (R.5)

R. Blest are they whose help is the God of Jacob.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,
- who executes justice for the oppressed;
 who gives food to the hungry.
 The Lord sets the prisoners free. R.
- The Lord opens the eyes of the blind and lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous
- and watches over the strangers. R.
 The Lord upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
- The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.5

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord: those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

GOSPEL Luke 17.20-25

The kingdom of God is among you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Once Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered,

"The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed;

- nor will they say,
 - 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!'

For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you."

- Then Jesus said to the disciples,
 "The days are coming
 when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man,
 and you will not see it.
- They will say to you,
 'Look there!' or 'Look here!'

 Do not go, do not set off in pursuit.
- For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day.
- But first he must endure much suffering and be rejected by this generation."

The gospel of the Lord.

495 FRIDAY

FIRST READING 2 John 4-9

Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

A reading from the second letter of John.

From the elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth.

- I was overjoyed to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we have been commanded by the Father.
- But now, dear lady, I ask you, not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but one we have had from the beginning, let us love one another.

- And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment just as you have heard it from the beginning you must walk in it.
- Many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh; any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist!
- Be on your guard, so that you do not lose what we have worked for, but may receive a full reward.
- Everyone who does not abide in the teaching of Christ,
 but goes beyond it,
 does not have God;
 whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.1-2, 10-11, 17-18 (R.1a)

- **R.** Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!
- Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.
- Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart. **R**.
- With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments.
- I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. *R.*
- Deal bountifully with your servant, so that I may live and observe your word.
- Open my eyes, so that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

GOSPEL Luke 17.26-37

It will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples,

- "Just as it was in the days of Noah, so too it will be in the days of the Son of Man.
- They were eating and drinking, and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed all of them.
- Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot: they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building,
- but on the day that Lot left Sodom, it rained fire and sulphur from heaven and destroyed all of them
- —it will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.
- "On that day, anyone on the housetop who has belongings in the house must not come down to take them away; and likewise anyone in the field must not turn back.
- Remember Lot's wife.
- Those who try to make their life secure will lose it, but those who lose their life will keep it.
- on that night there will be two in one bed; one will be taken and the other left.

The gospel of the Lord.

- There will be two women grinding meal together; one will be taken and the other left."
- Then they asked him, "Where, Lord?"
 Jesus said to them,
 "Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather."

496 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

3 John 5-8

We ought to support strangers, so that we may become co-workers with the truth.

A reading from the third letter of John.

From the elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth.

- Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the friends, even though they are strangers to you;
- they have testified to your love before the church.
 You will do well to send them on in a manner worthy of God;
- for they began their journey for the sake of Christ, accepting no support from non-believers.
- Therefore we ought to support such people, so that we may become co-workers with the truth.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1b)

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. *R*.
- Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.
- They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. *R*.
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Thessalonians 2.14

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God has called us with the gospel, to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 18.1-8

God grants justice to his chosen ones who cry to him.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.
- He said,
 "In a certain city there was a judge
 who neither feared God nor had respect for people.
- In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.'
- "For a while the judge refused;
 but later he said to himself,
 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone,
- yet because this widow keeps bothering me,
 I will grant her justice,
 so that she may not wear me out by continually coming."
- And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says.
- And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?
- I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

497 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 1.1-4; 2.1-5a

Remember then from what you have fallen and repent.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place; he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John,
- who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.
- Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it; for the time is near.
- From John to the seven churches that are in Asia:
 Grace to you and peace
 from him who is and who was and who is to come,
 and from the seven spirits who are before his throne.
 - I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
- "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:
 These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands:
- "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them to be false.
- I also know that you are enduring patiently and bearing up for the sake of my name, and that you have not grown weary.
- "But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.

Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first.

If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R. Rev 2.7b)

- **R.** Those who are victorious I will feed from the tree of life.
- Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
- but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. *R.*
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
 In all that they do, they prosper. R.
- The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I am the light of the world, says the Lord: whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL Luke 18.35-43

What do you want me to do for you? Lord, let me see again.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- As Jesus approached Jericho, a man who was blind was sitting by the roadside begging.
- When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening.
- They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by."
- Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

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- Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"
- Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him,
- "What do you want me to do for you?"
 The man said, "Lord, let me see again."
- Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you."
- Immediately he regained his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

The gospel of the Lord.

498 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 3.1-6, 14-22

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision I, John, heard the voice of the Lord, saying,

- "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write:

 These are the words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars:
 - "I know your works; you have a name of being alive, but you are dead.
- Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is on the point of death, for I have not found your works perfect in the sight of my God.
- Remember then what you received and heard; obey it, and repent.

 If you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.
- Yet you have still a few persons in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes; they will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy.

- If you conquer, you will be clothed like them in white robes, and I will not blot your name out of the book of life;
 I will confess your name before my Father and before his angels.
- 6 Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.
- "And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin of God's creation:
- "I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot.
- So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth.
- For you say,'I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing.'You do not realize that you are wretched and pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.
- "Therefore I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich; and white robes to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen; and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.
- I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent.
- "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking;if you hear my voice and open the door,I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.
- "To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.
- "Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15.1-3a, 3bc-4a, 4b-5 (R. Rev 3.21)

- **R.** Those who are victorious I will place on my throne.++
- or: The one who is victorious I will sit beside me on my throne.
- O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?
- 2 Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;
- 3 who do not slander with their tongue. R. Those who do no evil to their friends. nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;
- 4 in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the Lord. R.
 - Those who stand by their oath even to their hurt.
- who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 4.10b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. God first loved us and sent his Son to take away our sins.

GOSPEL Luke 19.1-10

The Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. 1
- A man was there named Zacchaeus: he was a chief tax collector and was rich.
- He was trying to see who Jesus was, 3 but on account of the crowd he could not. because he was short in stature.
- So Zacchaeus ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, 4 because he was going to pass that way.
- When Jesus came to the place, 5 he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today."
- So Zacchaeus hurried down and was happy to welcome Jesus.

- All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner."
- Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much."
- Then Jesus said of him,
 "Today salvation has come to this house,
 because he too is a son of Abraham.
- For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

The gospel of the Lord.

499 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Revelation 4.1-11

Holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision I looked, and there in heaven, a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."
- At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne!
- And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald.
- Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads.
- Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God;
- and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:

- the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle.
- And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside.

 Day and night without ceasing they sing,
 "Holy, holy, holy,
 the Lord God the Almighty,
 who was and is and is to come."
- 9 And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever,
- the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,
- "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 150.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R. Rev 4.8b)

R. Holy, holy, holy Lord, mighty God!

- Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!
- Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness! R.
- Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
- Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! *R.*

Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Luke 19.11-28

Why then did you not put my money into the bank?

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- As the crowd was listening, Jesus went on to tell a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately.
- So Jesus said,
 "A nobleman went to a distant country
 to get royal power for himself and then return.
- He summoned ten of his slaves, and gave them ten pounds, and said to them,

 'De bysiness with these until Learne back'
 - 'Do business with these until I come back.'
- But the citizens of his country hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to rule over us.'
- When he returned, having received royal power, he ordered these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to be summoned so that he might find out what they had gained by trading.
- The first came forward and said, 'Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds.'
- The nobleman said to him, 'Well done, good slave!

 Because you have been trustworthy in a very small thing, take charge of ten cities.'
 - Then the second came, saying,
- 'Lord, your pound has made five pounds.'
- The nobleman said to him, 'And you, rule over five cities.'

- 20 Then the other came, saying, 'Lord, here is your pound. I wrapped it up in a piece of cloth,
- for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; 21 you take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.
- The nobleman said to him. 22 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave! You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow?
- Why then did you not put my money into the bank? 23 Then when I returned. I could have collected it with interest.'
- The nobleman said to the bystanders, 24 'Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds.'
- And they said to him, 25 "Lord, he has ten pounds!" The nobleman said,
- 26 'I tell you, to all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.
- 27 But as for these enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them bring them here and slaughter them in my presence."
- After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, 28 going up to Jerusalem.

The gospel of the Lord.

500 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 5.1-10

For you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision, I, John saw in the right hand of the one seated on the throne a scroll written on the inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals:
- and I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?"

- And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth 3 was able to open the scroll or to look into it.
- And I began to weep bitterly 4 because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.
- Then one of the elders said to me. 5 "Do not weep. See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."
- Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures 6 and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.
- He went and took the scroll 7 from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne.
- When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb. each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.
- They sing a new song: 9 "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation;
- you have made them to be a kingdom and priests 10 serving our God, and they will reign on earth."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 149.1-2, 3-4, 5-6a+9b (R. Rev 5.10)

- **R.** The Lamb has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.
- Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King. **R**.
- 3 Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.
- 4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory. R.
- 5 Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.
- 6 Let the high praises of God be in their throats.
- This is glory for all his faithful ones. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 95.8

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

GOSPEL Luke 19.41-44

If you had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace!

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- As Jesus came near Jerusalem and saw the city, 41 he wept over it, saying,
- "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day 42 the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.
- "Indeed, the days will come upon you, 43 when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side.
- They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

501 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 10.8-11

I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- Then the voice that I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying, "Go, take the scroll that is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land."
- So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll; and he said to me, "Take it, and eat; it will be bitter to your stomach, but sweet as honey in your mouth."
- So I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it; it was sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter.
- Then the angel said to me,
 "You must prophesy again
 about many peoples and nations and languages and kings."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 119.14+24, 72+103, 111+131 (R.103a)

- **R.** How sweet to my taste is your promise!
- I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches.
- Your decrees are my delight, they are my counsellors. *R.*
- The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.
- How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! *R*.
- Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.
- With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10.27

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

GOSPEL Luke 19.45-48

You have made my Father's house a den of robbers.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- 45 Jesus entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there;
- and he said, "It is written, 46 'My house shall be a house of prayer'; but you have made it a den of robbers."
- 47 Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him;
- 48 but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

The gospel of the Lord.

502 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 11.4-12

These two prophets had been a torment to the inhabitants of the earth.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision, I saw the two witnesses of the Lord, who had been given authority to prophesy.

- These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands 4 that stand before the Lord of the earth.
- 5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes; anyone who wants to harm them must be killed in this manner.
- They have authority to shut the sky, so that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying, and they have authority over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire.

- When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them,
- and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that is prophetically called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.
- For three and a half days members of the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb;
- and the inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them and celebrate and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to the inhabitants of the earth.
- But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and those who saw them were terrified.
- Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here!"

 And they went up to heaven in a cloud while their enemies watched them.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 144.1, 2, 9-10 (R.1)

- **R.** Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!
- Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle. *R*.
- The Lord is my steadfast love and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge, who subdues the peoples under me. *R*.
- I will sing a new song to you, O God; upon a ten-string harp I will play to you,
- the one who gives victory to kings who rescues his servant David. *R.*

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

GOSPEL Luke 20.27-40

He is God not of the dead, but of the living.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- 27 Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection,
- came to Jesus and asked him a question, 28 "Teacher. Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.
- Now there were seven brothers: 29 the first married, and died childless;
- then the second
- and the third married her. 31 and so in the same way all seven died childless.
- Finally the woman also died. 32
- In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? 33 For the seven had married her."
- Jesus said to them. 34
 - "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage;
- but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age 35 and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage.
- Indeed they cannot die anymore, 36 because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection.
- "And the fact that the dead are raised 37 Moses himself showed in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.
- Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; 38 for to him all of them are alive."
- Then some of the scribes answered. 39 "Teacher, you have spoken well."
- For they no longer dared to ask him another question. 40
 - The gospel of the Lord.

THIRTY-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

503 MONDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 14.1-3, 4b-5

The saints had the name of the Lamb and his Father's name written on their foreheads.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision I looked, and there was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion! And with him were one hundred forty-four thousand who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads.
- And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder; the voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps,
- and they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the one hundred forty-four thousand who have been redeemed from the earth.
- These follow the Lamb wherever he goes.
 They have been redeemed from humanity as first fruits for God and the Lamb,
- and in their mouth no lie was found; they are blameless.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24.1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 (R. see 6)

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

- The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it:
- for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. R.

- Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
- Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false. **R**.
- They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.
- Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 24.42a, 44

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

GOSPEL Luke 21.1-4

Jesus also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury;
- he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.
- 3 He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them;
- for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

The gospel of the Lord.

504 TUESDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 14.14-19

The hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is fully ripe.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision I looked, and there was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one like the Son of Man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand!
- Another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to the one who sat on the cloud,

- "Use your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is fully ripe."
- So the one who sat on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was reaped.
- Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle.
- Then another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over fire, and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, "Use your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe."
- So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the vintage of the earth, and he threw it into the great wine press of the wrath of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 96.10, 11-12, 13 (R.13b)

- **R.** The Lord comes to judge the earth.
- Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.

 He will judge the peoples with equity." R.
- Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it:
- let the field exult, and everything in it.
 Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy. *R.*
- The Lord is coming, he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 2.10c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be faithful until death, says the Lord, and I will give you the crown of life.

GOSPEL Luke 21.5-11

The days will come when not one stone will be left upon another.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God,
- Jesus said,
 "As for these things that you see,
 the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another;
 all will be thrown down."
- They asked him,"Teacher, when will this be,and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?"
- And Jesus said,
 "Beware that you are not led astray;
 for many will come in my name and say,
 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!'
 Do not go after them.
- "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."
- Then Jesus said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;
- there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

505 WEDNESDAY

FIRST READING Revelation 15.1-4

And the faithful sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision, I, John, saw another portent in heaven, great and amazing:
 seven angels with seven plagues,
 which are the last,
 for with them the wrath of God is ended.
- And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands.
- And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb:
 "Great and amazing are your deeds,
 Lord God the Almighty!
 Just and true are your ways,
 King of the nations!
- Lord, who will not fear and glorify your name?
 For you alone are holy.
 All nations will come and worship before you, for your judgments have been revealed."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9 (R. Rev 15.3)

- **R.** Great and wonderful are all your works, Lord, mighty God!
- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. *R.*
- The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. **R**.

7

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

- 8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy. R.
- Rejoice at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.

 He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 2.10c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be faithful until death, says the Lord, and I will give you the crown of life.

GOSPEL Luke 21.12-19

You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come. He said,

- "Before all the tribulations occur, the authorities will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.
- "This will give you an opportunity to testify.
- So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance;
- for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.
- "You will be betrayed even by parents by brothers and sisters, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.
- 17 You will be hated by all because of my name.
- But not a hair of your head will perish.
- By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The gospel of the Lord.

506 THURSDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 18.1-2, 21-23, 19.1-3, 9a

Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision, I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority; and the earth was made bright with his splendour.
- He called out with a mighty voice,
 "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!
 It has become a dwelling place of demons,
 a haunt of every foul spirit,
 a haunt of every foul bird
 a haunt of every foul and hateful beast."
- Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "With such violence
 Babylon the great city will be thrown down, and will be found no more;
- and the sound of harpists and minstrels and of flutists and trumpeters will be heard in you no more; and an artisan of any trade will be found in you no more; and the sound of the millstone will be heard in you no more;
- and the light of a lamp will shine in you no more; and the voice of bridegroom and bride will be heard in you no more; for your merchants were the magnates of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery."
- After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah!
 Salvation and glory and power to our God,
- for his judgments are true and just; he has judged the great whore who corrupted the earth with her fornication, and he has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

- 3 Once more they said, "Hallelujah! The smoke goes up from her forever and ever."
- And the angel said to me, 9 "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 100.1-2, 3, 4, 5 (R. Rev 19.9a)

- **R.** Blessed are they who are called to the wedding feast of the Lamb.
- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. **R**.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. R.
- Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. **R**.
- 5 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21,28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

GOSPEL Luke 21.20-28

Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come. He said,

- "When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near.
- Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it;
- for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfillment of all that is written.
- "Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people;
- they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.
- 25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.
- People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
- "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory.
- Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

The gospel of the Lord.

507 FRIDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 20.1-4, 11-15; 21.1-2

The dead were judged according to their works, and I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- Then in my vision I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain.
- He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,
- and threw him into the pit, and locked and sealed it over him, so that he would deceive the nations no more, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be let out for a little while.
- Then I saw thrones, and those seated on them were given authority to judge. I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony to Jesus and for the word of God.

 They had not worshipped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years.
- Then I saw a great white throne and the one who sat on it; the earth and the heaven fled from his presence, and no place was found for them.
- And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened.

 Also another book was opened, the book of life.

 And the dead were judged according to their works, as recorded in the books.
- And the sea gave up the dead that were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and all were judged according to what they had done.
- Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire;
- and anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

- Then I 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, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 84.1-2, 3, 4-5, 7+10 (R. Rev 21.3b)++

- **R.** Here God lives among his people.
- How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
- My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. *R.*
- Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. *R*.
- 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. *R*.
- 7 They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.
- For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

GOSPEL Luke 21.29-33

When you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come.

- 29 He told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees;
- as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near.
- So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.
- "Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place.
- Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."

The gospel of the Lord.

508 SATURDAY

FIRST READING

Revelation 22.1-7

There will be no more night; for the Lord God will be their light.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- Then in my vision the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal,
 - flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb
- through the middle of the street of the city.
 On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month;
 - and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.
- Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him;
- 4 they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.
- And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun,

for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

- And the angel said to me,
 "These words are trustworthy and true,
 for the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets,
 has sent his angel to show his servants
 what must soon take place."
- "See, I am coming soon!
 Blessed is the one
 who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 95.1-2, 3-5, 6-7 (R. 1 Cor 16.22 and Rev 22.20c)

- **R.** Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!
- O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! *R*.
- For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
- In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.
- The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. *R.*
- O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
- For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
 O that today you would listen to his voice! R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21.36

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

GOSPEL Luke 21.34-36

Be alert, that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come. He said,

- "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down 34 with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.
- For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 35
- 36 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONS – ORDINARY TIME **509**

For the weekdays of Ordinary Time

These texts may be used in place of the texts proposed for each day.

1 Samuel 3.9; John 6.68c

Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening; you have the words of everlasting life.

See Psalm 19.9

Your words, O Lord, give joy to my heart, your teaching is light to my eyes.

Psalm 25.4b, 5a

Teach me your paths, my God, and lead me in your truth.

See Psalm 27.11

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a straight road.

Psalm 95.8

If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

Psalm 111.7b-8a

Your laws are all made firm, O Lord, established for evermore.

Psalm 119.18

Unveil my eyes, O Lord, and I will see the marvels of your law.

Psalm 119.27

Instruct me in the way of your rules, and I will reflect on all your wonders.

Psalm 119.34

Teach me the meaning of your law, O Lord, and I will guard it with all my heart.

Psalm 119.36a, 29b

Turn my heart to do your will; teach me your law, O God.

Psalm 119.88

Give me life, O Lord, and I will do your commands.

Psalm 119.105

Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path.

Psalm 119.135

Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your laws.

See Psalm 130.5

I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word.

Psalm 145.13cd

The Lord is faithful in all his words and holy in all his deeds.

Psalm 147.12a, 15a

Jerusalem, praise the Lord, who speaks and the word speeds forth to the earth.

Matthew 4.4b

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

See Matthew 11.25

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

See Luke 8.15

Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

See John 6.63c, 68c

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life.

John 8 12

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

John 10.27

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

John 14.6

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

John 14.23

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

John 15.15b

I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

See John 17.17b, a

Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth.

See Acts 16.14b

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

2 Corinthians 5.19

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

See Ephesians 1.17-18

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Philippians 2.15d, 16a

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

See Colossians 3.16a, 17c

Give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord, and may the fullness of his message live within you.

See 1 Thessalonians 2.13

Receive this message not as human words, but as truly the word of God.

See 2 Thessalonians 2.14

God has called us with the gospel, to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

See 2 Timothy 1.10

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through the gospel.

Hebrews 4.12

The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the firstfruits of his creation.

James 1.21bc

Receive and submit to the word planted in you.

1 Peter 1.25

The word of the Lord stands for ever; it is the word given to you, the good news.

1 John 2.5

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God.

Last Week in Ordinary Time:

Matthew 24.42a, 44

Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Luke 21.28

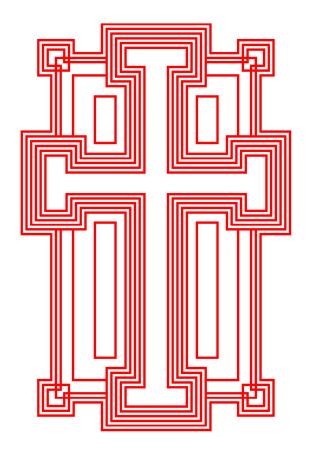
Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.

Luke 21.36

Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

Revelation 2.10c

Be faithful until death, says the Lord, and I will give you the crown of life.



PROPER OF SAINTS

MAY 12 TO DECEMBER 4

PROPER OF SAINTS

- 1. The rank of the celebration of a saint is indicated for each day (solemnity, feast, memorial or optional
- 2. For solemnities the proper texts are provided in full, and are found in the Lectionary for Sundays and Solemnities.
- For feasts the proper texts are provided in full.
- For memorials, a proper text for the celebration is given in place and a reference for other texts is provided from the commons.
 - References to the commons are provided as a suggestion only. Other texts from the Commons may be chosen, especially if they seem more appropriate to the particular celebration. In some cases, texts may be taken from more than one of the commons. The scripture readings should be chosen which express a special character of the saint.
 - The National Liturgical Office recommends that in normal circumstances, the readings from the ferial should be used so that the (continuous) sequence of readings may not be unduly interrupted, (especially during Ordinary Time).
 - Memorials during Lent are celebrated as optional memorials and the readings from the ferial are always used.
- 5. For optional memorials, except where special devotion exists, the ferial readings are to be preferred.

MAY

562 NEREUS and ACHILLEUS

MAY 12

martyrs

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 714(2); responsorial psalm: 715(3); gospel: 718(1).

563 PANCRAS

martyr

MAY 12

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 738(3); responsorial psalm: 739(6); gospel: 742(4).

564 MATTHIAS

MAY 14

Feast

apostle

FIRST READING

Acts 1.15-17, 20-26

The lot fell to Matthias, who was then added to the eleven apostles.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- In the days following the Lord's return to heaven,
 Peter stood up among the believers;
 together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons.
 He said.
- "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—
- for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.
- For it is written in the book of Psalms, 'Let his homestead become desolate, and let there be no one to live in it'; and

'Let another take his position of overseer.'

- "So one of the men who accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,
- beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection."

- So they proposed two,
 Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus,
 and Matthias.
- Then they prayed and said,
 "Lord, you know everyone's heart.
 Show us which one of these two you have chosen
- to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place."
- And they cast lots for the two candidates, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.7-8)

- **R.** The Lord will count him among his people.++
- or: The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.
- Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. **R**.
- From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. *R*.
- Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,
- who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? **R**.
- 7 He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
- to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL John 15.9-17

I call you servants no longer, but I call you friends.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 9 "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
- If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
- "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- "You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
- "You did not choose me but I chose you.

 And I appointed you to go and bear fruit,
 fruit that will last,
 so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The gospel of the Lord.

565 JOHN I

MAY 18

Optional Memorial

pope, martyr

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-724 (for a pope). First reading: 738(2); responsorial psalm: 739(4); gospel: 724(9).

566 BERNARDINE OF SIENA

priest, religious, missionary

MAY 20 Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724 (for missionaries).

FIRST READING Acts 4.8-12

There is only one name, that of Jesus, by which we will be saved.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Called before the rulers, elders and scribes assembled,

- Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to the members of the council, "Rulers of the people and elders,
- if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed,
- let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.
- "This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'
- There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 40.1+3ab, 6, 7-8, 9 (R. see 7a+8a)

- **R.** Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.
- I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. *R*.
- Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear.
 Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. *R.*
- 7 Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." *R.*

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord. *R*.

Gospel: 742(19).

566A EUGENE DE MAZENOD

MAY 21

bishop, religious founder

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724. An alternative reading follows this one.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61.1-6a

The Lord has anointed me to give the Good News to the poor, to give the oil of gladness.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The servant of the Lord said:

- The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;
- to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;
- to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
 to give them a garland instead of ashes,
 the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
 the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
 They will be called oaks of righteousness,
 the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
- They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

>

- 5 Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines;
- but you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

or:

1 Corinthians 2.1-13

We teach spiritual things in a spiritual way.

The shorter version may begin or end at the asterisk.

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

- When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom.
- For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
- And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.
- My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
- so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.
- Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish.
- But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.
- None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
- But, as it is written,"No eye has seen, nor ear heard,nor the human heart conceived,what God has prepared for those who love him."

- These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit.
 - * For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.
- For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within?
 So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.
- Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.
- And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 96.1-2, 3+10ac, 11+13a (R.3)

- **R.** Proclaim God's marvellous deeds to all the nations.
- O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. *R*.
- Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples.
- Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! He will judge the peoples with equity." **R.**
- Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
- for the Lord is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 16.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Go out to the whole world; proclaim the good news to all creation.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.35-38

Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.
- When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
- therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

The gospel of the Lord.

566B BLESSED LOUIS-ZEPHERIN MOREAU

MAY 24

bishop, religious founder

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724. An alternate reading follows this one.

FIRST READING

Sirach 38.34b - 39.8

The devoted scribe seeks the wisdom of the Most High.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- The one who devotes himself to the study of the law of the Most High
- seeks out the wisdom of all the ancients, and is concerned with prophecies;
- he preserves the sayings of the famous and penetrates the subtleties of parables;
- he seeks out the hidden meanings of proverbs and is at home with the obscurities of parables.
- He serves among the great
 and appears before rulers;
 he travels in foreign lands
 and learns what is good and evil in the human lot.

- The sets his heart to rise early to seek the Lord who make him, and to petition the Most High; he opens his mouth in prayer and asks pardon for his sins.
- If the great Lord is willing, he will be filled with the spirit of understanding; he will pour forth words of wisdom of his own and give thanks to the Lord in prayer.
- 7 The Lord will direct his counsel and knowledge, as he meditates on his mysteries.
- He will show the wisdom of what he has learned, and will glory in the law of the Lord's covenant.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

or:

1 Corinthians 2.1-5

I proclaimed to you the mystery of God.

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

- When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom.
- For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
- And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.
- My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
- so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading. Responsorial psalm: 727(1); gospel: 742(22).

567 BEDE THE VENERABLE

MAY 25

priest, religious, doctor of the Church

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730.

First reading: 728(3); responsorial psalm: 727(3); gospel: 730(2).

568 GREGORY VII

MAY 25

pope, religious

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724 (for a pope).

First reading: 720(2); responsorial psalm: 721(7); gospel: 724(2).

569 MARY MAGDALENE DE PAZZI

MAY 25

religious Optional Memorial

See Common of Virgins or Holy Men and Women, nos. 731-742 (for religious).

First reading: 734(1); responsorial psalm: 733(2); gospel: 742(14).

570 PHILIP NERI

MAY 26

priest, religious founder

Optional Memorial

 $See\ Common\ of\ Pastors\ or\ Holy\ Men\ and\ Women,\ nos.\ 719-724\ or\ 737-742\ (for\ religious).$

First reading: 740(10); responsorial psalm: 739(5); gospel: 742(26).

571 AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

MAY 27

bishop, religious, missionary

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724 (for missionaries).

First reading: 722(10); responsorial psalm: 721(5); gospel: 724(1).

572 VISITATION OF MARY

MAY 31
Feast

An alternate reading follows this one.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3.14-18

The Lord, Israel's king, is in your midst.

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

- Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;shout, O Israel!Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!
- The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies.

 The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.
- On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
 Do not fear, O Zion;
 do not let your hands grow weak.
- The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing
- as on a day of festival.

 I will remove disaster from you,
 so that you will not bear reproach for it.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

or:

Romans 12.9-16

Contribute to the needs of the saints: open your home to strangers.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Beloved:

- 9 Let love be genuine;
 - hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;
- love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour.

 \triangleright

- Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
- Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
- 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
- Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
- Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
- Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Isaiah 12.2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (R.6b)

R. Among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

- Surely God is my salvation;
 I will trust, and will not be afraid,
 for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
 he has become my salvation.
- With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. R.
- Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. *R*.
- Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.
- Shout aloud and sing for joy, O Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Luke 1.45

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, for your firm believing that the promises of the Lord would be fulfilled.

GOSPEL Luke 1.39-56

Why has this honour been given to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,
- where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.
- When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb.
 - And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit
- and exclaimed with a loud cry,
 "Blessed are you among women,
 and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
- And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?
- 44 For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.
- And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."
- 46 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,
- and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
- for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
- "The Lord's mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
- He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
- He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
- he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
- "The Lord has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."
- And Mary remained with Elizabeth about three months and then returned to her home.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

573 IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Saturday following the Second Sunday after Pentecost

Optional Memorial

See Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-711.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61.9-11

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- The descendants of the just shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
- I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
- For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

1 Samuel 2.1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd (R. see 1a)

R. My heart rejoices in the Lord, my Saviour.

- My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. *R.*
- The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength.
- Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.
 The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. R.

- The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- 7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. *R.*
- He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Luke 2.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed is the Virgin Mary who kept the word of God and pondered it in her heart.

GOSPEL Luke 2.41-51

His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.
- 42 And when Jesus was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival.
- When the festival was ended and the parents started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.
- Assuming that he was in the group of travellers,they went a day's journey.Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.
- When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.
- After three days they found Jesus in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.
- 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.
- When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this?

 Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety."

- Jesus said to them,
 "Why were you searching for me?
 Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"
- But they did not understand what he said to them.
- Then Jesus went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to Joseph and Mary.
 His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

The gospel of the Lord.

JUNE

574 JUSTIN JUNE 1 Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 722(2); responsorial psalm: 715(2); gospel: 730(1).

575 MARCELLINUS and PETER

JUNE 2

martyrs Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 716(4); responsorial psalm: 715(3); gospel: 718(7).

576 CHARLES LWANGA and Companions

JUNE 3

catechist, martyr, and martyrs

Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 713(3); responsorial psalm: 715(3); gospel: 742(1).

577 BONIFACE

JUNE 5

bishop, religious, missionary, martyr

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-724 (for missionaries). First reading: 720(3); responsorial psalm: 721(8); gospel: 724(10).

578 NORBERT

JUNE 6

bishop, religious founder

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 719(9); responsorial psalm: 721(2); gospel: 742(23).

579 EPHREM THE SYRIAN

JUNE 9

deacon, doctor of the Church

Optional Memorial

See Common of Doctors, nos. 725-730.

First reading: 740(11); responsorial psalm: 727(2); gospel: 730(6).

apostle

FIRST READING

Acts 11.21b-26; 13.1-3

Barnabas was a good man, Spirit-filled, a man of faith.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- At Antioch a great number of the Hellenists became believers and turned to the Lord.
- News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch.
- When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast devotion;
- for Barnabas was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.

 And a great many people were brought to the Lord.
- Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul,
- and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch.
- Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers:
 Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger,
 Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a member of the court of Herod the ruler,
 and Saul.
- While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."
- Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 3c-4, 5-6 (R.2b)

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. *R.*
- The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. R.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. *R.*
- Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 28.19a, 20b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Go and teach all people my gospel; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

GOSPEL Matthew 10.7-13

You received without payment: give, then, without payment.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus sent the twelve out with the following instructions,

- "As you go, proclaim the good news,'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'
- 8 Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.
- ⁹ "Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts,
- no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food.
- "Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave.

JUNE 1781

As you enter the house, greet it.

If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you."

The gospel of the Lord.

581 ANTHONY OF PADUA

JUNE 13

priest, religious, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Pastors, Doctors, or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-730 or 737-742 (for religious).

First reading: 719(6); responsorial psalm: 721(4); gospel: 724(8).

582 ROMUALD

JUNE 19

Optional Memorial

abbot, religious founder

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 740(9); responsorial psalm: 739(9); gospel: 742(23).

583 ALOYSIUS GONZAGA

JUNE 21 *Memorial*

religious

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 740(18); responsorial psalm: 739(3); gospel: 742(10).

584 PAULINUS OF NOLA

JUNE 22

bishop

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724.

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 8.9-15

For your sake Christ became poor, though he was rich; from his poverty you have become rich.

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

- For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.
- And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something—

- now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means.
- For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have.
- I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance
- between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance.
- As it is written,

 "The one who had much did not have too much,
 and the one who had little did not have too little."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Responsorial psalm: 721(3); gospel: 742(21).

585 JOHN FISHER and THOMAS MORE

JUNE 22

bishop, martyr, married man, and chancellor, martyr

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718. First reading: 716(9); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 718(3).

586 VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

JUNE 23
Solemnity

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 1.4-10

Before you were formed in the womb, I knew you.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- The word of the Lord came to me saying,
- "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

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- Then I said, "Ah, Lord God!
 Truly I do not know how to speak,
 for I am only a boy."
- But the Lord said to me,
 "Do not say, 'I am only a boy';
 for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
 and you shall speak whatever I command you,
- Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord."
- Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me,
 "Now I have put my words in your mouth.
- See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 71.1-2, 3, 5-6, 15+17 (R.6)

- **R.** Since my mother's womb, you have been my strength.
- In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
- In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. *R*.
- Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked. *R*.
- For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.
- Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. *R*.
- My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all day long.
- O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. *R.*

The prophets made careful search concerning our salvation.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
- Although you have not seen Jesus Christ, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,
- for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.
- It was concerning this salvation, which was foretold to be yours by grace, that the prophets made careful search and inquiry,
- inquiring about the person or time that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated when it testified in advance to the sufferings and the subsequent glory destined for Christ.
- It was revealed to the prophets
 that they were serving not themselves but you,
 in regard to the things that have now been announced to you
 through those who brought you good news
 by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven
 —things into which angels long to look!
- Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. John came to bear witness to the light, to prepare an upright people for the Lord.

John 1.7; Luke 1.17

GOSPEL Luke 1.5-17

Your wife, Elizabeth, will bear you a son, and you will name him John.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.
- Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord.
- But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.
- Once when Zechariah was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty,
- he was chosen by lot,
 according to the custom of the priesthood,
 to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense.
- Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside.
- Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense.
- When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him.
- But the angel said to him,
 "Do not be afraid, Zechariah,
 for your prayer has been heard.
 Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son,
 and you will name him John.
- You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth,
- for he will be great in the sight of the Lord.

 He must never drink wine or strong drink;

 even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God.
- With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

FIRST READING Isaiah 49.1-6

I will give you as a light to the nations.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.
- And the Lord said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- But I said, "I have laboured in vain,
 I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
 yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
 and my reward with my God."
- And now the Lord says,
 who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
 to bring Jacob back to him,
 and that Israel might be gathered to him,
 for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord,
 and my God has become my strength.
- The Lord says,

 "It is too small a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;

 I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 139.1-3, 13-14a, 14b-15 (R.14)

- **R.** I praise you for I am wonderfully made.
- O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
- You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.
- You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. *R*.
- For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- ¹⁴ I praise you,
 - for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. R.
 - Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.
- My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. *R.*

SECOND READING

Acts 13.22-26

John proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the sabbath,

Paul and his companion went to the synagogue,

and the officials of the synagogue invited them to address the people.

So Paul stood up and began to speak.

"You Israelites, and all who fear God, listen.

- God made David king of our ancestors.
 - In his testimony about him God said,
 - 'I have found David, son of Jesse,
 - to be a man after my heart,
 - who will carry out all my wishes.'
- "Of this man's posterity
 - God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised;
- before the coming of Jesus
 - John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance
 - to all the people of Israel.
- And as John was finishing his work, he said,
 - 'What do you suppose that I am?
 - I am not he.
 - No, but one is coming after me;
 - I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet.'

"You descendants of Abraham's family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 1.76

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.

GOSPEL

Luke 1.57-66, 80

His name is John

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son.
- Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.
- On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father.
- But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John."
- They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name."
- Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him.
- He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John."

 And all of them were amazed.
- Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God.
- Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea.
- All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?"

 For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.
- The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

The gospel of the Lord.

588 CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA

Optional Memorial

JUNE 2

bishop, doctor of the Church

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730. First reading: 722(12); responsorial psalm: 721(4); gospel: 730(1).

589 IRENAEUS

JUNE 28

bishop, martyr

Memorial

See Common of Martyrs or Doctors, nos. 713-718 or 725-730.

FIRST READING

2 Timothy 2.22b-26

The Lord's servant must act kindly toward all, giving correction gently.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- Pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.
- Have nothing to do with stupid and senseless controversies; you know that they breed quarrels.
- And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kindly to everyone, an apt teacher, patient,
- correcting opponents with gentleness.

 God may perhaps grant that they will repent and come to know the truth,
- and that they may escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Responsorial psalm: 727(2); gospel: 742(26).

590 VIGIL OF PETER and PAUL

apostles

JUNE 28
Solemnity

FIRST READING Acts 3.1-10

What I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon.
- A man lame from birth was being carried in.

 People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate
 so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple.
- When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms.
- Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us."
- He fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them.
- Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk."
- And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.
- Jumping up, the man stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.
- 9 All the people saw him walking and praising God,
- and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.1-2, 3-4 (R.4a)

- **R.** Their message goes out through all the earth.
- The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. R.
- There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
- yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. *R*.

SECOND READING

Galatians 1.11-20

God set me apart before I was born.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin;
- for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.
- You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it.
- I advanced in Judaism
 beyond many among my people of the same age,
 for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors.
- Then God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me,
- so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles. I did not confer with any human being,
- nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus.
- Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him fifteen days;

- but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother.
- In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 21.173

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Lord, you know all things: you know that I love you.

GOSPEL John 21.15-19

Peter, feed my lambs, feed my sheep.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

For the third time after he was raised from the dead, Jesus appeared to the disciples. Just after daybreak, he stood on the beach and said to them, "Come and eat."

- When they had finished breakfast,
 Jesus said to Simon Peter,
 "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"
 He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you."
 Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."
- A second time he said to him,
 "Simon son of John, do you love me?"
 He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you."
 Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."
- He said to him the third time,
 "Simon son of John, do you love me?'"
 Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time,
 "Do you love me?"
 And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything;
 you know that I love you."
 Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

JUNE 1793

- "Very truly, I tell you,
 when you were younger,
 you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished.
 But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands,
 and someone else will fasten a belt around you
 and take you where you do not wish to go."
- 19 (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God.)
 After this Jesus said to Peter,
 "Follow me."

The gospel of the Lord.

591 PETER and PAUL

apostles

JUNE 29
Solemnity

FIRST READING Acts 12.1-11

Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In those days,

- King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church.
- He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword.
- After he saw that it pleased some of the people, he proceeded to arrest Peter also.

 This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.
- When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover.
- While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him.
- The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison.
- Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell.
 He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly."
 And the chains fell off his wrists.

- The angel said to him,
 "Fasten your belt and put on your sandals."
 He did so. Then he said to him,
 "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me."
- Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision.
- After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him.
- Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the people were expecting."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.4b)

- **R.** The Lord set me free from all my fears.
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. **R**.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. **R**.
- The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 4.6-8, 17-18

There is reserved for me the crown of righteousness.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- 6 As for me,
 - I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come.
- I have fought the good fight,
 I have finished the race,
 I have kept the faith.
- From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.
- The Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it.

 So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.
- The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom.

 To him be the glory forever and ever.

 Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 16.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

GOSPEL Matthew 16.13-19

You are Peter; and I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"
- And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
- He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
- Simon Peter answered,
 "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."
- And Jesus answered him,
 "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!
 For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.
- And I tell you,
 you are Peter,
 and on this rock I will build my church,
 and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.
- "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

 The gospel of the Lord.

592 FIRST MARTYRS OF THE CHURCH OF ROME

JUNE 30
Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718. First reading: 716(2); responsorial psalm: 715(3).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleulia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL Matthew 24.4-13

You will be hated by all nations because of my name.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 4 "Beware that no one leads you astray.
- For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will lead many astray.
- 6 "And you will hear of wars and rumours of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet.
- For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places:
- all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs.
- "Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name.
- Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another.
- And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.
- "And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold.
- But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

The gospel of the Lord.

JULY

592A CANADA DAY

JULY 1

Masses for Civic Occasions

See Lectionary for Rituals and Various Occasions: First reading: 872(1, 2 or 3) or 882(8); gospel: 876(5), 881(1), 886(1, 3), 891(3, 4) or 886(5).

593 THOMAS

JULY 3

apostle

Feast

FIRST READING

Ephesians 2.19-22

You belong to a household built with the apostles as the foundation stones.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,
- built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.
- In Christ the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;
- in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 117.1, 2 (R. Mk 16.15)

R. Go out to all the world and tell the good news.

- Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! *R*.
- For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 20.29

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

GOSPEL

John 20.24-29

My Lord and my God.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

- Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.
- So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord."
 But Thomas said to them,
 "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands,
 and put my finger in the mark of the nails
 and my hand in his side,
 I will not believe."
- A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them.
 Although the doors were shut,
 Jesus came and stood among them and said,
 "Peace be with you."
- Then Jesus said to Thomas,
 "Put your finger here and see my hands.
 Reach out your hand and put it in my side.
 Do not doubt but believe."
- Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
- Jesus said to Thomas,
 "Have you believed because you have seen me?
 Blessed are those who have not seen
 and yet have come to believe."

The gospel of the Lord.

594 ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL

married woman, queen

JULY 4
Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for those who work for the disadvantaged). First reading: 740(16); responsorial psalm: 739(7); gospel: 742(13).

595 ANTHONY ZACCARIA

JULY 5

priest, religious founder

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742 (for teachers and for religious).

First reading: 722(11); responsorial psalm: 739(1); gospel: 742(16).

596 MARIA GORETTI

JULY 6

virgin, martyr

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs or Virgins, nos. 713-718 or 731-736. First reading: 740(19); responsorial psalm: 715(1); gospel: 718(5).

597 BENEDICT

JULY 11

abbot, religious founder

Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 737(19); responsorial psalm: 739(5); gospel: 742(9).

598 HENRY

JULY 13

married man, emperor

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742. First reading: 737(17); responsorial psalm: 739(1); gospel: 742(3).

599 CAMILLUS DE LELLIS

JULY 14

priest

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for those who work for the disadvantaged). First reading: 740(16); responsorial psalm: 739(7); gospel: 742(25).

600 BONAVENTURE

JULY 15

bishop, religious, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730.

First reading: 740(7); responsorial psalm: 727(3); gospel: 730(4).

601 OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

JULY 16
Optional Memorial

See Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712. First reading: 707(11); responsorial canticle: 709(5); gospel: 712(3).

602 LAWRENCE OF BRINDISI

JULY 21

priest, religious, doctor of the Church

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730. First reading: 722(6); responsorial psalm: 721(3); gospel: 730(5).

603 MARY MAGDALENE

JULY 22

disciple of the Lord

Memorial

An alternate reading follows this one.

FIRST READING

Song 3.1-4a

I have found the one my heart loves.

A reading from the Song of Songs.

The bride speaks of her beloved:

- Upon my bed at night I sought him whom my soul loves; I sought him, but found him not;
 - I called him, but he gave no answer.

So I said to myself,

"I will rise now and go about the city, in the streets and in the squares; I will seek him whom my soul loves."

I sought him, but found him not.

- The sentinels found me, as they went about in the city. I asked, "Have you seen him whom my soul loves?"
- Scarcely had I passed them, when I found him whom my soul loves.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

or:

2 Corinthians 5.14-17

Though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him that way.

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

- The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.
- And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.
- From now on, therefore,
 we regard no one from a human point of view.
 Even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,
 we know him no longer in that way.
- So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 63.1, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 (R.1b)

- **R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
- O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. *R.*
- So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
- Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. *R.*
- So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.
- My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips. *R.*
- You have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
- My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Tell us Mary, what did you see on the way? I saw the glory of the risen Christ, I saw his empty tomb.

GOSPEL John 20.1, 11-18

Why do you weep, woman? Who are you searching for?

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

- Early on the first day of the week,
 while it was still dark,
 Mary Magdalene came to the tomb
 and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.
- She stood weeping outside the tomb.
 As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb;
- and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.
- They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."
- When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.
- Jesus said to her,
 "Woman, why are you weeping?
 Whom are you looking for?"
 Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him,
 "Sir, if you have carried him away,
 tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."
- Jesus said to her, "Mary!"
 She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!"
 which means Teacher.
- Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that the Lord had said these things to her. The gospel of the Lord.

604 BRIDGET OF SWEDEN

JULY 23

married woman, religious foundress

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 740(5); responsorial psalm: 739(5); gospel: 742(24).

605 JAMES

JULY 25

Feast

FIRST READING

apostle

2 Corinthians 4.7-15

We carry in our body the death of Jesus.

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

- We have this treasure in clay vessels, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.
- We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair;
- 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;
- always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.
- For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh.
- So death is at work in us, but life in you.
- Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—
 "I believed, and so I spoke"—
 we also believe, and so we speak,
- because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.

Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 126.1-2ab, 2bc-3, 4-5, 6 (R.5)

- **R.** Those who sow in tears, shall reap with shouts of joy.
- When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
- Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. *R*.

 Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

 The Lord has done great things for us,
- The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. *R.*
- Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the desert of the Negev.
- May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. *R.*
- Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Matthew 20.20-28

Indeed, you will drink my cup.

- ★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- The mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him.
- And Jesus said to her, "What do you want?"
 She said to him,
 "Declare that these two sons of mine will sit,
 one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom."

22	But Jesus answered,
	"You do not know what you are asking.
	Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?'
	They said to him, "We are able."

- Jesus said to them,
 "You will indeed drink my cup,
 but to sit at my right hand and at my left,
 this is not mine to grant,
 but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father."
- When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers.
- But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.
- "It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant,
- and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave;
- just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

The gospel of the Lord.

606 JOACHIM and ANNE

JULY 26

parents of Mary

Memorial

When the memorial of St. Anne is observed, the first reading may be no. 740(20).

FIRST READING

Sirach 44.1, 8, 10-15

Our glorious ancestors live on for all generations.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- Let us now sing the praises of our ancestors in their generations.
- Some of them have left behind a name, so that others declare their praise.
- These were godly people, whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten;
- their wealth will remain with their descendants, and their inheritance with their children's children.
- Their descendants stand by the covenants; their children also, for their sake.
- Their offspring will continue forever, and their glory will never be blotted out.

- Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name lives on generation after generation.
- The assembly declares their wisdom, and the congregation proclaims their praise.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 132.11, 13-14, 17-18 (R. Lk 1.32b)

R. God will give him the throne of David, his father.

- The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back:
 "One of the sons of your body
 I will set on your throne." R.
- For the Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his habitation:
- "This is my resting place forever; here I will reside, for I have desired it." *R.*
- "There I will cause a shoot to sprout up for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one.
- His enemies I will clothe with disgrace, but on him, his crown will gleam." *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Luke 2.25c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. They yearned for the comforting of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested upon them.

GOSPEL Matthew 13.16-17

Many prophets and righteous people have longed to see what you see.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.
- "Truly I tell you,
 many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see,
 but did not see it,
 and to hear what you hear,
 but did not hear it."

The gospel of the Lord.

In the Province of Quebec

606A ANNE

JULY 26

mother of Mary

Memorial

Reading as above, or first reading: 740(20).

607 MARTHA

JULY 29

disciple of the Lord

Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 747-741.

First reading: 740(17); responsorial psalm: 739(5); gospel: 742(28) or 742(20).

608 PETER CHRYSOLOGUS

JULY 30

bishop, doctor of the Church

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730.

First reading: 728(4); responsorial psalm: 727(3); gospel: 730(6).

609 IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

JULY 31

priest, religious founder

Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742 (for religious).

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 10.31 - 11.1

Do everything for the greater glory of God.

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

- Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.
- Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God,
- just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, so that they may be saved.
- Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading. Responsorial psalm: 739(5); gospel: 742(23).

AUGUST

610 ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

AUGUST 1

bishop, religious founder, doctor of the Church

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730.

Memorial

FIRST READING

Romans 8.1-4

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has freed you from the law of sin and death.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.
- For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
- so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading. Responsorial psalm: 727(3); gospel: 730(1).

611 EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI

AUGUST 2

bishop

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724. First reading: 740(18); responsorial psalm: 721(4); gospel: 742(1).

612 JOHN MARY VIANNEY

AUGUST 4

priest

Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724.

First reading: 719(8); responsorial psalm: 721(8).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 4.18

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.35 - 10.1

When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.
- When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
- therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."
- Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.

The gospel of the Lord.

613 DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY MAJOR

AUGUST 5

Optional Memorial

See Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712. First reading: 708(3); responsorial canticle: 709(2); gospel: 712(10).

613A BLESSED FREDERIC JANSSOONE

AUGUST 5

Optional Memorial

priest

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724.

First reading: 722(2) or 740(3); responsorial psalm: 739(10).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mark 1.15

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. The kingdom of God is at hand: repent, believe the good news.

GOSPEL Luke 9.1-6

The Lord sent the disciples forth to preach and to heal.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases,
- and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.
- He said to them,
 "Take nothing for your journey,
 no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money
 —not even an extra tunic.
- Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there.
- Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them."
- They departed and went through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere.

 The gospel of the Lord.

614 TRANSFIGURATION

AUGUST 6

Feast

When this feast is celebrated on a weekday, only one of the readings preceding the gospel is used.

FIRST READING

Daniel 7.9-10, 13-14

The Ancient One was robed in white, white like the snow.

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

As I, Daniel, watched in my vision, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.

- A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.
 A thousand thousands served him,
 and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
 The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.
- As I watched visions in the night,
 I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven.
 And he came to the Ancient One
 and was presented before him.
- To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.

 His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 97.1-2, 5-6, 9+11 (R.1a and 9a)

- **R.** The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.
- The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
- Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. R.
- The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.
- The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory. **R**.
- For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
- Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. *R*.

SECOND READING

2 Peter 1.16-19

We ourselves heard God's voice from heaven.

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.

- For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."
- We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.
- So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 17.5c

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. This is my beloved Son, in whom is all my delight; hear him.

GOSPEL - YEAR A

Matthew 17.1-9

The face of Jesus shone like the sun.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.
- And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.
- 3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.
- Then Peter said to Jesus,
 "Lord, it is good for us to be here;
 if you wish, I will make three tents here,
 one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."
- While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

- When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.
- But Jesus came and touched them, saying,"Get up and do not be afraid."
- And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.
- As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL - YEAR B

Mark 9.2-10

This is my Son, the Beloved: listen to him!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. and he was transfigured before them,
- and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.
- And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.
- Then Peter said to Jesus,
 "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here;
 let us make three tents,
 one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."
- 6 Peter did not know what to say, for they were terrified.
- 7 Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"
- Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.
- As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
- So the disciples kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.

The gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL - YEAR C Luke 9.28-36

While Jesus prayed, the appearance of his face changed.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.
- And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.
- Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to Jesus.
- They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.
- Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.
- Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," but Peter did not know what he was saying.
- While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud.
- Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"
- When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone.
 The disciples kept silent
 and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

The gospel of the Lord.

615 SIXTUS II and Companions

AUGUST 7Optional Memorial

pope, martyr, and martyrs

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 713(5); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 718(2).

616 CAJETAN

priest, religious founder

AUGUST 7

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 737(12); responsorial psalm: 739(7); gospel: 742(21).

617 DOMINIC

AUGUST 8

priest, religious founder

Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 (for missionaries) or 737-742 (for religious).

First reading: 728(2); responsorial psalm: 721(5); gospel: 742(19).

618 LAWRENCE

AUGUST 10

Feast

deacon, martyr

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 9.6-10

God loves those who give with a cheerful heart.

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

- The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
- Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
- And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.
- As it is written,"They scatter abroad, they give to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."
- God who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 (R.5a)

- **R.** Happy the merciful who give to those in need.
- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. **R**.
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.
- 7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
- Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. **R**.
- They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their name is exalted in honour. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 8.12bc

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Whoever follows me will not walk in the darkness but will have the light of life, says the Lord.

GOSPEL John 12.24-26

Whoever serves me will be honoured by my Father.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Very truly, I tell you,
 unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies,
 it remains just a single grain;
 but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- 25 "Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
- "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour."

The gospel of the Lord.

619 CLARE

AUGUST 11

virgin Memorial

See Common of Virgins or Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 740(9); responsorial psalm: 739(3); gospel: 742(9).

620 PONTIAN and HIPPOLYTUS

AUGUST 13

pope, martyr, and priest, martyr

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-724. First reading: 716(9); responsorial psalm: 715(3); gospel: 718(6).

620A MAXIMILIAN KOLBE

AUGUST 14

priest, martyr

Memorial

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-718. First reading: 713(5) or 740(16); responsorial psalm: 715(5); gospel: 742(29).

621 VIGIL OF THE ASSUMPTION

AUGUST 14

Solemnity

FIRST READING

1 Chronicles 15.3-4, 15-16; 16.1-2

The Levites brought forward the Ark of the Covenant, and placed it in the tent David had readied for it.

A reading from the first book of Chronicles.

- David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the Lord to its place, which he had prepared for it.
- Then David gathered together the descendants of Aaron and the Levites.
- The Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the Lord.
- David also commanded the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their kindred as the singers to play on musical instruments, on harps and lyres and cymbals, to raise loud sounds of joy.
- They brought in the ark of God, and set it inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and they offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before God.

When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the communion offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 132.6-7, 9-10, 13-14 (R.8)

- **R.** Lord, go up to the place of your rest, you and the ark of your holiness.
- We heard of the Ark in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jaar.
- The state of the s
- Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your faithful shout for joy.
- For your servant David's sake do not turn away the face of your anointed one. *R*.
- For the Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his habitation:
- "This is my resting place forever; here I will reside, for I have desired it." *R.*

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15.54b-57

God grants us victory in Christ Jesus.

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

- When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and when this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."
- Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your 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.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

GOSPEL Luke 11.27-28

Blessed is the womb that bore you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- As Jesus was speaking to the people, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!"
- But Jesus said,
 "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

 The gospel of the Lord.

622 ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

AUGUST 15
Solemnity

FIRST READING

Revelation 11.19a; 12.1-6, 10ab

I saw a woman arrayed with the sun, the moon under her feet.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple.
- A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.
- She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth.
- Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on its heads.
- 4 His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth.

Then the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, so that it might devour her child as soon as it was born.

- And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron. But her child was snatched away and taken to God and to his throne;
- and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, so that there she can be nourished for one thousand two hundred sixty days.
- Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 45.9-10, 11a+12c+14, 15+17 (R.9b)++

R. The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

- Daughters of kings are among your ladies of honour; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
- Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house. *R.*
- The king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him;
- the princess is decked with golden robes;
- in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow. *R.*
- With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever. **R**.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15.20-26

All will be made alive in Christ: he will be first, then all his disciples.

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

Brothers and sisters,

- 20 Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.
- For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being;
- for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.
- But each in his own order:
 Christ the first fruits,
 then at his coming those who belong to Christ.
- Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power.
- For Christ must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.
- The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy.

GOSPEL Luke 1.39-56

The Mighty One has done great things for me; God has lifted up the lowly.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,
- where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.
- When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit
- and exclaimed with a loud cry,
 "Blessed are you among women,
 and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

43	And why has this happened to me,
	that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

- 44 For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.
- 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."
- 46 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,
- and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
- for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
- His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
- "He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
- He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
- he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
- "He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."
- And Mary remained with Elizabeth about three months and then returned to her home.

The gospel of the Lord.

623 STEPHEN OF HUNGARY

married man, king

AUGUST 16
Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742. First reading: 737(3); responsorial psalm: 739(7); gospel: 742(12).

624 JOHN EUDES

AUGUST 19

priest, religious founder, educator

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742. First reading: 740(7); responsorial psalm: 739(9); gospel: 742(4).

625 BERNARD

AUGUST 20

abbot, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Doctors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 725-730 or 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 725(3); responsorial psalm: 727(3); gospel: 742(26).

626 PIUS X

AUGUST 21

pope Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724 (for a pope).

First reading: 722(10); responsorial psalm: 721(4); gospel: 724(12).

627 QUEENSHIP OF MARY

AUGUST 22

Memorial

See Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712. First reading: 707(8); responsorial psalm: 709(4); gospel: 712(4).

628 ROSE OF LIMA

AUGUST 23

virgin

Optional Memorial

See Common of Virgins or Holy Men and Women, nos. 731-742 (for religious). First reading: 734(2); responsorial psalm: 733(2); gospel: 742(5).

apostle Feast

FIRST READING

Revelation 21.9b-14

On the foundation stones are carved the names of the twelve apostles.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- One of the seven angels
 who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues
 came and said to me,
 "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."
- And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.
- It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal.
- It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites;
- on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates.
- And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145.10-11, 12-13ab, 17-18 (R. see 12)

- **R.** Your friends tell the glory of your kingship, Lord.
- All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.
- They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power. **R**.
- To make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. *R.*

The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1.49b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Master, you are the Son of God, you are the king of Israel.

GOSPEL John 1.45-51

Here is truly an Israelite, one in whom there is no deceit.

₭ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

After Jesus had called Philip to be a disciple,

- Philip found Nathanael and said to him,
 "We have found him
 about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote,
 Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth."
- Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."
- When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!"
- Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered,
 - "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."
- Nathanael replied,
 "Rabbi, you are the Son of God!
 You are the King of Israel!"
- Jesus answered,
 "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree?
 You will see greater things than these."
- And Jesus said to Nathanael,
 "Very truly, I tell you,
 you will see heaven opened
 and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."
 The gospel of the Lord.

630 LOUIS OF FRANCE

AUGUST 25

married man, king

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 First reading: 737(15); responsorial psalm: 739(7); gospel: 742(10).

631 JOSEPH CALASANZ

AUGUST 25

priest, religious founder, educator

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742 (for teachers). First Reading: 740(3); responsorial psalm: 739(5); gospel: 742(7).

632 MONICA

AUGUST 27

married woman, mother of Augustine

Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742. First reading: 737(14); responsorial psalm: 739(9); gospel: 742(27).

633 AUGUSTINE

AUGUST 28

bishop, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730 First reading: 740(17); responsorial psalm: 727(3); gospel: 724(3).

634 BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

AUGUST 29

Memorial

FIRST READING

martyr

Jeremiah 1.17-19

Proclaim to them all I have commanded you. Fear them not.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,

"Gird up your loins;

stand up and tell the people everything that I command you.

Do not break down before them,

or I will break you before them.

- "And I for my part have made you today a fortified city, an iron pillar, and a bronze wall, against the whole land—against the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests, and the people of the land.
- "They will fight against you; but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you," says the Lord, "to deliver you."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 71.1-2, 3-4a, 5-6, 15ab+17 (R.15ab)

R. I will sing your salvation.

- In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.
- In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. *R*.
- Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.
- ⁴ Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked. *R*.
- For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.
- Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. *R*.
- My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all day long.
- O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 5.10

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

GOSPEL Mark 6.17-29

Give me, here and now, John's head on a platter.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.
- For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."
- Herodias had a grudge against John, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John,
- knowing that John was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him.When Herod heard John, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.
- But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.
- When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it."
- And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom."
- She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the Baptist."
- Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."
- The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.
- 27 Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head.

 The soldier went and beheaded John in the prison,
- brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.
- When his disciples heard about it, they came and took John's body, and laid it in a tomb.

 The gospel of the Lord.

SEPTEMBER

635 **GREGORY THE GREAT**

SEPTEMBER 3

pope, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-724 (for a pope) or 725-730. First reading: 722(6); responsorial psalm: 721(5); gospel: 724(9).

635A BLESSED DINA BÉLANGER

SEPTEMBER 4

Memorial religious

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742. First reading: 731(1); responsorial psalm: 739(3); gospel: 742(24).

BIRTH OF MARY 636

SEPTEMBER 8

Feast

An alternate reading follows this one.

FIRST READING

Romans 8.28-30

God predestined those whom he knew beforehand.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- We know that all things work together for good 28 for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.
- For those whom he foreknew 29 he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
- And those whom he predestined he also called; 30 and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

or:

Now has the time come for the one in labour to give birth.

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The Lord says this:

- You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, 2 who are one of the little clans of Judah. from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
- Therefore the Lord shall give them up until the time 3 when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
- 4 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth: 5
- and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 13.5, 6 (R. Is 61.10)

- **R.** With delight I rejoice in the Lord.
- 5 I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. R.
- 6 I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me. R.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Happy are you, holy Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise; from you rose the sun of justice, Christ the Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 1.1-16, 18-23

Joseph, it is the Holy Spirit who has given Mary a child.

The shorter version (18-23) begins at the asterisk.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
- Abraham was the father of Isaac,
 Isaac the father of Jacob,
 Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,
- Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Aram,
- Aram the father of Aminadab, Aminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon,
- Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse,
- and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah,

- 7 Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asaph,
- Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah,
- Uzziah the father of Jotham,Jotham the father of Ahaz,Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,
- Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah,
- and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.
- And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel,
- Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, Abiud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor,

- Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud,
- Eliud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob,
- and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.
- * Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.
- Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.
- But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
- She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."
- All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:
- "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

The gospel of the Lord.

637 JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

SEPTEMBER 13

bishop, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730. First reading: 722(8); responsorial psalm: 721(3); gospel: 730(5).

Feast

FIRST READING

Numbers 21.4-9

The afflicted who looked at the bronze serpent lived.

A reading from the book of Numbers.

- As they journeyed across the desert, 4 the Israelites left Mount Hor by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way.
- The people spoke against God and against Moses, 5 "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness?" For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food."
- 6 Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.
- The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us. So Moses prayed for the people.
- And the Lord said to Moses. 8 "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live."
- 9 So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 78.1-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 (R. see 7b)

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

- 1 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old. **R**.
- 34 When he killed them, they sought for him; they repented and sought God earnestly.
- 35 They remembered that God was their rock, the Most High God their redeemer. **R**.

- But they flattered him with their mouths; they lied to him with their tongues.
- Their heart was not steadfast toward him; they were not true to his covenant. *R*.
- Yet he, being compassionate, forgave their iniquity, and did not destroy them; often he restrained his anger, and did not stir up all his wrath. *R*.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2.6-11

Christ humbled himself; therefore, God has raised him on high.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- Though Christ was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
- but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 being born in human likeness.
 And being found in human form,
- he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- Therefore God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,
- so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.
- and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

GOSPEL John 3.13-17

So must the Son of Man be lifted up.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

- "No one has ascended into heaven 13 except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.
- And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, 14 so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
- that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 15
- "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, 16 so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.
- "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, 17 but in order that the world might be saved through him."

OUR LADY OF SORROWS 639

The gospel of the Lord.

SEPTEMBER 15

Memorial

FIRST READING

Hebrews 5.7-9

Christ learned to obey, and thus became the font of eternal salvation.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- 7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears. to the one who was able to save him from death. and he was heard because of his reverent submission.
- Although he was a Son, 8 he learned obedience through what he suffered;
- and having been made perfect, Jesus became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 31.1-2b, 2c-3, 4-5, 14-15, 19 (R.16b)

- **R.** Save me, O Lord, in your steadfast love.
- In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.
- Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. *R*. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.
- You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me. *R*.
- Take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.
- Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God. *R.*
- But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God."
- My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. *R.*
- O how abundant is your goodness that you have laid up for those who fear you, and accomplished for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of everyone! *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Happy are you, O Blessed Virgin Mary; without dying you won the martyr's crown beside the cross of the Lord.

GOSPEL

Luke 2.33-35

Simeon told Mary, "A sword will pierce your soul."

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Mary and Joseph were amazed at what was being said by Simeon about Jesus.
- Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed
- so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed, and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

The gospel of the Lord.

or:

Seeing the sufferings of Jesus, his mother was pierced with pain and sorrow.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

- Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, 25 and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
- When Jesus saw his mother 26 and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son."
- Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." 27 And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

The gospel of the Lord.

640 **CORNELIUS and CYPRIAN**

SEPTEMBER 16

Memorial

pope, martyr and bishop, martyr

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-724.

First reading: 716(3); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 718(7).

ROBERT BELLARMINE 641

SEPTEMBER 17

bishop, religious, doctor of the Church

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730.

First reading: 725(2); responsorial psalm: 727(1); gospel: 730(2).

JANUARIUS 642

SEPTEMBER 19

Optional Memorial

bishop, martyr

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-724.

First reading: 716(6); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 718(5).

642A ANDREW KIM TAEGON and PAUL CHONG HASANG and Companions

SEPTEMBER 20

Memorial

priest, martyr and martyrs

See Common of Martyrs or Holy Men and Women, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 713(5) or 716(2); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 718(4).

apostle, evangelist

FIRST READING

Ephesians 4.1-7, 11-13

Christ chose some as apostles, others as evangelists.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
- with all humility and gentleness,with patience, bearing with one another in love,
- making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
- one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.
- But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
- The gifts Christ gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
- to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
- until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.1-2, 3-4ab (R.4a)

- **R.** Their message goes out through all the earth.
- The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. R.
- There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
- yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; the glorious company of apostles praise you.

GOSPEL Matthew 9.9-13

Jesus said, "Follow me." Matthew arose and followed Jesus.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- 9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and Jesus said to him, "Follow me." And Matthew got up and followed Jesus.
- And as Jesus sat at dinner in the house. 10 many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples.
- When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 11 "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
- But when Jesus heard this, he said, 12 "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick do.
- Go and learn what this means, 13 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

The gospel of the Lord.

SEPTEMBER 26

662 JEAN DE BRÉBEUF, ISAAC JOGUES, ANTOINE DANIEL, GABRIEL LALEMANT, CHARLES GARNIER, NOEL CHABANEL

priests, religious, missionaries, martyrs

and RENÉ GOUPIL and JEAN DE LA LANDE

laymen, martyrs Secondary patrons of Canada

In the dioceses of Canada

Memorial

FIRST READING

Revelation 7.9-17

Behold those who have come through the great ordeal.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision, I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.
- The multitude cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"
- And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God,
- singing,
 - "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
- Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?"
- I said to him,

"Sir, you are the one that knows."

Then the elder said to me,

"These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes

and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- "For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
- "They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
- for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 124.2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 (R.5)

- **R.** Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.
- If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,
- then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us. *R*.
- Then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
- then over us would have gone the raging waters. *R*.
- 7 The snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. **R**.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4.7-15

We carry in our body the death of Jesus.

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

- We have this treasure in clay vessels, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.
- We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair;
- persecuted, but not forsaken;struck down, but not destroyed;

 \rightarrow

- always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.
- For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh.
- So death is at work in us, but life in you.
- Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—
 "I believed, and so I spoke"—
 we also believe, and so we speak,
- because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.
- Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 28.19a, 20b

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Go and teach all people my gospel; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

GOSPEL Luke 9.23-26

Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus said to all his disciples,
 "If any want to become my followers,
 let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.
- For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.
- What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?
- "Those who are ashamed of me and of my words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels."

The gospel of the Lord.

or: 724(4).

644 **COSMAS and DAMIAN**

SEPTEMBER 26

martyrs

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 713(5); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 718(2).

VINCENT DE PAUL 645

SEPTEMBER 27

priest, religious founder Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 (for missionaries) or 737-742 (for those who work for the disadvantaged).

First reading: 740(2); responsorial psalm: 739(7); gospel: 724(1).

646 **WENCESLAUS**

king, martyr

martyrs

archangels

SEPTEMBER 28

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718

First reading: 716(8); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 718(3).

646A LAWRENCE RUIZ and Companions

SEPTEMBER 28

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 716(2); responsorial psalm: 715(5); gospel: 718(5).

MICHAEL, GABRIEL and RAPHAEL 647

SEPTEMBER 29

Feast

An alternate reading follows this one.

FIRST READING

Revelation 12.7-12a

Michael and his angels fought the dragon.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon.
 - The dragon and his angels fought back,
- but they were defeated, 8
 - and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.
- q The great dragon was thrown down,

that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan,

the deceiver of the whole world he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

- Then I, John, heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.
- "But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
- "Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them!"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

or:

Daniel 7.9-10, 13-14

Thousands upon thousands served before the Ancient One.

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

- As I, Daniel, watched in my vision, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne. His clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.
- A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.
 A thousand thousands served him,
 and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
 The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.
- As I, Daniel, watched visions in the night,
 I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven.
 And he came to the Ancient One
 and was presented before him.

To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 138.1-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5 (R.1c)

- **R.** In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.
- I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;
- I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness. *R.*For you have exalted your name and your word above everything.
- On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul. *R*.
- All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.
- They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord. *R*.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 103.21

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Bless the Lord, all you angels, you ministers who do God's will.

GOSPEL John 1.47-51

You will see the Son of Man, with angels ascending and descending upon him.

- ₭ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.
- When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him,
 - "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!"
- Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered,
 - "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."
- Nathanael replied,
 - "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

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- Jesus answered,
 "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree?
 You will see greater things than these."
- And Jesus said to Nathanael,
 "Very truly, I tell you,
 you will see heaven opened
 and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."
 The gospel of the Lord.

648 JEROME

SEPTEMBER 30

priest, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730, or the reading below:

FIRST READING

2 Timothy 3.14-17

This is how those who belong to God become equipped for doing good.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- As for you, Timothy, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it,
- and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.
- All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,
- so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Responsorial psalm: 727(3); gospel: 730(3).

OCTOBER

648A THANKSGIVING DAY

SECOND MONDAY OF OCTOBER

Masses for Civic Occasions

See Lectionary for Rituals and Various Occasions, nos. 917-921 (After the Harvest), or 943-947 (In Thanksgiving).

649 THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS

OCTOBER 1

religious

Memorial

See Common of Virgins or Holy Men and Women, nos. 731-742 (for religious). First reading: 737(20); responsorial psalm: 739(9).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11.25

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.1-5

Unless you change and become like little children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- The disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
- Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, and said,
- "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."

The gospel of the Lord.

650 GUARDIAN ANGELS

OCTOBER 2

Memorial

FIRST READING

Exodus 23.20-23a

My angel will go in front of you.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord spoke to Moses and the people during their journey across the desert wilderness:

- "I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared.
- Be attentive to him and listen to his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression; for my name is in him.
- "But if you listen attentively to his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and a foe to your foes.
- 23 My angel will go in front of you."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 91.1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6, 10-11 (R.11)

- **R.** The angels of the Lord will guard you in all your ways.++
- or: The Lord has put angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways.
- You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
- will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." **R**.
- For the Lord will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;
- he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge. **R**.

- You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day,
- 6 or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday. **R**.
- 10 No evil shall befall you. no scourge come near your tent.
- 11 For the Lord will command his angels to guard you in all your ways. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 103.21

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Bless the Lord, all you angels, you ministers who do God's will.

GOSPEL Matthew 18.1-5, 10

In heaven, their angels continually see the face of my Father.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- The disciples came to Jesus and asked, 1 "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
- Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, and said, 2
- "Truly I tell you, 3 unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever becomes humble like this child 4 is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.
- "Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; 10 for, I tell you, their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven." The gospel of the Lord.

651 FRANCIS OF ASSISI

OCTOBER 4

deacon, religious founder

Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious).

FIRST READING

Galatians 6.14-18

Through Christ, I have been crucified to the world, and the world to me.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything!
- As for those who will follow this rule—
 peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.
- From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body.
- May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Responsorial psalm: 739(3); gospel: 742(4).

652 BRUNO

OCTOBER 6

priest, hermit, religious founder

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 740(9); responsorial psalm: 739(1); gospel: 742(19).

652A BLESSED MARIE-ROSE DUROCHER

OCTOBER 6

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742. First reading: 740(18); responsorial psalm: 739(4); gospel: 742(24).

653 **OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY**

OCTOBER 7

Memorial

See Common of Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712.

First reading: 708(1); responsorial canticle: 709(5); gospel: 712(4).

DENIS and Companions 654

OCTOBER 9

religious founder, bishop, martyr, and martyrs

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 716(4); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 730(1).

JOHN LEONARDI 655

priest, religious founder

OCTOBER 9

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742

(for those who work for the disadvantaged).

First reading: 722(6); responsorial psalm: 721(5); gospel: 724(7).

656 **CALLISTUS I**

OCTOBER 14

pope, martyr

Optional Memorial

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-724 (for a pope). First reading: 722(13); responsorial psalm: 721(3); gospel: 724(9).

657 **TERESA OF JESUS**

OCTOBER 15

religious, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Doctors, Virgins or Holy Men and Women, nos. 725-742 (for religious).

FIRST READING

Romans 8.22-27

The Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now;
- and not only the creation, but we ourselves, 23 who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

- For in hope we were saved.

 Now hope that is seen is not hope.

 For who hopes for what is seen?
- But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.
- Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.
- And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Responsorial psalm: 727(1); gospel: 742(24).

657A MARGUERITE D'YOUVILLE

OCTOBER 16

religious Memorial

An alternate reading follows this one.

FIRST READING

1 Corinthians 13.4-13

Paul's hymn to charity.

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

- 4 Love is patient;
 - love is kind:
 - love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.
- It does not insist on its own way;
 - it is not irritable or resentful;
- it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.
- 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
- 8 Love never ends.

But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

- 9 For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part;
- but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

- When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.
- For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face.

 Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.
- And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

or:

James 2.14-18

Faith, without good works, is dead.

A reading from the letter of James.

- What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you?
- If a brother or sister is without clothes and lacks daily food,
- and one of you says to them,
 "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,"
 and yet you do not supply their bodily needs,
 what is the good of that?
- So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.
- But someone will say,
 "You have faith and I have works."
 Show me your faith apart from your works,
 and I by my works will show you my faith.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 146.5-6b, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10

- **R.** Blessed be the Lord, a God of mercy and love.
- Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them. **R**.

- The Lord keeps faith forever
- 7 and executes justice for the oppressed. The Lord gives food to the hungry and sets the prisoners free. *R.*
- The Lord opens the eyes of the blind and lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous
- and watches over the strangers. **R.**

The Lord upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Your love lasts forever, O Lord: bring to fullness the work of your hands.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.31-40

Whatever you do the least of mine, you do also to me.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.
- All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
- and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.
- "Then the king will say to those at his right hand,
 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father,
 inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;
- for I was hungry and you gave me food,
 I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
 I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
- I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'
- "Then the righteous will answer him,
 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food,
 or thirsty and gave you something to drink?

- 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?
- And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 39
- 40 "And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."

The gospel of the Lord.

658 **HEDWIG**

OCTOBER 16

married woman, religious

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 737(14); responsorial psalm: 739(8); gospel: 742(14).

MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE 659

OCTOBER 16

religious

Optional Memorial

See Common of Virgins or Holy Men and Women, nos. 731-742 (for religious). First reading: 740(7); responsorial psalm: 739(4); gospel: 742(4).

IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH 660

OCTOBER 17

bishop, martyr

Memorial

FIRST READING

Philippians 3.17 – 4.1 Our citizenship is in heaven.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- 17 Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.
- 18 For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.
- Their end is destruction; 19 their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

- But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.
- Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.4b)

R. The Lord set me free from all my fears.

- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. *R*.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. **R**.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. **R**.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.

Gospel: no. 718(5)

FIRST READING

evangelist

2 Timothy 4.9-17a Only Luke is with me.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- 9 Do your best to come to me soon, Timothy,
- for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.
- Only Luke is with me.
 Get Mark and bring him with you,
 for he is useful in my ministry.
- I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus.
- When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments.
- Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds.
- You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our message.
- At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me.
 - May it not be counted against them!
- But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 145.10-11, 12-13ab, 17-18 (R. see 12)

- **R.** Your friends tell the glory of your kingship, Lord.
- All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.
- They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power. *R*.
- Make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. *R.*

The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See John 15.16

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will last.

GOSPEL Luke 10.1-9

The harvest is indeed plentiful, but the labourers are few.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- From among his disciples the Lord appointed seventy and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.
- He said to them,
 "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
 therefore ask the Lord of the harvest
 to send out labourers into his harvest.
- Go on your way.
 See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.
- Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road.
- "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!'
- And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you.
- "Remain in the same house,
 eating and drinking whatever they provide,
 for the labourer deserves to be paid.
 Do not move about from house to house.
- Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you;
- cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

JEAN DE BRÉBEUF, 662 **OCTOBER 19** ISAAC JOGUES, ANTOINE DANIEL, GABRIEL LALEMANT, CHARLES GARNIER, **NOEL CHABANEL**

priests, religious, missionaries, martyrs

and RENÉ GOUPIL and JEAN DE LA LANDE

laymen, martyrs Secondary patrons of Canada

Memorial

In Canada this memorial is transferred to September 26. See page 1842. Outside Canada, see Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-718, 719-724 (for missionaries). First reading: 716(3); responsorial psalm: 715(4); gospel: 724(4).

PAUL OF THE CROSS 663

OCTOBER 19

priest, religious founder

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724. First reading: 722(2); responsorial psalm: 721(8); gospel: 742(6).

JOHN OF CAPISTRANO 664

OCTOBER 23

priest, religious founder

Optional Memorial

See Common Pastors, nos. 719-724 (for missionaries). First reading: 722(7); responsorial psalm: 721(1); gospel: 742(19).

665 ANTHONY CLARET

OCTOBER 24

bishop, religious founder

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724 (for missionaries). First reading: 719(5); responsorial psalm: 721(5); gospel: 724(5).

666 SIMON and JUDE

apostles Feast

FIRST READING

Ephesians 2.19-22

OCTOBER 28

You belong to a household built with the apostles as the foundation stones.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,
- built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.
- In Christ the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;
- in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.1-2, 3-4ab (R.5a)

- **R.** Their message goes out through all the earth.
- The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. R.
- There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
- yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. **R**.

GOSPEL ACCLAMTION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; the glorious company of apostles praise you.

GOSPEL Luke 6.12-19

From his disciples, Jesus chose twelve, whom he named apostles.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God.
- And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles:
- Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew,
- and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot,
- and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.
- Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.
- These multitudes had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.
- And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

NOVEMBER

667 ALL SAINTS

NOVEMBER 1

Solemnity

FIRST READING

Revelation 7.2-4, 9-14

There was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision I, John, saw an angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to damage earth and sea, saying
- "Do not damage the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have marked the servants of our God with a seal on their foreheads."
- And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred forty-four thousand, sealed out of every tribe of the people of Israel.
- After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.
- They cried out in a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"
- And all the angels stood around the throne, around the elders and the four living creatures; they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,
- "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
- Then one of the elders addressed me, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?"

14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows."

Then he said to me,

"These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24.1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 (R.7c+10b)

- **R.** Lord, blessed are those who seek your face.++
- or: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.
- 1 The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it. the world, and those who live in it:
- 2 for he has founded it on the seas. and established it on the river. R.
- 3 Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
- 4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false. R.
- They will receive blessing from the Lord, 5 and vindication from the God of their salvation.
- 6 Such is the company of those who seek him. who seek the face of the God of Jacob. R.

SECOND READING

1 John 3.1-3

When God is revealed, we will see God as he is.

A reading from the first letter of John.

- See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God: and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
- Beloved, we are God's children now; 2 what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this:

when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

And all who have this hope in God purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11.28

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 5.1-12a

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
- Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
- "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- 6 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- 11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
- 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

COMMEMORATION OF 668 ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

NOVEMBER 2

All Souls

The readings given below are drawn from the Masses for the Dead, nos. 1011-1016, in the Lectioary for Rituals and Various Occasions.

When All Souls falls on a Sunday, the readings provided for Years A, B and C in the Lectionary for Sundays and Solemnities may be used. See no. 668, pages 832-844.

FIRST READING

Job 19.1, 23-27

I know that my Redeemer lives.

A reading from the book of Job.

- 1 Job answered those who reproached him:
- 23 "O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book!
- O that with an iron pen and with lead 24 they were engraved on a rock forever!
- 25 "For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth;
- and after my skin has been thus destroyed, 26 then in my flesh I shall see God,
- whom I shall see on my side, 27 and my eyes shall behold, and not another."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103.8+10, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18 (R.8a or Ps 37.39a)

- **R.** The Lord is kind and merciful.
- or: The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.
- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. **R**.
- As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
- For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. **R**.
- As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field;
- for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. **R**.
- But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,
- to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. **R**.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15.20-23

All will be made alive in Christ.

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

- 20 Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.
- For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being;
- for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.
- But each in his own order:
 Christ the first fruits,
 then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Timothy 2.11, 12

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. If we have died with Christ, we shall live with him, and if we are faithful to the end, we shall reign with him.

GOSPEL John 12.23-26

When the seed of grain dies, it bears much fruit.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

- Jesus said to his disciples: 23
 - "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
- Very truly, I tell you, 24 unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- "Those who love their life lose it. 25 and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
- "Whoever serves me must follow me, 26 and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour."

The gospel of the Lord.

MARTIN DE PORRES 669

NOVEMBER 3

religious

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 740(10); responsorial psalm: 739(9); gospel: 742(10).

CHARLES BORROMEO 670

NOVEMBER 4

bishop

Memorial

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724.

First reading: 722(1); responsorial psalm: 721(4); gospel: 724(10).

671 DEDICATION OF SAINT JOHN LATERAN

NOVEMBER 9

Feast

When this feast occurs during the week, only one of the readings preceding the gospel is used.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 47.1-2, 8-9, 12

I saw water flowing from the temple and all to whom that water came were saved.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- The angel of the Lord brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there, water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the temple faced east; and the water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar.
- Then the angel brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east; and the water was coming out on the south side.
- He said to me,
 "This water flows toward the eastern region
 and goes down into the Arabah;
 and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters,
 the water will become fresh.
- Wherever the river goes,
 every living creature that swarms will live,
 and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there.
 It will become fresh;
 and everything will live where the river goes.
- "On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food.

 Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary.

 Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 46.1-2, 4-5, 7-8 (R.4)

- **R.** The waters of the river gladden the city of God.++
- or: The waters of the river gladden the city of God, home of the Holy One Most High.
- 1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea. R.
- There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- 5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. **R**.
- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what awesome things he has brought on the earth. R.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 3.9b-11, 16-17

You are God's temple

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

Brothers and sisters.

- you are God's building. 9
- According to the grace of God given to me, 10 like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it.
- For no one can lay any foundation 11 other than the one that has been laid: that foundation is Jesus Christ.
- Do you not know that you are God's temple 16 and that God's Spirit dwells in you?
- If anyone destroys God's temple, 17 God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

The word of the Lord.

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord, that my name may remain in it for all time.

GOSPEL John 2.13-22

Jesus was speaking about the temple of his body.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to John.
- The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
- In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.
- Making a whip of cords,
 he drove all of them out of the temple,
 both the sheep and the cattle.
 He also poured out the coins of the money changers
 and overturned their tables.
- He told those who were selling the doves,"Take these things out of here!Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"
- His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."
- The people then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?"
- Jesus answered them,
 "Destroy this temple,
 and in three days I will raise it up."
- They then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?"
- But Jesus was speaking of the temple of his body.
- After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

672 LEO THE GREAT

NOVEMBER 10

pope, doctor of the Church

Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-724 (for a pope) or 725-730. First reading: 725(4); responsorial psalm: 727(2); gospel: 724(2).

673 **MARTIN OF TOURS**

NOVEMBER 11

bishop Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 or 737-742 (for religious). First reading: 719(6); responsorial psalm: 721(4); gospel: 742(13).

673A REMEMBRANCE DAY

NOVEMBER 11

For civic occasions

See Lectionary for Rituals and Various Occasions, nos. 887-891 (For Peace and Justice); also first reading: 897(20); gospel: 886(1).

674 **JOSAPHAT**

NOVEMBER 12

bishop, religious, martyr

Memorial

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-724. First reading: 722(8); responsorial psalm: 739(1); gospel: 742(26).

ALBERT THE GREAT 675

NOVEMBER 15

bishop, religious, doctor of the Church

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730.

First reading: 725(3); responsorial psalm: 727(3); gospel: 730(3).

MARGARET OF SCOTLAND 676

NOVEMBER 16

married woman, queen

Optional Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for those who work for the disadvantaged). First reading: 737(15); responsorial psalm: 739(7); gospel: 742(25).

677 GERTRUDE THE GREAT

religious

NOVEMBER 16Optional Memorial

See Common of Virgins or Holy Men and Women, nos. 731-742 (for religious). First reading: 740(7); responsorial psalm: 739(4); gospel: 742(24).

678 ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY

NOVEMBER 17

married woman, religious

Memorial

See Common of Holy Men and Women, nos. 737-742 (for religious, or for those who work for the disadvantaged).

First reading: 740(16); responsorial psalm: 739(5); gospel: 742(18).

679 DEDICATION OF THE BASILICAS OF SAINT PETER AND SAINT PAUL.

NOVEMBER 18

Optional Memorial

FIRST READING

Acts 28.11-16, 30-31

Paul arrives in Rome.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- Three months after arriving in Malta, with Paul we set sail on a ship that had wintered at the island, an Alexandrian ship with the Twin Brothers as its figurehead.
- We put in at Syracuse and stayed there for three days;
- then we weighed anchor and came to Rhegium.

 After one day there a south wind sprang up,
 and on the second day we came to Puteoli.
- There we found believers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome.
- The believers from there, when they heard of us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.
- When we came into Rome,
 Paul was allowed to live by himself,
 with the soldier who was guarding him.
- Paul lived there two whole years at his own expense and welcomed all who came to him,

proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98.1, 2-3ab, 3c-4, 5-6 (R. see 2b)

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

- O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have won him victory. *R*.
- The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. **R**.
 - All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. *R.*
- Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; the glorious company of apostles praise you.

GOSPEL Matthew 14.22-33

Lord, command me to come to you on the water.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Immediately after feeding the people in the wilderness,
- Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.
- And after he had dismissed the crowds, Jesus went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,

- but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.
- And early in the morning Jesus came walking toward them on the sea.
- But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!"

 And they cried out in fear.
- But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."
- Peter answered him,
 "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."
- Jesus said, "Come."
 So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.
- But when Peter noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"
- Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"
- When Jesus and Peter got into the boat, the wind ceased.
- And those in the boat worshipped Jesus, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

680 PRESENTATION OF MARY

NOVEMBER 21

Memorial

See Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712. First reading: 707(11); responsorial canticle: 709(5); gospel: 712(3).

681 CECILIA

NOVEMBER 22

Memorial

See Common of Martyrs or Virgins, nos. 713-718 or 731-736. First reading: 731(2); responsorial psalm: 733(1); gospel: 736(2).

682 CLEMENT I

NOVEMBER 23

Optional Memorial

pope, martyr

virgin, martyr

See Common of Martyrs or Pastors, nos. 713-724 (for a pope). First reading: 722(13); responsorial psalm: 721(4); gospel: 724(2).

683 **COLUMBANUS**

NOVEMBER 23

abbot, missionary

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Holy Men and Women, nos. 719-724 (for missionaries) or 737-742 (for religious).

First reading: 719(5); responsorial psalm: 721(5); gospel: 742(19).

683A ANDREW DUNG-LAC and Companions

NOVEMBER 24

priest, martyr, and martyrs

Memorial

See Common of Martyrs, nos. 713-718.

First reading: 713(5) or 722(2); responsorial psalm: 715(3); gospel: 718(1).

684 ANDREW apostle

NOVEMBER 30

Feast

FIRST READING

Romans 10.9-18

Faith comes from what is heard; is heard comes through the word of Christ.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord 9 and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
- For one believes with the heart and so is justified, 10 and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.
- 11 The scripture says,
 - "No one who believes in him will be put to shame."
- For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; 12 the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.
- For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." 13
- But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? 14 And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?
- And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? 15 As it is written.
 - "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"
- But not all have obeyed the good news; 16 for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?"

- So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.
- But I ask, have they not heard?
 Indeed they have;
 for "Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.1-2, 3-4ab (R.5a)

R. Their message goes out through all the earth.

- The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
- Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. **R**.
- There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
- yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4.19

This verse may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted. Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

GOSPEL Matthew 4.18-22

Peter, Andrew, James and John followed Jesus at once, leaving all else behind.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- As Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen.
- 19 And Jesus said to them,

"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."

- Immediately they left their nets and followed him.
- As Jesus went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.
- Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord.

DECEMBER

FRANCIS XAVIER 685

DECEMBER 3

Memorial

priest, religious, missionary

See Common of Pastors, nos. 719-724 (for missionaries). First reading: 722(4); responsorial psalm: 721(8); gospel: 724(6).

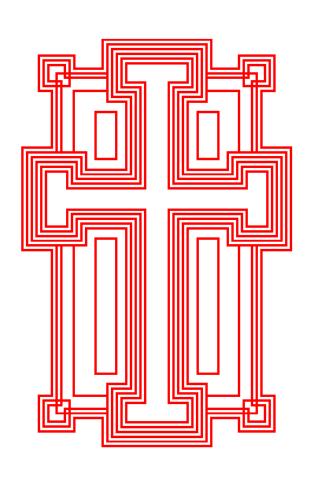
JOHN OF DAMASCUS 686

DECEMBER 4

priest, religious, doctor of the Church

Optional Memorial

See Common of Pastors or Doctors, nos. 719-730, especially no. 722(11). First reading: 722(11); responsorial psalm: 727(1); gospel: 742(12).



COMMONS

COMMON OF THE DEDICATION

ON THE DAY OF DEDICATION

Readings for the day of Dedication of a church or altar are found in the Lectionary for Rituals and Various Occasions, nos. 816-822.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH

When three readings are desired, the first reading is chosen from the Old Testament, except in the Easter Season when the first reading is traditionally chosen from the Acts of the Apostles or the Book of Revelation. In all cases the second reading is chosen from the New Testament. When only one reading precedes the gospel, the first reading may be chosen from the Old or New Testament.

701 First Reading from the Old Testament outside the Easter Season

- 1 Kings 8.22-23, 27-30
- 3) Isaiah 56.1, 6-7
- 5) Ezekiel 47.1-2, 8-9, 12

- 2 Chronicles 5.6-8, 9b-10, 13-14, -6.2 4)
- Ezekiel 43.1-2, 4-7a

702 First Reading within the Easter Season

- Acts 7.44-50
- 3) Revelation 21.9b-14

2) Revelation 21.1-5a

703 Responsorial Psalm

- 1 Chronicles 29.10, 11, 12 (R.13b)
- Psalm 84.2, 3, 4+9, 10 (R.1 or Rev 21.3b) Psalm 122.1-2, 3-4, 8-9 (R. see 1)
- Psalm 46.1-2, 4-5, 7-8 (R.4) Psalm 95.1-2, 3-5, 6-7 (R. see 2a)
- 5)

704 Second Reading or First Reading from the New Testament

- 1 Corinthians 3.9-11, 16-17
- 3) Hebrews 12.18-19, 22-24

- Ephesians 2.19-22
- 4) 1 Peter 2.4-9

705 Gospel Acclamation

- 2 Chronicles 7.16
- Ezekiel 37.27 3)
- **Matthew 16.18**

Isaiah 66.1

See Matthew 7.8

706 Gospel Reading

- Matthew 16.13-19
- John 2.13-22 3)
- John 10.22-30

- 2) Luke 19.1-10
- John 4.5-10, 19-24++ 4)

701 FIRST READING OUTSIDE EASTER SEASON

701(1) 1 Kings 8.22-23, 27-30

May your eyes keep watch over this house, Lord God.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

On the day of the dedication of the Temple,

- Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven.
- He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart.
- "But will God indeed dwell on the earth?

 Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built!
- Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today;
- that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place.
- "Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place;
 O hear in heaven your dwelling place; heed and forgive."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 84.2, 3, 4+9, 10 (R.1 or Rev 21.3b)

- **R.** How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!
- or: Here God lives among his people.
- My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. *R*.
- Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. *R*.
- 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed. R.
- For a day in your courts is better
 than a thousand elsewhere.
 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
 than live in the tents of wickedness. R.

701(2)

2 Chronicles 5.6-8, 9b-10, 13-14 - 6.2

I have built you an exalted house, a place for you, Lord, to dwell in forever.

A reading from the second book of Chronicles.

- King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be numbered or counted.
- Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim.
- For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles;
- 9 they are there to this day.
- There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets that Moses put there at Horeb, where the Lord made a covenant with the people of Israel after they came out of Egypt.

- It was the duty of the trumpeters and singers to make themselves heard in unison in praise and thanksgiving to the Lord, and when the song was raised,
 - with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise to the Lord,
 - "For he is good,
 - for his steadfast love endures forever,"
 - the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud,
- so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.
- 1 Then Solomon said.
 - "The Lord has said that he would reside in thick darkness.
- I have built you an exalted house, a place for you to reside in forever."
 - The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE 1 Chronicles 29.10cd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd (R.13b)

- **R.** We praise your glorious name, O mighty God.
- Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, forever and ever. **R**.
- Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty.
 All that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours. *R*.
 Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.
- Riches and honour come from you, and you rule over all. *R*. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. *R*.

701(3) Isaiah 56.1, 6-7

My house is a house of prayer for all peoples.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- Thus says the Lord:
 Maintain justice, and do what is right,
 for soon my salvation will come,
 and my deliverance be revealed.
- The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—
- these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 84.2, 3, 4+9, 10 (R.1 or Rev 21.3b)

- **R.** How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!
- or: Here God lives among his people.
- My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. *R*.
- Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. *R.*
- 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed. *R.*
- For a day in your courts is better
 than a thousand elsewhere.
 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
 than live in the tents of wickedness. R.

701(4) Ezekiel 43.1-2, 4-7a

The Lord's glory fills the temple.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- The angel brought me to the gate, the gate facing east.
- And there, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the east; the sound was like the sound of mighty waters; and the earth shone with his glory.
- As the glory of the Lord entered the temple by the gate facing east,
- the spirit lifted me up, and brought me into the inner court; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple.
- While the man who was leading me was standing beside me, I heard someone speaking to me out of the temple.
- 7 The voice said to me:
 "Mortal, this is the place of my throne
 and the place for the soles of my feet,
 where I will reside among the people of Israel forever."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE 1 Chronicles 29.10cd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd (R.13b)

- **R.** We praise your glorious name, O mighty God.
- Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, forever and ever. *R.*
- Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty.
 All that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours. *R*.

 Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.
- Riches and honour come from you, and you rule over all. *R*. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. *R*.

701(5) Ezekiel 47.1-2, 8-9, 12

I saw water flowing from the temple and all to whom that water came were saved.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- The angel of the Lord brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there, water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple toward the east, (for the temple faced east); and the water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar.
- Then the angel brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east; and the water was coming out on the south side.
- He said to me,
 "This water flows toward the eastern region
 and goes down into the Arabah;
 and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters,
 the water will become fresh.
- Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes.
- "On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food.

 Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary.

 Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 46.1-2, 4-5, 7-8 (R.4)

- **R.** The waters of the river gladden the city of God.++
- or: The waters of the river gladden the city of God, home of the Holy One Most High.
- God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea. *R.*
- There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. *R*.
- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what awesome things he has brought on the earth. *R.*

702 FIRST READING WITHIN EASTER SEASON

702(1) Acts 7.44-50

The Most High does not dwell in a house made with human hands.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Stephen said to the people, to the elders and scribes:

- "Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the pattern he had seen.
- "Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our ancestors.
 And it was there until the time of David, who found favour with God
- and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob.
- But it was Solomon who built a house for him.
- "Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands; as the prophet says,
- 'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool.

What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest?

Did not my hand make all these things?'"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95.1-2, 3-5, 6-7 (R. see 2a)

R. Let us come before the Lord and praise him.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! *R*.
- For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
- In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his.
- The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. **R**.
- O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
- For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. *R*.

702(2)

Revelation 21.1-5a Behold, God dwells among his people.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision,

- 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, the 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, "See, the home of God is among mortals.

 He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his people, and God himself will be with them;
- 4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 84.2, 3, 4+9, 10 (R. Rev 21.3b or 1)

- **R.** Here God lives among his people.
- or: How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. *R*.
- Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. *R.*
- 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed. R.
- For a day in your courts is better
 than a thousand elsewhere.
 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
 than live in the tents of wickedness. R.

702(3)Revelation 21.9b-14

Come: I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."
- And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

- It has the glory of God and a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal.
- It has a great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the Israelites;
- on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates.
- And the wall of the city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 122.1-2, 3-4, 8-9 (R. see 1)

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
- Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R.*
- Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.
- To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. *R.*
- For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."
- For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good. *R*.

703 RESPONSORIAL PSALM

During the Easter Season, the refrain: "Alleluia," sung two or three times, may be used in place of the proper refrain.

703(1)

1 Chronicles 29.10cd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd (R.13b)

- **R.** We praise your glorious name, O mighty God.
- Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, forever and ever. **R**.
- Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. All that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours. *R*. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.
- Riches and honour come from you, and you rule over all. *R*. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. *R*.

703(2)

Psalm 46.1-2, 4-5, 7-8 (R.4)

- **R.** The waters of the river gladden the city of God.++
- or: The waters of the river gladden the city of God, home of the Holy One Most High.
- God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea. *R.*
- There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. *R*.
- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what awesome things he has brought on the earth. *R.*

703(3)

Psalm 84.2, 3, 4+9, 10 (R.1 or Rev 21.3b)

- **R.** How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!
- or: Here God lives among his people.
- My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. *R*.
- Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. *R.*
- 4 Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.
- Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed. *R*.
- For a day in your courts is better
 than a thousand elsewhere.
 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
 than live in the tents of wickedness. R.

703(4)

Psalm 95.1-2, 3-5, 6-7 (R. see 2a)

- **R.** Let us come before the Lord and praise him.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! *R*.
- For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
- In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his.
- The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. *R*.
- O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
- For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. *R*.

703(5)

Psalm 122.1-2, 3-4, 8-9 (R. see 1)

- **R.** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
- Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. *R.*
- Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.
- To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. *R.*
- For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."
- For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good. *R*.

704 READING FROM THE NEW TEST AMENT

704(1)

1 Corinthians 3.9-11, 16-17

You are the temple of God.

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

Brothers and sisters.

- we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.
- According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it.

 Each builder must choose with care how to build on it.
- For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ.
- Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?
- If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

The word of the Lord.

704(2) Ephesians 2.19-22

In Christ, the whole structure is joined together, and grows into a holy temple.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Brothers and sisters, now in Christ Jesus

- you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God,
- built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.
- In Christ the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;
- in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

704(3)

Hebrews 12.18-19, 22-24

You have come to Mount Zion, and to the city of the living God.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Beloved.

- you have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest,
- and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them.
- But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,
- and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,
- and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

The word of the Lord.

704 (4) 1 Peter 2.4-9

Like living stones, you will be built into a spiritual house.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- Come to the Lord, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight.
- Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- For it stands in scripture:

 "See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
 a cornerstone chosen and precious;
 and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."
- To you then who believe, he is precious;
 but for those who do not believe,
 "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,"
- and
 "A stone that makes them stumble,
 and a rock that makes them fall."
 They stumble because they disobey the word,
 as they were destined to do.
- But you are a chosen race,
 a royal priesthood,
 a holy nation,
 God's own people,
 in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of God
 who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

The word of the Lord.

705 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One of the following verses may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

705(1) 2 Chronicles 7.16

I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord, that my name may remain in it for all time.

705(2) Isaiah 66.1

Heaven is my throne and earth is my footstool, says the Lord; what is the house that you would build for me?

705(3) Ezekiel 37.27

My dwelling place shall be with them, says the Lord, and I will be their God and they will be my people.

705(4) See Matthew 7.8

In my house, says the Lord, everyone who asks will receive; whoever seeks shall find; and to those who knock it shall be opened.

705(5) Matthew 16.18

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

For convenience, the verses for the acclamation are to be found before each gospel.

706 GOSPEL and Acclamation

The verse may accompany the singing of the acclamation. If the acclamation is not sung, the verse is omitted.

706(1) Matthew 16.18

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Matthew 16.13-19

You are Peter; I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"
- And the disciples said,
 "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah,
 and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."
- Jesus said to them,
 "But who do you say that I am?"
- Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."
- And Jesus answered him,
 "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!
 For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.
- And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.
- "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

706(2) See Matthew 7.8

In my house, says the Lord, everyone who asks will receive; whoever seeks shall find; and to those who knock it shall be opened.

Luke 19.1-10

Behold, this very day has salvation come to your house.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it.
- A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich.
- He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature.
- So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus, because he was going to pass that way.
- When Jesus came to the place,
 he looked up and said to him,
 "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down;
 for I must stay at your house today."
- So he hurried down and was happy to welcome Jesus.
- All who saw it began to grumble and said,"Jesus has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner."
- Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much."
- Then Jesus said to him,
 "Today salvation has come to this house,
 because Zacchaeus too is a son of Abraham.
- For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

706(3) 2 Chronicles 7.16

I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord, that my name may remain in it for all time.

John 2.13-22

Jesus spoke about his own body as the temple.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to John.
- The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
- In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.
- Making a whip of cords,
 Jesus drove all of them out of the temple,
 both the sheep and the cattle.
 He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.
- He told those who were selling the doves,"Take these things out of here!Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"
- His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."
- The Jews then said to Jesus, "What sign can you show us for doing this?"
- Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."
- The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?"
- But Jesus was speaking of the temple of his body.
- After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

706(4) 2 Chronicles 7.16

I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord, that my name may remain in it for all time.

John 4.5-10, 19-24++

The hour is now here when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to John.
- Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.
- Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.
- A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
- 8 (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)
- The Samaritan woman said to him,
 "How is it that you, a Jew,
 ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?"
 (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)
- "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."
- "Sir, I see that you are a prophet.
- Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."
- Jesus said to her,
 "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming
 when you will worship the Father
 neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.
- You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.
- But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.
- God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

706(5) Ezekiel 37.27

My dwelling place shall be with them, says the Lord, and I will be their God and they will be my people.

John 10.22-30

Behold, God's dwelling is among his people, that he might live with them.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to John.
- At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,
- and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.
- So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."
- Jesus answered,"I have told you, and you do not believe.The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me;
- but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.
- My sheep hear my voice.
 I know them, and they follow me.
- I give them eternal life, and they will never perish.
 No one will snatch them out of my hand.
- What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.
- The Father and I are one."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

COMMON OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

When three readings are desired, the first reading is chosen from the Old Testament, except in the Easter Season when the first reading is traditionally chosen from the Acts of the Apostles or the Book of Revelation. In all cases the second reading is chosen from the New Testament. When only one reading precedes the gospel, the first reading may be chosen from the Old or New Testament.

707 First Reading from the Old Testament outside the Easter Season

- 1) Genesis 3.9-15, 20
- 3) 2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8b-11, 16
- 5) Proverbs 8.22-31
- 7) Isaiah 7.10-14; 8.10d
- 9) Isaiah 61.9-11
- 11) Zechariah 2.10-13

- 2) Genesis 12.1-7
- 4) 1 Chronicles 15.3-4, 15-16; 16.1-2
- 6) Sirach 24.1-4, 8-12, 19-22
- 8) Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7++
- 10) Micah 5.2-5a

708 First Reading within the Easter Season

- 1) Acts 1.12-14
- 3) Revelation 21.1-5a

2) Revelation 11.19a; 12.1, 3-6a, 10ab

709 Responsorial Psalm

- 1) 1 Samuel 2.1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd (R. see 1a)
- 3) Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (R.10a)
- 5) Luke 1.46-47, 48-49, 50-51, 52-53, 54-55 (R.49)

- 2) Judith 13.18abc, 19-20ab (R.15.9d)
- 4) Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R. see 2)

710 Second Reading or First Reading from the New Testament

- 1) Romans 5.12, 17-19
- 3) Galatians 4.4-7

2) Romans 8.28-304) Ephesians 1.3-6, 11-12

- 711 Gospel Acclamation
- 1) See Luke 1.28
- 3) See Luke 2.19

- 2) See Luke 1.45
- 4) Luke 11.28

712 Gospel Reading

- 1) Matthew 1.1-16, 18-23
- 3) Matthew 12.46-50
- 5) Luke 1.39-47
- 7) Luke 2.15b-19
- 9) Luke 2.41-52
- 11) John 2.1-11

- 2) Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23
- 4) Luke 1.26-38
- 6) Luke 2.1-14
- 8) Luke 2.27-35
- 10) Luke 11.27-28
- 12) John 19.25-27

707 FIRST READING OUTSIDE EASTER SEASON

707(1) Genesis 3.9-15, 20

I will put hostility between your offspring and the woman's.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

After Adam had disobeyed the Lord's command,

- 9 the Lord God called and said to him, "Where are you?"
- The man said,
 "I heard the sound of you in the garden,
 and I was afraid, because I was naked;
 and I hid myself."
- The Lord said, "Who told you that you were naked?

 Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"
- The man said,
 "The woman whom you gave to be with me,
 she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate."
- Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?"
 The woman said,
 "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."
- The Lord God said to the serpent,
 "Because you have done this,
 cursed are you among all animals
 and among all wild creatures;
 upon your belly you shall go,
 and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.
- "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."
- The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all the living.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Judith 13.18abc, 19-20ab (R.15.9d)

- **R.** You are the highest honour of our race.
- O daughter, you are blessed by the Most High God above all other women on earth; and blessed be the Lord God, who created the heavens and the earth. *R.*
- Your praise will never depart from the hearts of those who remember the power of God.
- May God grant this to be a perpetual honour to you, and may he reward you with blessings. **R**.

707(2) Genesis 12.1-7

The Lord spoke to our ancestors, to Abraham, and to his descendants for all time.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- 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.
- 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 the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
- So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

 Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.
- Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan.

 When they had come to the land of Canaan,
 - Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem,
 - to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.
- 7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So Abram built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Luke 1.46-47, 48-49, 50-51, 52-53, 54-55 (R.49)

- **R.** The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
- or: O Blessed Virgin Mary, you carried the son of the eternal Father.
- My soul magnifies the Lord,
- and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. *R.*
- For the Lord has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. **R**.
- His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
- He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. *R.*
- The Lord has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
- he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. **R**.
- The Lord has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever. **R**.

707(3)

2 Samuel 7.1-5, 8b-11, 16

God will give the kingship to David's progeny.

A reading from the second book of Samuel.

- When David, the king, was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him,
- the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent."
- Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."
- But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:
- "Go and tell my servant David:Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in?

- "Thus says the Lord of hosts:
 I took you from the pasture,
 from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel;
- and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth.
- "'And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly,
- from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies.

 Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house.
- "'Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.'"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

1 Samuel 2.1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd (R. see 1a)

R. My heart rejoices in the Lord, my Saviour.

- My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. *R.*
- The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength.
- Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.

 The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. *R.*
- The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- 7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. R.
- He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. *R*.

The Levites carried the Ark of God into the tent prepared by David.

A reading from the first book of Chronicles.

- David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring up the ark of the Lord to its place, which he had prepared for it.
- Then David gathered together the descendants of Aaron and the Levites.
- The Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the Lord.
- David also commanded the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their kindred as the singers to play on musical instruments, on harps and lyres and cymbals, to raise loud sounds of joy.
- The Levites brought in the ark of God, and set it inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and they offered burnt offerings and communion offerings before God.
- When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the communion offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R. see 2)

R. Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.
- Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. **R**.
- From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. *R*.
- Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,
- who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? *R*.

- ⁷ He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
- to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. **R**.

707(5) Proverbs 8.22-31

In praise of Mary, seat of wisdom.

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

The wisdom of God says this:

- The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.
- Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
- When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water.
- Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—
- when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.
- When the Lord established the heavens, I was there; when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
- when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep,
- when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
- then I was beside the Lord, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always,
- rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (R.10a)

- **R.** Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.
- Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. **R**.
- The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins follow. *R*.
- With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. *R*.

707(6)

Sirach 24.1-4, 8-12, 19-22

In praise of Mary, glory of God's people.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- Wisdom praises herself, and tells of her glory in the midst of her people.
- In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth, and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory:
- "I came forth from the mouth of the Most High, and covered the earth like a mist.
- I dwelt in the highest heavens, and my throne was in a pillar of cloud.
- "Then the Creator of all things gave me a command, and my Creator chose the place for my tent. He said, 'Make your dwelling in Jacob, and in Israel receive your inheritance.'
- "Before the ages, in the beginning, he created me, and for all the ages I shall not cease to be.
- In the holy tent I ministered before him, and so I was established in Zion.
- "Thus in the beloved city he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my domain.
- I took root in an honoured people, in the portion of the Lord, his heritage.
- "Come to me, you who desire me, and eat your fill of my fruits.

- For the memory of me is sweeter than honey, and the possession of me sweeter than the honeycomb.
- Those who eat of me will hunger for more, and those who drink of me will thirst for more.
- Whoever obeys me will not be put to shame, and those who work with me will not sin."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (R.10a)

R. Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.

- Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. *R*.
- The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins follow. *R*.
- With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. *R*.

707(7)

Isaiah 7.10-14; 8.10d

The young woman is with child: God is with us.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- The Lord spoke to Isaiah and said, "Go out to meet Ahaz, and say to the King,
- 'Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.'"
- But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test."
- Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also?

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.

Look, the young woman is with child

and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel,"

for God is with us.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

1 Samuel 2.1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd (R. see 1a)

R. My heart rejoices in the Lord, my Saviour.

- My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. *R.*
- The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength.
- Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. *R.*
- The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- 7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. *R*.
- He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. R.

707(8) Isaiah 9.2-4, 6-7++

A son is given to us.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.
- You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

COMMON OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- 7 His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. The Lord will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R. see 2)

R. Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.
- Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. **R**.
- From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. *R*.
- Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,
- who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? *R*.
- 7 The Lord raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
- to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. **R**.

707(9) Isaiah 61.9-11

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- The descendants of the just shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
- I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
- For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

1 Samuel 2.1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd (R. see 1a)

R. My heart rejoices in the Lord, my Saviour.

- My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. *R.*
- The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength.
- Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.

 The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. *R.*
- The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- 7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. *R*.
- He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. *R.*

707(10) Micah 5.2-5a

The remnant will come home when she who is with child is delivered.

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

The Lord says this:

- You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.
- Therefore the Lord shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
- And he shall stand
 and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
 in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
 And they shall live secure,
 for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth:
 and he shall be the one of peace.

The word of the Lord

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R. see 2)

R. Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.
- Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. **R**.
- From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. *R*.
- Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,
- who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? **R**.

- 7 The Lord raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
- to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. *R.*

707(11) Zechariah 2.10-13

Lo, I am coming to you, daughter of Zion. Rejoice!

A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah.

- Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion!
 For lo, I will come and dwell in your midst, says the Lord.
- Many nations shall join themselves to the Lord on that day, and shall be my people; and I will dwell in your midst.

 And you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you.
- The Lord will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem.
- Be silent, all people, before the Lord; for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Luke 1.46-47, 48-49, 50-51, 52-53, 54-55 (R.49)

- **R.** The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
- or: O Blessed Virgin Mary, you carried the Son of the eternal Father.
- 46 My soul magnifies the Lord,
- and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. *R.*
- The Lord has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. *R*.
- His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
- He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. *R.*
- The Lord has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
- he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. *R*.

- The Lord has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever. *R*.

708 FIRST READING DURING EASTER SEASON

708(1) Acts 1.12-14

The apostles, together with Mary the mother of Jesus, prayed constantly.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- After Jesus had been taken up into heaven, the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away.
- When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.
- All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Luke 1.46-47, 48-49, 50-51, 52-53, 54-55 (R.49)

- **R.** The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
- or: O Blessed Virgin Mary, you carried the Son of the eternal Father.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- My soul magnifies the Lord,
- and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. *R.*
- The Lord has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. *R*.

- His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
- He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. *R*.
- The Lord has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
- he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. **R**.
- The Lord has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever. *R.*

708(2)

Revelation 11.19a; 12.1, 3-6a, 10ab

I saw a woman arrayed with the sun, the moon under her feet.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple.
- A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.
- Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on its heads.
- Its tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth.
 Then the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, so that it might devour her child as soon as it was born.
- And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron. But her child was snatched away and taken to God and to his throne;
- and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God.
- Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (R.10a)

- **R.** Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. *R*.
- The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins follow. *R*.
- With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. *R*.

708(3) Revelation 21.1-5a

I saw the new Jerusalem, like a bride adorned for her husband.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision 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, the 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, "See, the home of God is among mortals.

 He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his people, and God himself will be with them;
- he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
 Death will be no more;
 mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
 for the first things have passed away."
- And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL CANTICLE

Judith 13.18abc, 19-20ab (R.15.9d)

- **R.** You are the highest honour of our race.
- O daughter, you are blessed by the Most High God above all other women on earth; and blessed be the Lord God, who created the heavens and the earth. *R.*
- Your praise will never depart from the hearts of those who remember the power of God.
- May God grant this to be a perpetual honour to you, and may he reward you with blessings. *R*.

709 RESPONSORIAL PSALM

During the Easter Season, the refrain: "Alleluia," sung two or three times, may be used in place of the proper refrain.

709(1)

1 Samuel 2.1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd (R. see 1a)

- **R.** My heart rejoices in the Lord, my Saviour.
- My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. *R.*
- The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength.
- Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. *R.*
- The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- 7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. *R*.
- He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honour. **R.**

709(2)

Judith 13.18abc, 19-20ab (R.15.9d)

- **R.** You are the highest honour of our race.
- O daughter, you are blessed by the Most High God above all other women on earth; and blessed be the Lord God, who created the heavens and the earth. *R.*
- Your praise will never depart from the hearts of those who remember the power of God.
- May God grant this to be a perpetual honour to you, and may he reward you with blessings. *R*.

709(3)

Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (R.10a)

- **R.** Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.
- Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. *R*.
- The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins follow. *R*.
- With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. *R*.

709(4)

Psalm 113.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R. see 2)

- **R.** Blessed be the name of the Lord for ever.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.
- Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. **R**.
- From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. *R*.
- Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,
- who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? **R**.

- 7 He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
- to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. **R**.

709(5)

Luke 1.46-47, 48-49, 50-51, 52-53, 54-55 (R.49)

- **R.** The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
- or: O Blessed Virgin Mary, you carried the son of the eternal Father.
- My soul magnifies the Lord,
- and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. R.
- For the Lord has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
- for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. *R*.
- His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
- He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. *R.*
- The Lord has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
- he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. **R**.
- The Lord has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever. **R**.

710 READING FROM THE NEW TEST AMENT

710(1)

Romans 5.12, 17-19

However great the power of sin, grace is even greater.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, so death spread to all because all have sinned.
- If, because of the trespass of one, death exercised dominion through that one,

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- much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one, Jesus Christ.
- Therefore just as the trespass of one led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one leads to justification and life for all.
- 19 For just as by the disobedience of one the many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one the many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

710(2) Romans 8.28-30

God predestined those whom he knew beforehand.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.
- For those whom God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
- And those whom God predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

The word of the Lord.

710(3) Galatians 4.4-7

In the fullness of time, God sent his Son, born of a woman.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
- in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.
- And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"
- So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

710(4)

Ephesians 1.3-6, 11-12

We were chosen in Christ, before the world began, to be holy.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
- God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.
- God destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will,
- to the praise of his glorious grace that God freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
- In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of God who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,
- so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

711 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One of the following verses may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

711(1) See Luke 1.28

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women.

711(2) See Luke 1.45

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, for your firm believing that the promises of the Lord would be fulfilled.

711(3) See Luke 2.19

Blessed is the Virgin Mary who kept the word of God and pondered it in her heart.

711(4) Luke 11.28

Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

711(5)

Happy are you, holy Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise; from you rose the sun of justice, Christ the Lord.

711(6)

Happy are you, O Blessed Virgin Mary; without dying you won the martyr's crown beside the cross of the Lord.

For convenience, the verses for the acclamation are to be found before each gospel.

712 GOSPEL and Acclamation

The verse may accompany the singing of the acclamation. If the acclamation is not sung, the verse is omitted.

712(1)

Happy are you, holy Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise; from you rose the sun of justice, Christ the Lord.

Matthew 1.1-16, 18-23

Mary was the mother of Jesus the Messiah by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The shorter version (18-23) begins at the asterisk.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
- Abraham was the father of Isaac,
 Isaac the father of Jacob,
 Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.
- Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Aram,
- 4 Aram the father of Aminadab, Aminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon,
- Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse,
- and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah,

- Solomon the father of Rehoboam,Rehoboam the father of Abijah,Abijah the father of Asaph,
- Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah,
- Uzziah the father of Jotham,Jotham the father of Ahaz,Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,
- Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos father of Josiah.

- and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.
- And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel,
- Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, Abiud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor,
- 14 Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud,
- Eliud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob,
- and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.
- Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.
- Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.
- But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
- She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."
- All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:
- "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

712(2) See Luke 1.45

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, for your firm believing that the promises of the Lord would be fulfilled.

Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23

Joseph, take the child and his mother: hurry to Egypt.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."
- Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt,
- and remained there until the death of Herod.
 This was to fulfil
 what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet,
 "Out of Egypt I have called my son."
- When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said,
- "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead."
- Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.
- But when Joseph heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there.
 And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee.
- There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

The gospel of the Lord.

712(3) Luke 11.28

Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

Matthew 12.46-50

Pointing out his disciples, Jesus said: "Here is my mother! Here are my brothers!"

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- While Jesus was speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers were standing outside, wanting to speak to him.
- Someone told Jesus, "Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you."
- But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?"
- 49 And pointing to his disciples, Jesus said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!
- For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

The gospel of the Lord.

712(4) See Luke 1.28

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women.

Luke 1.26-38

You are to be with child, and give birth to a son.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- In the sixth month of the pregnancy of Elizabeth, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,
- to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David.The virgin's name was Mary.
- And the angel Gabriel came to Mary and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you."
- But Mary was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.
- The angel said to her,
 "Do not be afraid, Mary,
 for you have found favour with God.

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- And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.
- He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.
- He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."
- Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"
- The angel said to her,
 "The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
 and the power of the Most High will overshadow you;
 therefore the child to be born will be holy;
 he will be called Son of God.
- "And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.
- For nothing will be impossible with God."
- 38 Then Mary said,

"Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

Then the angel Gabriel departed from her.

The gospel of the Lord.

712(5) See Luke 1.45

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, for your firm believing that the promises of the Lord would be fulfilled.

Luke 1.39-47

Blessed is she who has believed in the fulfilment of the Lord's promises.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country,
- where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.
- When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb.
 - And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit
- and exclaimed with a loud cry,
 "Blessed are you among women,
 and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

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And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

>

- For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.
- And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."
- 46 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,
- and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour."

The gospel of the Lord.

712(6)

Happy are you, holy Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise; from you rose the sun of justice, Christ the Lord.

Luke 2.1-14

Mary gave birth to her firstborn son.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- A decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.
- This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.
- 3 All went to their own towns to be registered.
- Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.
- He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.
- While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.
- And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.
- In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.
- Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.
- But the angel said to the shepherds,
 "Do not be afraid; for see—
 I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:

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to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

- This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."
- And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
- "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

The gospel of the Lord.

712(7) See Luke 2.19

Blessed is the Virgin Mary who kept the word of God and pondered it in her heart.

Luke 2.15b-19

Mary treasured all these words, pondering them in her heart.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."
- So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.
- When the shepherds saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;
- and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.
- But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

The gospel of the Lord.

712(8)

Happy are you, holy Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise; from you rose the sun of justice, Christ the Lord.

Luke 2.27-35

1933

Simeon told Mary, "A sword will pierce your soul, too."

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

29

COMMON OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;
- for my eyes have seen your salvation,
- which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
- a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."
- And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.
- Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed
- so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

The gospel of the Lord.

712(9) See Luke 2.19

Blessed is the Virgin Mary who kept the word of God and pondered it in her heart.

Luke 2.41-52

Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.
- And when Jesus was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival.
- When the festival was ended and the parents started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.
- Assuming that he was in the group of travellers,
 they went a day's journey.
 Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.
- When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.
- After three days they found Jesus in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.
- 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.
- When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him,

"Child, why have you treated us like this?

Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety."

- Jesus said to them,
 - "Why were you searching for me?
 - Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"
- But they did not understand what he said to them.
- Then Jesus went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to Joseph and Mary.

 His mother treasured all these things in her heart.
- And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

The gospel of the Lord.

712(10) Luke 11.28

Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.

Luke 11.27-28

Blessed is the womb that bore you.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- While Jesus was speaking to the people, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!"
- But Jesus said,

"Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

The gospel of the Lord.

712(11) See Luke 1.45

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, for your firm believing that the promises of the Lord would be fulfilled.

John 2.1-11

The mother of Jesus was at Cana with him.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to John.
- There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.
- Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.
- When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

- And Jesus said to her,
 "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me?
 My hour has not yet come."
- His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
- Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding about one hundred litres.
- Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim.
- 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward."
 So they took it.
- When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him,
- "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."
- Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord.

712(12)

Happy are you, O Blessed Virgin Mary; without dying you won the martyr's crown beside the cross of the Lord.

John 19.25-27

"Woman, behold your son." "This is your mother."

- ★ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.
- Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.
- When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son."
- Then Jesus said to the disciple, "Here is your mother."

 And from that hour the disciple took Mary into his own home.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

COMMON OF MARTYRS

When three readings are desired, the first reading is chosen from the Old Testament, except in the Easter Season when the first reading is traditionally chosen from the Acts of the Apostles or the Book of Revelation. In all cases the second reading is chosen from the New Testament. When only one reading precedes the gospel, the first reading may be chosen from the Old or New Testament.

713 First Reading from the Old Testament outside the Easter Season

- 1) 2 Chronicles 24.18-22
- 3) 2 Maccabees 7.1-2, 7, 9-14
- 5) Wisdom 3.1-9

- 2) 2 Maccabees 6.18, 21, 24-31
- 4) 2 Maccabees 7.1, 20-24a, 27b-29
- 6) Sirach 51.1-8

714 First Reading within the Easter Season

- 1) Acts 7.55-60
- 3) Revelation 12.10-12a

- 2) Revelation 7.9-17
- 4) Revelation 21.5-7

715 Responsorial Psalm

- 1) Psalm 31. 2cd-3ab, 5+7ab, 15bc-16 (R.5a)
- 3) Psalm 124.2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 (R.7a)
- 5) Psalm 116.3ab+10, 12-13, 16-17 (R.15)
- 2) Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.4b)
- 4) Psalm 126.1-2ab, 2bc-3, 4-5, 6 (R.5)

716 Second Reading or First Reading from the New Testament

- 1) Romans 5.1-5
- 3) 2 Corinthians 4.7-15
- 5) 2 Timothy 2.8-13; 3.10-12
- 7) James 1.2-4, 12
- 9) 1 Peter 4.12-19

- 2) Romans 8.31b-39
- 4) 2 Corinthians 6.4-10
- 6) Hebrews 10.32-36
- 8) 1 Peter 3.14-17
- 10) 1 John 5.1-5

717 Gospel Acclamation

- 1) Matthew 5.10
- 3) 2 Corinthians 1.3b-4a
- 5) 1 Peter 4.14

- 2) John 17.19
- 4) James 1.12

718 Gospel Reading

- 1) Matthew 10.16-22
- 3) Matthew 10.34-39
- 5) John 12.24-26
- 7) John 17.11b-19

- 2) Matthew 10.28-33
- 4) Luke 9.23-26
- 6) John 15.18-21

713 FIRST READING OUTSIDE EASTER SEASON

713(1) 2 Chronicles 24.18-22

Concerning Zechariah, murdered between the altar and the temple.

A reading from the second book of Chronicles.

- The Judeans abandoned the house of the Lord, the God of their ancestors, and served the pagan shrines and the idols.

 And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs.
- Yet the Lord sent prophets among them to bring them back to himself; the prophets testified against Judah and Jerusalem, but they would not listen.
- Then the spirit of God took possession of Zechariah son of the priest Jehoiada; Zechariah stood above the people and said to them, "Thus says God: 'Why do you transgress the commandments of the Lord, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the Lord, he has also forsaken you.'"
- But the people conspired against Zechariah, and by command of the king they stoned him to death in the court of the house of the Lord.
- King Joash did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him, but killed his son.As Zechariah was dying, he said, "May the Lord see and avenge!"

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 31.2cd-3ab, 5+7ab, 15bc-16 (R.5a)

- **R.** Into your hands, O Lord, I entrust my spirit.
- Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.
- You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me. **R**.
- Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.
- I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction. *R*.
- Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from the hand of my persecutors.
- Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love. *R*.

713(2)

2 Maccabees 6.18, 21, 24-31

I am glad to suffer, because I honour the Lord.

A reading from the second book of Maccabees.

- Eleazar, one of the scribes in high position, a man now advanced in age and of noble presence, was being forced to open his mouth to eat swine's flesh.
- Those who were in charge of that unlawful sacrifice took Eleazar aside because of their long acquaintance with him, and privately urged him to bring meat of his own providing, proper for him to use, and to pretend that he was eating the flesh of the sacrificial meal that had been commanded by the king.
- "Such pretence is not worthy of our time of life," Eleazar said,
 "for many of the young might suppose that Eleazar in his ninetieth year had gone over to an alien religion,
- 25 and through my pretence, for the sake of living a brief moment longer, they would be led astray because of me, while I defile and disgrace my old age.
- Even if for the present I would avoid the punishment of mortals, yet whether I live or die I shall not escape the hands of the Almighty.

- Therefore, by bravely giving up my life now, I will show myself worthy of my old age
- and leave to the young a noble example of how to die a good death willingly and nobly for the revered and holy laws."

 When he had said this, he went at once to the rack.
- Those who a little before had acted toward him with goodwill now changed to ill will, because the words he had uttered were, in their opinion, sheer madness.
- When Eleazar was about to die under the blows, he groaned aloud and said:
 "It is clear to the Lord in his holy knowledge that, though I might have been saved from death, I am enduring terrible sufferings in my body under this beating, but in my soul I am glad to suffer these things because I fear him."
- So in this way Eleazar died, leaving in his death an example of nobility and a memorial of courage, not only to the young but to the great body of his nation.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.4b)

- **R.** The Lord set me free from all my fears.
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. *R*.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. *R*.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.

We prefer death to breaking our ancient tradition and law.

A reading from the second book of Maccabees.

- It happened that seven brothers and their mother were arrested and were being compelled by King Antiochus, under torture with whips and thongs, to partake of unlawful swine's flesh.
- One of the brothers, speaking for all, said, "What do you intend to ask and learn from us? For we are ready to die rather than transgress the laws of our ancestors."
- 7 After the first brother had died, they brought forward the second for their sport.
- And when the second brother was at his last breath, he said to King Antiochus, "You accursed wretch, you dismiss us from this present life, but the King of the universe will raise us up to an everlasting renewal of life, because we have died for his laws."
- After him, the third was the victim of their sport. When it was demanded, he quickly put out his tongue and courageously stretched forth his hands,
- and said nobly,
 "I got these from Heaven,
 and because of God's laws I disdain them,
 and from God I hope to get them back again."
- As a result the king himself and those with him were astonished at the young man's spirit, for he regarded his sufferings as nothing.
- After the third brother too had died, they maltreated and tortured the fourth in the same way.
- When he was near death, he said to his torturers, "One cannot but choose to die at the hands of mortals and to cherish the hope God gives of being raised again by him. But for you, there will be no resurrection to life!"

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 124.2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 (R.7a)

- **R.** Our soul has escaped like a bird from the hunter's net.
- If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,
- then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us. *R*.
- Then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
- then over us would have gone the raging waters. *R.*
- 7 The snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. *R*.

713(4)

2 Maccabees 7.1, 20-24a, 27b-29

The mother, hopeful in the Lord, honourably endured her sons' martyrdom.

A reading from the second book of Maccabees.

- Seven brothers and their mother were arrested, and were being compelled by King Antiochus, under torture with whips and thongs, to partake of unlawful swine's flesh.
- The mother was especially admirable and worthy of honourable memory. Although she saw her seven sons perish within a single day, she bore it with good courage because of her hope in the Lord.
- She encouraged each of them in the language of their ancestors. Filled with a noble spirit, she reinforced her woman's reasoning with a man's courage, and said to them.
- "I do not know how you came into being in my womb.

 It was not I who gave you life and breath,

 nor I who set in order the elements within each of you.
- "Therefore the Creator of the world, who shaped the beginning of the human race and devised the origin of all things, will in his mercy give life and breath back to you again, since you now forget yourselves for the sake of his laws."

- The youngest brother being still alive,
- the mother leaned close to him, and spoke as follows:
 "My son, have pity on me.
 I carried you nine months in my womb,
 and nursed you for three years,
 and have reared you and brought you up to this point in your life,
 and have taken care of you.
- "I beg you, my child, to look at the heaven and the earth and see everything that is in them, and recognize that God did not make them out of things that existed. And in the same way the human race came into being.
- "Do not fear this butcher,
 but prove worthy of your brothers.
 Accept death, so that in God's mercy
 I may get you back again along with your brothers."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 31.2cd-3ab, 5+7ab, 15bc-16 (R.5a)

- **R.** Into your hands, O Lord, I entrust my spirit.
- Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.
- You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me. *R*.
- Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.
- I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction. **R**.
- Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from the hand of my persecutors.
- Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love. **R**.

713(5) Wisdom 3.1-9

God accepted the virtuous as a holocaust.

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 a disaster,
- and their going from us to be their destruction; but the righteous are at peace.
- For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality.
- 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.
- In the time of their visitation the righteous will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble.
- They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them forever.
- Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and the Lord watches over his elect.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 126.1-2ab, 2bc-3, 4-5, 6 (R.5)

- **R.** Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.
- When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
- Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. **R**.

 Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
- The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. *R*.

- Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the desert of the Negev.
- May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. **R**.
- Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. *R.*

713(6) Sirach 51.1-8

You have delivered me, O Lord my saviour, faithful to your merciful love and holy name.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- I give you thanks, O Lord and King, and praise you, O God my Saviour.
 I give thanks to your name,
- for you have been my protector and helper and have delivered me from destruction and from the trap laid by a slanderous tongue, from lips that fabricate lies.

 In the face of my adversaries you have been my helper and delivered me,
- in the greatness of your mercy and of your name, from grinding teeth about to devour me, from the hand of those seeking my life, from the many troubles I endured,
- from choking fire on every side, and from the midst of fire that I had not kindled,
- from the deep belly of Hades, from an unclean tongue and lying words—
- the slander of an unrighteous tongue to the king.
 My soul drew near to death,
 and my life was on the brink of Hades below.
- They surrounded me on every side, and there was no one to help me; I looked for human assistance, and there was none.
- Then I remembered your mercy, O Lord, and your kindness from of old, for you rescue those who wait for you and save them from the hand of their enemies.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 124.2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 (R.7a)

- **R.** Our soul has escaped like a bird from the hunter's net.
- If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,
- then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us. *R*.
- Then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
- then over us would have gone the raging waters. *R*.
- 7 The snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. **R**.

714 FIRST READING WITHIN EASTER SEASON

714(1) Acts 7.55-60

Lord Jesus, receive my soul.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- Filled with the Holy Spirit,
 Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.
- "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"
- But his enemies covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.
- Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.
- While he was being stoned, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."
- Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."

 When he had said this, he fell asleep in the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 31.2cd-3ab, 5+7ab, 15bc-16 (R.5a)

- **R**. Into your hands, O Lord, I entrust my spirit.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.
- You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me. **R**.
- Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.
- I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction. *R*.
- Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from the hand of my persecutors.
- Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love. **R**.

714(2) Revelation 7.9-17

These are the people who have been through the great persecution.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.
- They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"
- And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God,
- singing,
 "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
 and thanksgiving and honour
 and power and might
 be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
- Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?"

- I said to him,
 - "Sir, you are the one that knows."

Then the elder said to me,

"These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes

and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
- "They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
- for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 124.2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 (R.7a)

R. Our soul has escaped like a bird from the hunter's net.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,
- then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us. *R*.
- Then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
- then over us would have gone the raging waters. *R.*
- 7 The snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. **R**.

714(3) Revelation 12.10-12a

They did not cling to life even in the face of death.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

- In my vision I, John, heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.
- "But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.
- "Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them!"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.5b)

- **R.** The Lord set me free from all my fears.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. *R*.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. *R*.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. **R**.

714(4) Revelation 21.5-7

Those who conquer will inherit the waters of life.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

Also he said,
"Write this for these words are trustworthy and true."

"Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

- Then he said to me,
 "It is done!
 I am the Alpha and the Omega,
 the beginning and the end.
 To the thirsty I will give water as a gift
 from the spring of the water of life.
- 7 Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

Responsorial psalm: 715(4)

715 RESPONSORIAL PSALM

During the Easter Season, the refrain: "Alleluia," sung two or three times, may be used in place of the proper refrain.

715(1)

Psalm 31.2cd-3ab, 5+7ab, 15bc-16 (R.5a)

- **R.** Into your hands, O Lord, I entrust my spirit.
- Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.
- You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me. *R*.
- Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.
- I will exult and rejoice in your steadfast love, because you have seen my affliction. **R**.
- Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from the hand of my persecutors.
- Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love. *R*.

715(2)

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (R.4b)

- **R.** The Lord set me free from all my fears.
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. **R**.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. *R*.
- The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.

715(3)

Psalm 124.2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 (R.7a)

- **R.** Our soul has escaped like a bird from the hunter's net.
- If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,
- then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us. *R.*
- Then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;
- then over us would have gone the raging waters. *R.*
- 7 The snare is broken, and we have escaped.
- Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. *R*.

715(4)

Psalm 126.1-2ab, 2bc-3, 4-5, 6 (R.5)

- **R.** Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.
- When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
- Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. **R**.

 Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
- The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. *R*.
- Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the desert of the Negev.
- May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. **R**.
- Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. *R*.

715(5)

Psalm 116.3ab+10, 12-13, 16-17 (R.15)

- **R.** Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.
- The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me.
- I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted." *R.*
- What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?
- I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. *R*.
- O Lord, I am your servant; the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.
- I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord. **R**.

716 READING FROM THE NEW TEST AMENT

716(1) Romans 5.1-5

We boast also in our sufferings.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
- through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.
- And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,
- and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,
- and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

716(2) Romans 8.31b-39

Neither life nor death can separate us from the love of God.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- If God is for us, who is against us?
- He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?
- Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.
- Who is to condemn?

 Is it Christ Jesus,
 who died, and indeed, who was raised,
 who is at the right hand of God,
 who indeed intercedes for us?
- Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

- As it is written,
 "For your sake we are being killed all day long;
 we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."
- No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
- For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, 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.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

716(3)

2 Corinthians 4.7-15

We carry in our body the death of Jesus.

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

- We have this treasure in clay vessels, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.
- We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair;
- 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;
- always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.
- For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh.
- So death is at work in us, but life in you.
- Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—
 "I believed, and so I spoke"—
 we also believe, and so we speak,
- because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence.

Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

716(4) 2 Corinthians 6.4-10

We are said to be dying, yet see, we are alive!

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

- As servants of God
 we have commended ourselves in every way:
 through great endurance,
 in afflictions, hardships, calamities,
- beatings, imprisonments, riots,labours, sleepless nights, hunger;
- by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love,
- truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;
- in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute.
 - We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;
- as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed;
- as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing;
 as poor, yet making many rich;
 as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David that is my gospel,
- for which I suffer hardship,
 even to the point of being chained like a criminal.
 But the word of God is not chained.
- Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.
- The saying is sure:

 If we have died with him,
 we will also live with him;
- if we endure,
 we will also reign with him;
 if we deny him,
 he will also deny us;
- if we are faithless, he remains faithful for he cannot deny himself.
- You have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness,
- my persecutions and suffering the things that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra.
 - What persecutions I endured! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.
- Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

The word of the Lord.

716(6) Hebrews 10.32-36

You have come through much suffering.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

My brothers and sisters,

- recall those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings,
- sometimes being publicly exposed to abuse and persecution, and sometimes being partners with those so treated.
- For you had compassion for those who were in prison, and you cheerfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing that you yourselves possessed something better and more lasting.
- Do not, therefore, abandon that confidence of yours; it brings a great reward.
- For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

716(7) James 1.2-4, 12

Blessed are those who face trials firmly.

A reading from the letter of James.

- My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy,
- because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance;
- and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.
- Blessed is anyone who endures temptation.
 Such a one has stood the test
 and will receive the crown of life
 that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

The word of the Lord.

716(8) 1 Peter 3.14-17

There is no need to worry, no need to fear.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- If you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated,
- but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;
- yet do it with gentleness and reverence.
 - Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.
- For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

716(9) 1 Peter 4.12-19

Rejoice, for you share Christ's sufferings.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
- But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed.
- If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.
- But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or even as a mischief maker.
- Yet if any of you suffers as a Christian,do not consider it a disgrace,but glorify God because you bear this name.

- For the time has come for judgment to begin with the household of God; if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who do not obey the gospel of God?
- And "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinners?"
- Therefore, let those suffering in accordance with God's will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator, while continuing to do good.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

716(10) 1 John 5.1-5

The victory that conquers the world is our faith.

A reading from the first letter of John.

- Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.
- By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.
- For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,
- for whatever is born of God conquers the world.And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.
- Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

The word of the Lord.

717 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One of these verses may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

717(1) Matthew 5.10

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice's sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

717(2) John 17.19

For their sake I consecrate myself, says the Lord, so that they too may be consecrated in the truth.

717(3) 2 Corinthians 1.3b-4a

Blessed be the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort, who consoles us in all our afflictions.

717(4) James 1.12

Blessed are those who stand firm when trials come; when they have stood the test, they will win the crown of life.

717(5) 1 Peter 4.14

If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of God rests upon you.

717(6)

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; the white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

For convenience, the verses for the acclamation are to be found before each gospel.

717-718 GOSPEL and Acclamation

The verse may accompany the singing of the acclamation. If the acclamation is not sung, the verse is omitted.

718(1) Matthew 5.10

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice's sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Matthew 10.16-22++

You will be brought before rulers and kings on my account; you will bear witness before authorities and populace.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the twelve:

- "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.
- Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues;
- and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles.
- "When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time;
- for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.
- "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death;
- 22 and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

The gospel of the Lord.

718(2) James 1.12

Blessed are those who stand firm when trials come; when they have stood the test, they will win the crown of life.

Matthew 10.28-33

Do not be afraid of those who can kill only the body.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his twelve disciples:

- "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
- "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.
- And even the hairs of your head are all counted.
- So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.
- "Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven;
- but whoever denies me before others,
 I also will deny before my Father in heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

718(3) Matthew 5.10

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for justice's sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Matthew 10.34-39

I bring not peace, but a sword.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his twelve disciples:

- "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.
- For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
- and one's foes will be members of one's own household.
- "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;

- and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me.
- "Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

The gospel of the Lord.

718(4)

If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of God rests upon you.

Luke 9.23-26

Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus said to all his disciples,

 "If any want to become my followers,
 let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.
- ²⁴ "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.
- What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?
- "Those who are ashamed of me and of my words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels."

The gospel of the Lord.

718(5) James 1.12

Blessed are those who stand firm when trials come; when they have stood the test, they will win the crown of life.

John 12.24-26

When the seed of grain dies, it bears much fruit.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

- 25 "Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
- "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour."

The gospel of the Lord.

718(6)

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; the white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

John 15.18-21

If the world has persecuted me, so will it persecute you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you.
- 19 If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own.
 Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world—therefore the world hates you.
- "Remember the word that I said to you,
 "Servants are not greater than their master."

 If they persecuted me, they will persecute you;
 if they kept my word, they will keep yours also.
- But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me."

The gospel of the Lord.

718(7) 2 Corinthians 1.3b-4a

Blessed be the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort, who consoles us in all our afflictions.

John 17.11b-19

The world hates the disciples of Jesus.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

When the hour had come for Jesus to pass from this world to his Father, he raised his eyes to heaven and prayed, saying:

- "Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.
- "While I was with them,
 I protected them in your name that you have given me.
 I guarded them,
 and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost,
 so that the scripture might be fulfilled.
- "But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.
- I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.
- I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.
- They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.
- "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.
- As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.
- And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

COMMON OF PASTORS

When three readings are desired, the first reading is chosen from the Old Testament, except in the Easter Season when the first reading is traditionally chosen from the Acts of the Apostles or the Book of Revelation. In all cases the second reading is chosen from the New Testament. When only one reading precedes the gospel, the first reading may be chosen from the Old or New Testament.

719 First Reading from the Old Testament outside the Easter Season

- 1) Exodus 32.7-14
- 3) 1 Samuel 16.1, 6-13
- 5) Isaiah 52.7-10
- 7) Jeremiah 1.4-9
- 9) Ezekiel 34.11-16

- 2) Deuteronomy 10.8-9
- 4) Isaiah 6.1-8
- 6) Isaiah 61.1-3
- 8) Ezekiel 3.16-21

720 First Reading within the Easter Season

- 1) Acts 13.46-49
- 3) Acts 26.19-23

2) Acts 20.17-18a, 28-32, 36

721 Responsorial Psalm

- 1) Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)
- 3) Psalm 40.1+3ab, 6, 7-8, 9 (R. see 7a+8a)
- 5) Psalm 96.1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 (R.3)
- 7) Psalm 110.1-2, 3, 4 (R.4b)

- Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (R.1)
- 4) Psalm 89.1-2, 3-4, 20-21, 24+26 (R.2a)
- 6) Psalm 106.19-20, 21-22, 23 (R.4a)
- 3) Psalm 117.1, 2 (R. Mk 16.15)

722 Second Reading or First Reading from the New Testament

- 1) Romans 12.3-13
- 3) 1 Corinthians 4.1-5
- 5) 2 Corinthians 3.1-6a
- 7) 2 Corinthians 5.14-20
- 9) Colossians 1.24-29
- 11) 2 Timothy 1.13-14; 2.1-3
- 13) 1 Peter 5.1-4

- 2) 1 Corinthians 1.18-25
- 4) 1 Corinthians 9.16-19, 22-23
- 6) 2 Corinthians 4.1-2, 5-7
- 8) Ephesians 4.1-7, 11-13
- 10) 1 Thessalonians 2.2b-8
- 12) 2 Timothy 4.1-5

723 Gospel Acclamation

- 1) Matthew 23.9b, 10b
- 3) Mark 1.17
- 5) John 10.14
- 7) John 15.15b

- 2) Matthew 28.19a, 20b
- 4) Luke 4.18-19
- 6) John 15.5
- 8) 2 Corinthians 5.19

724 Gospel Reading

- 1) Matthew 9.35-38
- 3) Matthew 23.8-12
- 5) Mark 1.14-20
- 7) Luke 5.1-11
- 9) Luke 22.24-30
- 11) John 15.9-17

- 2) Matthew 16.13-19
- 4) Matthew 28.16-20
- 6) Mark 16.15-20
- 8) Luke 10.1-9
- 10) John 10.11-16
- 12) John 21.15-17

719 FIRST READING OUTSIDE EASTER SEASON

719(1) Exodus 32.7-14

God considered destroying the rebellious Israelites; but Moses, his chosen one, pleaded for the people, and turned aside God's anger.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- On Mount Sinai, the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely;
- they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'"
- 9 The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are.
- Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."
- But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?
- Why should the Egyptians say,
 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out
 to kill them in the mountains,
 and to consume them from the face of the earth'?
 - "Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.
- Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'"
- And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 106.19-20, 21-22, 23 (R.4a)

- **R.** Lord, remember us, for the love you bear your people.
- The Israelites made a calf at Horeb and worshipped a cast image.
- They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass. *R*.
- They forgot God, their Saviour, who had done great things in Egypt,
- wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea. *R*.
- Therefore God said he would destroy them—had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them. *R*.

719(2)

Deuteronomy 10.8-9

The Lord is the inheritance of all who serve him.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people, saying,

- The Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to him, and to bless in his name, to this day.
- "Therefore Levi has no allotment or inheritance with his kindred; the Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God promised him."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 16.1-2a 1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.

- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. **R**.
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

719(3)

1 Samuel 16.1, 6-13

Rise, anoint David: he is the Lord's choice for king.

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

- The Lord said to Samuel,

 "How long will you grieve over Saul?

 I have rejected him from being king over Israel.

 Fill your horn with oil and set out;

 I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite,

 for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."
- When Samuel, accompanied by the elders of Bethlehem came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord."
- 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 does not see as mortals see;
 they look on the outward appearance,
 but the Lord looks on the heart."
- Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. Samuel said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one."
- Then Jesse made Shammah pass by.
 And Samuel said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one."
- Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these."
- Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?"
 And Jesse said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep."
 And Samuel said to Jesse,
 "Send and bring him;
 for we will not sit down until he comes here."
- Jesse sent and brought David in.
 Now David was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.
 The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him;
 for this is the one."

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 89.1-2, 3-4, 20-21, 24+26 (R.2a)

- **R.** For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.
- I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
- I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. *R*.
- You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David:
- 4 'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.' *R.*
- "I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;
- my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him. **R**.
- ²⁴ "My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name his name shall be exalted.
- He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'" R.

719(4) Isaiah 6.1-8

Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple.
- Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings:
 with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.
- And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

- The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.
- 5 And I said:

"Woe is me!

I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

- 6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.
- The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."
- Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 8 "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 40.1+3ab, 6, 7-8, 9 (R. see 7a+8a)

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

- 1 I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. R.
- 6 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. R.
- 7 Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- 8 I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." R.
- I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord. R.

719(5) (for missionaries)

Isaiah 52.7-10

The farthest corners of the earth shall see God's gift of salvation.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
- Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.
- Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.
- The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 96.1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 (R.3)

- **R.** Proclaim God's marvellous deeds to all the nations.
- O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- Sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R**.
 - Tell of his salvation from day to day.
- Declare his glory among the nations, tell of his marvellous works among all the peoples. *R.*
- Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. *R*.
- Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.

 He will judge the peoples with equity." R.

719(6) Isaiah 61.1-3

The Lord God anointed me, and sent me to bring good news to the poor.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;
- to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;
- to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
 to give them a garland instead of ashes,
 the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
 the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
 They will be called oaks of righteousness,
 the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 89.1-2, 3-4, 20-21, 24+26 (R.2a)

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

- I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
- I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. *R*.
- You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David:
- 4 'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.' *R.*
- "I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;
- my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him. *R*.
- ²⁴ "My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name his name shall be exalted.
- He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'" R.

719(7) Jeremiah 1.4-9

You shall go to all to whom I send you.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- The word of the Lord came to me saying,
- "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."
- Then I said,
 "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak,
 for I am only a boy."
- But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you,
- Bo not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord."
- Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 96.1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 (R.3)

- **R.** Proclaim God's marvellous deeds to all the nations.
- O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- Sing to the Lord, bless his name. R.
 Tell of his salvation from day to day.
- Declare his glory among the nations, tell of his marvellous works among all the peoples. *R.*
- Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. **R**.
- Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.

 He will judge the peoples with equity." R.

719(8) Ezekiel 3.16-21

I have made you a sentinel for the house of David.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- The word of the Lord came to me:
- Mortal, I have made you a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.
- If I say to the wicked, "You shall surely die," and you give them no warning, or speak to warn the wicked from their wicked way, in order to save their life, those wicked persons shall die for their iniquity; but their blood I will require at your hand.
- But if you warn the wicked, and they do not turn from their wickedness, or from their wicked way, they shall die for their iniquity; but you will have saved your life.
- Again, if the righteous turn from their righteousness and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before them, they shall die; because you have not warned them, they shall die for their sin, and their righteous deeds that they have done shall not be remembered; but their blood I will require at your hand.
- If, however, you warn the righteous not to sin, and they do not sin, they shall surely live, because they took warning; and you will have saved your life.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 117.1, 2 (R. Mk 16.15)

- **R.** Go out to all the world and tell the good news.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! *R*.
- For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. **R**.

719(9) Ezekiel 34.11-16

I will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

- Thus says the Lord God:
 I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.
- As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep.

 I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.
- I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.
- I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.
- I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God.
- I will seek the lost,
 and I will bring back the strayed,
 and I will bind up the injured,
 and I will strengthen the weak,
 but the fat and the strong I will destroy.
 I will feed my sheep with justice.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (R.1)

- **R.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
- 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
- 3 he restores my soul. R.
 - He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me: your rod and your staff—they comfort me. R.
- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. R.
- Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. R.

720 FIRST READING WITHIN EASTER SEASON

720(1) (for missionaries)

Acts 13.46-49

We are now turning to the Gentiles.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly to the Jews, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken first to you. Since you reject it and judge yourselves to be unworthy of eternal life, we are now turning to the Gentiles.
- For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, 47 'I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth."
- When the Gentiles heard this, 48 they were glad and praised the word of the Lord; and as many as had been destined for eternal life became believers.
- Thus the word of the Lord spread throughout the region. 49

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 117.1, 2 (R. Mk 16.15)

- **R.** Go out to all the world and tell the good news.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! *R.*
- For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. **R**.

720(2)

Acts 20.17-18a, 28-32, 36

Be watchful for yourselves, and for the flock which the Holy Spirit has called you to shepherd.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- 17 From Miletus Paul sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him.
- When they came to him, he said to them:
- "Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son.
- ²⁹ "I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock.
- Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them.
- Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears.
- "And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified."
- When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 110.1-2, 3, 4 (R.4b)

- **R.** You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 1 The Lord says to my lord, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool."
- The Lord sends out from Zion your mighty sceptre. Rule in the midst of your foes. **R**.
- 3 Your people will offer themselves willingly on the day you lead your forces on the holy mountains. From the womb of the morning, like dew, your youth will come to you. R.
- 4 The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." R.

720(3) (for missionaries)

Acts 26.19-23

The Messiah announced the light to our people and to the Gentiles.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Paul was brought into the audience hall before King Agrippa and Bernice, and began his defense:

- "King Agrippa, 19
 - I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision,
- but declared first to those in Damascus, 20 then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles. that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance.
- 21 For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me.
- "To this day I have had help from God, 22 and so I stand here, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would take place:
- that the Messiah must suffer, 23 and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 117.1, 2 (R. Mk 16.15)

- **R.** Go out to all the world and tell the good news.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! *R*.
- For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. **R**.

721 RESPONSORIAL PSALM

During the Easter Season, the refrain "Alleluia," sung two or three times, may be used in place of the proper refrain.

721(1)

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. *R.*
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

721(2)

Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (R.1)

- **R.** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
- 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
- he restores my soul. **R**.
 - He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. *R*.

- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. R.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. R.

721(3)

Psalm 40.1+3ab, 6, 7-8, 9 (R. see 7a+8a)

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

- 1 I waited patiently for the Lord: he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- 3 The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. R.
- Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required. **R.**
- 7 Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- 8 I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." R.
- I have told the glad news of deliverance 9 in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord. R.

721(4)

Psalm 89.1-2, 3-4, 20-21, 24+26 (R.2a)

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

- 1 I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
- 2 I declare that your steadfast love is established forever; your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. **R**.
- 3 You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David:
- 'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.' R.
- 20 "I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;
- 21 my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him. R.

- ²⁴ "My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name his name shall be exalted.
- He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father, my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'" R.

721(5)

Psalm 96.1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10 (R.3)

- **R.** Proclaim God's marvellous deeds to all the nations.
- O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- Sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R**.
- Tell of his salvation from day to day.

 Declare his glory among the nations,
- Declare his glory among the nations, tell of his marvellous works among all the peoples. *R.*
- Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. *R.*
- Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.

 He will judge the peoples with equity." R.

721(6)

Psalm 106.19-20, 21-22, 23 (R.4a)

- **R.** Lord, remember us, for the love you bear your people.
- The Israelites made a calf at Horeb and worshipped a cast image.
- They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass. *R*.
- They forgot God, their Saviour, who had done great things in Egypt,
- wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea. **R**.
- Therefore God said he would destroy them—had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them. *R*.

721(7)

Psalm 110.1-2, 3, 4 (R.4b)

- **R.** You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- The Lord says to my lord, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool."
- The Lord sends out from Zion your mighty sceptre. Rule in the midst of your foes. **R**.
- Your people will offer themselves willingly on the day you lead your forces on the holy mountains. From the womb of the morning, like dew, your youth will come to you. *R.*
- The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." R.

721(8)

Psalm 117.1, 2 (R. Mk 16.15)

- **R.** Go out to all the world and tell the good news.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! *R.*
- For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. R.

722 READING FROM THE NEW TEST AMENT

722(1)

Romans 12.3-13

Our gifts are different, according to God's gift of grace to us.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- By the grace given to me, I say to everyone among you: do not think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.
- For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function,
- so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

- We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;
- 7 ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching;
- the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.
- Let love be genuine;hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;
- love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour.
- Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
- Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
- 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(2) 1 Corinthians 1.18-25

God chose to save those who believe through the foolishness of our preaching

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

- The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- For it is written,
 "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
 and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."
- Where is the one who is wise?Where is the scribe?Where is the debater of this age?Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?
- For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.
- For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,
- but we proclaim Christ crucified,a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

24

but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(3) 1 Corinthians 4.1-5

Let us be servants of Christ, stewards of God's mysteries.

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

- My brothers and sisters: think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries.
- Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.
- But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself.
- I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted.
 It is the Lord who judges me.
- Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

 Then each one will receive commendation from God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(4)

1 Corinthians 9.16-19, 22-23

Woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel.

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

- If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!
- For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission.

18

What then is my reward?

Just this:

that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

- For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them.
- To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some.
- I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(5) 2 Corinthians 3.1-6a

God has made us competent to be ministers of the new covenant.

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

- We do not need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you, do we?
- You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all;
- and you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.
- Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God.
- Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God,
- who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(6)

We proclaim Jesus as Lord, and for his sake, we have become your slaves.

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

- Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.
- We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.
- For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.
- For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
- But we have this treasure in clay vessels, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(7)

2 Corinthians 5.14-20

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

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

- The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.
- And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.
- From now on, therefore,we regard no one from a human point of view.Even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,we know him no longer in that way.
- So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

18

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;

- that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.
- So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(8)

Ephesians 4.1-7, 11-13

In ministering, we help build the body of Christ.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
- with all humility and gentleness,with patience, bearing with one another in love,
- making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
- one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.
- But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
- The gifts Christ gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
- to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
- until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

722(9) Colossians 1.24-29

I became the servant of the church when God made me responsible for delivering his message to you.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church.
- I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,
- the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints.
- To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
- It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.
- For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(10)

1 Thessalonians 2.2b-8

We give you the good news, and our lives as well.

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

- We had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition.
- For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery,
- but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.
- As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed;

- 6 nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,
- though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children.
- So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(11)

2 Timothy 1.13-14; 2.1-3

Entrusted as you have been with a precious gift, guard it with the help of the indwelling Spirit.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
- Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.
- You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus;
- and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well.
- 3 Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(12)

2 Timothy 4.1-5

Preach the good news, for that is your special work.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you:
- proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.

- 3 For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires,
- and will turn away from listening to the truth 4 and wander away to myths.
- As for you, 5 always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

722(13) 1 Peter 5.1-4 Shepherd God's people entrusted to you.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- As an elder myself and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory to be revealed, I exhort the elders among you
- to tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the overseeing, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it not for sordid gain, but eagerly.
- Do not lord it over those in your charge, 3 but be examples to the flock.
- And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.

The word of the Lord.

723 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One of these verses may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

723(1) Matthew 23.9b, 10b

You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ!

723(2) Matthew 28.19a, 20b

Go and teach all people my gospel; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

723(3) Mark 1.17

Come, follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

723(4) Luke 4.18-19

The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

723(5) John 10.14

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

723(6) John 15.5

I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

723(7) John 15.15b

I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

723(8) 2 Corinthians 5.19

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the good news of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

For convenience, the verses for the acclamation are to be found before each gospel.

723-724 GOSPEL and Acclamation

The verse may accompany the singing of the acclamation. If the acclamation is not sung, the verse is omitted

724(1) John 10.14

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Matthew 9.35-38

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.
- When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
- therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

The gospel of the Lord.

724(2) (for a pope)

Mark 1.17

Come, follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

Matthew 16.13-19

You are Peter; I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"
- And the disciples said,
 "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah,
 and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

- Jesus said to them,
 "But who do you say that I am?"
- Simon Peter answered,
 "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."
- And Jesus answered him,
 "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah!
 For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.
- And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.
- "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

724(3) Matthew 23.9b, 10b

You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ!

Matthew 23.8-12

Let the greatest among you be the one who serves.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students.
- And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven.
- Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah.
- "The greatest among you will be your servant.
- All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."

The gospel of the Lord.

724(4) (for missionaries)

Matthew 28.19a, 20b

Go and teach all people my gospel; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Matthew 28.16-20

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

After Jesus had risen from the dead,

- the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.
- When they saw Jesus, they worshipped him; but some doubted.
- And Jesus came and said to them,
 "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
- Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
- and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The gospel of the Lord.

724(5) Mark 1.17

Come, follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

Mark 1.14-20

I will make you into fishers of my people.

- ₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- After John the Baptist was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying,
- "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."
- As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea for they were fishermen.
- And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people."
- And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

- As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets.
- Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord.

724(6) (for missionaries)

Matthew 28.19a, 20b

Go and teach all people my gospel; I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Mark 16.15-20

Go forth to the whole world; proclaim the good news to all creation.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.
- Jesus appeared to the Eleven and said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."
- The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned.
- "And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues;
- they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."
- So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.
- And the Eleven went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

The gospel of the Lord.

Come, follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

Luke 5.1-11

If you wish it, I will let down the nets.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- While Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God,
- he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.
- Jesus got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore.

 Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.
- When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon,"Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."
- Simon answered,
 "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing.
 Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."
- When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.
- So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.
- But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!"
- For Simon Peter and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken;
- and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.
 - Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."
- When they had brought their boats to shore, the disciples left everything and followed Jesus.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

724(8) Luke 4.18-19

The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

Luke 10.1-9

The harvest is indeed plentiful, but the labourers are few.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

From among the disciples,

- the Lord appointed seventy and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.
- He said to them,
 "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
 therefore ask the Lord of the harvest
 to send out labourers into his harvest.
- Go on your way.
 See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.
- 4 Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road.
- "Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!'
- And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you.
- "Remain in the same house,
 eating and drinking whatever they provide,
 for the labourer deserves to be paid.
 Do not move about from house to house.
- Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you;
- 9 cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

The gospel of the Lord.

724(9) John 15.15b

I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

Luke 22.24-30

As my Father has conferred a kingdom upon me, so do I confer a kingdom on you, my disciples.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

As they gathered with Jesus to celebrate the passover,

- a dispute also arose among the disciplesas to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest.
- But Jesus said to them,
 "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them;
 and those in authority over them are called benefactors.
- But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves.
- For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.
- "You are those who have stood by me in my trials;
- and I confer on you,just as my Father has conferred on me,a kingdom,
- so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

The gospel of the Lord.

724(10) John 10.14

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

John 10.11-16

The good shepherd is ready to give up life itself for the flock.

₭ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to the Pharisees,

"I am the good shepherd.

The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

- The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.
- The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.
- "I am the good shepherd.
 I know my own and my own know me,
- just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.
- I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold.
 I must bring them also,
 and they will listen to my voice.
 So there will be one flock, one shepherd."

The gospel of the Lord.

724(11) John 15.15b

I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

John 15.9-17

I have called you, that you might go forth and produce a great harvest.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 9 "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
- If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
- "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- "You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

- "You did not choose me but I chose you.

 And I appointed you to go and bear fruit,
 fruit that will last,
 so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The gospel of the Lord.

724(12) For a pope

John 10.14

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

John 21.15-17

Peter, take care of my lambs, take care of my sheep.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

After Jesus had shown himself to his disciples,

- and they had finished breakfast,
 Jesus said to Simon Peter,
 "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"
 Peter said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you."
 Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."
- A second time Jesus said to him,
 "Simon son of John, do you love me?"
 Peter said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you."
 Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."
- Jesus said to him the third time,
 "Simon son of John, do you love me?"
 Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time,
 "Do you love me?"
 And he said to Jesus,
 "Lord, you know everything;
 you know that I love you."
 Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

The gospel of the Lord.

COMMON OF DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

When three readings are desired, the first reading is chosen from the Old Testament, except in the Easter Season when the first reading is traditionally chosen from the Acts of the Apostles or the Book of Revelation. In all cases the second reading is chosen from the New Testament. When only one reading precedes the gospel, the first reading may be chosen from the Old or New Testament.

725 First R	eading from	the Old Test	ament outside t	he Easter Season

1 Kings 3.11-14 1)

Wisdom 7.7-10, 15-16

3) Sirach 15.1-6 4) Sirach 39.6-10

726 First Reading within the Easter Season

Acts 2.14a, 22-24, 32-36

Acts 13.26-33

727 Responsorial Psalm

- Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 10 (R.9b or John 6.63c)
- 2) Psalm 37.3-4, 5-6, 30-31 (R.30a)
- 3) Psalm 119.9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (R.12b)

728 Second Reading or First Reading from the New Testament

- 1 Corinthians 1.18-25
- 3)
- 1 Corinthians 2.10b-16 Ephesians 4.1-7, 11-13
- 2 Timothy 4.1-5

- 2) 1 Corinthians 2.1-10a Ephesians 3.8-12 4)
- 6) 2 Timothy 1.13-14; 2.1-3

729 Gospel Acclamation

- Matthew 5.16
- See John 6.63c, 68c
- See Acts 16.14b 5)
- 1 Corinthians 2.7

- 2) Matthew 23.9b, 10b
- 4) John 15.5
- 6) 1 Corinthians 1.18

730 Gospel Readings

- Matthew 5.13-19
- Matthew 13.47-52
- 5) Mark 4.1-10, 13-20

- Matthew 7.21-29
- Matthew 23.8-12
- 6) Luke 6.43-45

725 FIRST READING OUTSIDE EASTER SEASON

725(1) 1 Kings 3.11-14

I give you a wise and discerning mind.

A reading from the book of Exodus.

- God said to Solomon,
 "Because you have asked for the gift of understanding,
 and have not asked for yourself long life or riches,
 or for the life of your enemies,
 but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right,
- I now do according to your word.
 - "Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.
- I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honour all your life; no other king shall compare with you.
- "If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 37.3-4, 5-6, 30-31 (R.30a)

- **R.** The mouths of the just murmur wisdom.
- Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. *R.*
- Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.
- He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. **R**.
- The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak justice.
- The law of their God is in their hearts; their steps do not slip. *R*.

725(2)

Wisdom 7.7-10, 15-16

I have chosen wisdom over beauty or strength.

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

- I prayed, and understanding was given me;I called on God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me.
- I preferred her to sceptres and thrones, and I accounted wealth as nothing in comparison with her.
- Neither did I liken to her any priceless gem, because all gold is but a little sand in her sight, and silver will be accounted as clay before her.
- I loved her more than health and beauty, and I chose to have her rather than light, because her radiance never ceases.
- May God grant me to speak with judgment, and to have thoughts worthy of what I have received; for he is the guide even of wisdom and the corrector of the wise.
- For both we and our words are in his hand, as are all understanding and skill in crafts.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 10 (R.9b)

- **R.** The judgments of the Lord are true, and all of them are just.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple. *R*.
- The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. *R.*
- The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. *R*.
- More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. *R.*

725(3) Sirach 15.1-6

Wisdom will bless with understanding those who fear the Lord.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

Happy is the person who meditates on wisdom and reasons intelligently, who reflects on her ways and ponders her secrets.

- All who fear the Lord will do this, and whoever holds to the law will obtain wisdom.
- Wisdom will come to meet them like a mother, and like a young bride she will give welcome.
- Wisdom will feed them with the bread of learning, and give them the water of wisdom to drink.
- They will lean on her and not fall, and will rely on her and not be put to shame.
- Wisdom will exalt them above their neighbours, and will tell them what to say in the midst of the assembly.
- All who find wisdom will find gladness and a crown of rejoicing, and will inherit an everlasting name.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 119.9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (R.12b)

- **R.** Lord, teach me your decrees.
- How can young people keep their way pure?By guarding it according to your word.
- With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. *R.*
- I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.
- Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. *R*.
- With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.
- I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches. **R**.

725(4) Sirach 39.6-10

Those who study the Lord's decrees will be given the gift of understanding.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- If the great Lord is willing, those who study the law of the Lord will be filled with the spirit of understanding; they will pour forth words of wisdom of their own and give thanks to the Lord in prayer.
- 7 The Lord will direct their counsel and knowledge, as they meditates on the Lord's mysteries.
- They will show the wisdom of what they have learned, and will glory in the law of the Lord's covenant.
- Many will praise their understanding;
 it will never be blotted out.
 Their memory will not disappear,
 and their name will live through all generations.
- Nations will speak of their wisdom, and the congregation will proclaim their praise.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 37.3-4, 5-6, 30-31 (R.30a)

- **R.** The mouths of the just murmur wisdom.
- Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. *R*.
- Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.
- He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. **R**.
- The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak justice.
- The law of their God is in their hearts; their steps do not slip. *R*.

726 FIRST READING DURING EASTER SEASON

726(1) Acts 2.14a, 22-24, 32-36

God has made Jesus, the crucified one, both Lord and Messiah.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- On Pentecost day, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "People of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.
- "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say:
 Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God
 with deeds of power, wonders, and signs
 that God did through him among you,
 as you yourselves know—
- this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.
- ²⁴ "But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.
- This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.
- Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear.

- For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

 'The Lord said to my Lord,

 "Sit at my right hand,
- until I make your enemies your footstool."
- Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 10 (R.9b)

R. The judgments of the Lord are true, and all of them are just.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple. *R*.
- The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. *R.*
- The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. *R*.
- More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. *R.*

726(2) Acts 13.26-33

God has been faithful to his promise in raising Jesus from the dead.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Preaching at the synagogue in Antioch, Paul said:

"You descendants of Abraham's family,and others who fear God,to us the message of this salvation has been sent.

- "Because the residents of Jerusalem and their leaders did not recognize Jesus or understand the words of the prophets that are read every sabbath, they fulfilled those words by condemning him.
- Even though they found no cause for a sentence of death, they asked Pilate to have Jesus killed.
- When they had carried out everything that was written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb.
- "But God raised him from the dead:
- and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, and they are now his witnesses to the people.
- "And we bring you the good news that what God promised to our ancestors
- he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising Jesus; as also it is written in the second psalm,
 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you.'"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 37.3-4, 5-6, 30-31 (R.30a)

- **R.** The mouths of the just murmur wisdom.
- Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. *R.*
- Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.
- He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. **R**.
- The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak justice.
- The law of their God is in their hearts; their steps do not slip. *R*.

During the Easter Season, the refrain: "Alleluia," sung two or three times, may be used in place of the proper refrain.

727(1)

Psalm 19.7, 8, 9, 10 (R.9b or Jn 6.63c)

- **R.** The judgments of the Lord are true, and all of them are just.
- or: Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple. *R*.
- The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. **R**.
- The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. **R**.
- More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. *R.*

727(2)

Psalm 37.3-4, 5-6, 30-31 (R.30a)

- **R.** The mouths of the just murmur wisdom.
- Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. *R.*
- Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.
- He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. **R**.
- The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak justice.
- The law of their God is in their hearts; their steps do not slip. *R.*

- **R.** Lord, teach me your decrees.
- How can young people keep their way pure?By guarding it according to your word.
- With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. *R.*
- I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.
- Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes. **R**.
- With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.
- I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches. **R**.

728 READING FROM THE NEW TEST AMENT

728(1) 1 Corinthians 1.18-25

God chose to save those who believe through the foolishness of our preaching.

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

- The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- For it is written,
 "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
 and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."
- Where is the one who is wise?
 Where is the scribe?
 Where is the debater of this age?
 Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?
- For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.
- For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,
- but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

- but to those who are the called,both Jews and Greeks,Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

728(2)

1 Corinthians 2.1-10a

We teach the hidden wisdom of God.

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

- When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom.
- For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
- And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.
- My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
- so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.
- Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish.
- But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.
- None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
- But, as it is written,
 "No eye has seen, nor ear heard,
 nor the human heart conceived,
 what God has prepared for those who love him."
- These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

728(3)

1 Corinthians 2.10b-16

We speak with the mind of Christ.

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

- The Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.
- For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within?
 So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.
- Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.
- And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.
- Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.
- Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.
- "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

728(4) Ephesians 3.8-12

My mission is to declare to all the world the infinite treasure found in Christ Jesus.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,
- and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things;

- so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.
- This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that God has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,
- in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

728(5)

Ephesians 4.1-7, 11-13

In ministering, we help build the body of Christ.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
- with all humility and gentleness,with patience, bearing with one another in love,
- making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,
- one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.
- But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
- The gifts Christ gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,
- to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
- until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Entrusted as you have been with a precious gift, guard it with the help of the indwelling Spirit.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
- Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.
- You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus;
- and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well.
- 3 Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

728(7)

2 Timothy 4.1-5

Preach the Good News, for that is your special work.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

- In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you:
- proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.
- For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires,
- and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.
- As for you,
 always be sober,
 endure suffering,
 do the work of an evangelist,
 carry out your ministry fully.

The word of the Lord.

729 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One of these verses may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

729(1) Matthew 5.16

Let your light shine before all, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father.

729(2) Matthew 23.9b, 10b

You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ!

729(3) See John 6.63c, 68c

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.

729(5) See Acts 16.14b

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

729(4) John 15.5

I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord: those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

729(6) 1 Corinthians 1.18

The message of the cross is folly to those who turn away, but to those who are saved it is the power of God.

729(7) 1 Corinthians 2.7

We teach God's secret and hidden wisdom, decreed by God for our glory before time began.

729(8)

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

For convenience, the verses for the acclamation are to be found before each gospel.

730 GOSPEL and Acclamation

The verse may accompany the singing of the acclamation. If the acclamation is not sung, the verse is omitted.

730(1) Matthew 5.16

Let your light shine before all, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father.

Matthew 5.13-19

You are the light of the world.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples,

- "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.
- "You are the light of the world.A city built on a hill cannot be hid.
- No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.
- "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.
- "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.
- For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.
- "Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

730(2) See John 6.63c, 68c

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.

Matthew 7.21-29

Jesus taught the crowds with authority.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples,

- "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,'
 will enter the kingdom of heaven,
 but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.
- "On that day many will say to me,
 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name,
 and cast out demons in your name,
 and do many deeds of power in your name?"
- Then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; go away from me, you evildoers.'
- ²⁴ "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.
- The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.
- "And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand.
- The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"
- Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching,
- for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

The gospel of the Lord.

730(3) See Acts 16.14b

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Matthew 13.47-52

The master of a household brings out what is new and what is old.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds:

- "The kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;
- when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.
- "So it will be at the end of the age.

 The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous
- and throw the evil into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."
- And Jesus said to the crowds,
 "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven
 is like the master of a household
 who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The gospel of the Lord.

730(4) Matthew 23.9b, 10b

You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ!

Matthew 23.8-12

2019

Let no one call you instructor, for you have only one instructor, the Messiah.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "You are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students.
- 9 And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven.
- Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah.

COMMON OF DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

- "The greatest among you will be your servant.
- All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted."

The gospel of the Lord.

730(5)

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

Mark 4.1-10, 13-20 Behold, the sower goes out to sow.

The shorter version (1-9) concludes at the asterisk.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus began to teach beside the sea.
 Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land.
- Jesus began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them:
- "Listen! A sower went out to sow.
- And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up.
- Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil.
- And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away.
- Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain.
- Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."
- 9 And Jesus said, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" *
- When Jesus was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables.
- And Jesus said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables?
- "The sower sows the word.
- These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them.

- "And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy.
- But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.
- "And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word,
- but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing.
- "And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."

The gospel of the Lord.

730(6) John 15.5

I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord: those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

Luke 6.43-45

The heart's concern is evident in one's speech.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit;
- for each tree is known by its own fruit.

 Figs are not gathered from thorns,
 nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush.
- "The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks."

The gospel of the Lord.

COMMON OF VIRGINS

When three readings are desired, the first reading is chosen from the Old Testament, except in the Easter Season when the first reading is traditionally chosen from the Acts of the Apostles or the Book of Revelation. In all cases the second reading is chosen from the New Testament. When only one reading precedes the gospel, the first reading may be chosen from the Old or New Testament.

731 First Reading from the Old Testament outside the Easter Season

1) Song 8.6-7

2) Hosea 2.14, 15b, 19-20

732 First Reading within the Easter Season

1) Revelation 19.1. 5-9a

2) Revelation 21.1-5a

733 Responsorial Psalm

1) Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (R.10a or Mt 25.6b)

2) Psalm 148.1-2, 11-13a, 13c-14 (R.12a+13a)

734 Second Reading or First Reading from the New Testament

1) 1 Corinthians 7.25-35

2) 2 Corinthians 10.17 - 11.2

735 Gospel Acclamation

1) John 14.23

736 Gospel Reading

Matthew 19.3-12
 Luke 10.38-42

2) Matthew 25.1-13

731 FIRST READING OUTSIDE EASTER SEASON

731(1) **Song 8.6-7**

Love is strong, strong even as death.

A reading from the Song of Songs.

The bride speaks of her beloved:

- Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave. Love's flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.
- Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. If one offered for love all the wealth of his house. it would be utterly scorned.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 148.1-2, 11-13a, 13c-14 (R.12a+13a)

R. Young men and women, praise the name of the Lord.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Praise the Lord from the heavens: praise him in the heights!
- 2 Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! R.
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- Young men and women alike, old and young together! 12
- Let them praise the name of the Lord. R. 13
 - The Lord's glory is above earth and heaven.
- He has raised up a horn for his people, 14 praise for all his faithful. for the people of Israel who are close to him. R.

A reading from the book of the prophet Hosea.

The Lord says this concerning Israel:

- I will now allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her.
- There she shall respond as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.
- And I will take you for my wife forever;
 I will take you for my wife in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy.
- I will take you for my wife in faithfulness; and you shall know the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (Mt 25.6b)

- **R.** The bridegroom is here; let us go out to meet Christ the Lord.
- Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. *R*.
- The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins follow. *R*.
- With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. R.

732 FIRST READING DURING EASTER SEASON

732(1) Revelation 19.1, 5-9a

Blessed are those invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision

- I, John, heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah!
 Salvation and glory and power to our God."
- And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, and all who fear him, small and great."
- Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunderpeals, crying out, "Hallelujah!

 For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.
- "Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready;
- to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure"—
 for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.
- 9 And the angel said to me,
 "Write this:
 Blessed are those
 who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."
 And the angel said to me,
 "These are true words of God."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 148.1-2, 11-13a, 13c-14 (R.12a+13a)

- **R.** Young men and women, praise the name of the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
- Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! *R*.
- Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- Young men and women alike, old and young together!
- Let them praise the name of the Lord. **R**. The Lord's glory is above earth and heaven.
- He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. *R*.

732(2) Revelation 21.1-5a

I saw the new Jerusalem, like a bride adorned for her husband.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision

- 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, the 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, "See, the home of God is among mortals.

 He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his people, and God himself will be with them;
- he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
 Death will be no more;
 mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
 for the first things have passed away."
- And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (Mt 25.6b)

- **R.** The bridegroom is here; let us go out to meet Christ the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 10 Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- 11 and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. **R**.
- 13 The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- 14 in many-coloured robes she is led to the king: behind her the virgins follow. R.
- 15 With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- 16 In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. R.

733 RESPONSORIAL PSALM

During the Easter Season, the refrain: "Alleluia," sung two or three times, may be used in place of the proper refrain.

733(1)

Psalm 45.10-11, 13b-14, 15-16 (R.10a or Mt 25.6b)

- **R.** Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.
- or: The bridegroom is here; let us go out to meet Christ the Lord.
- 10 Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,
- 11 and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. **R**.
- 13 The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;
- 14 in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins follow. R.
- 15 With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.
- 16 In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons: you will make them princes in all the earth. R.

733(2)

Psalm 148.1-2, 11-13a, 13c-14 (R.12a+13a)

- **R.** Young men and women, praise the name of the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
- Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! *R*.
- Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
- Young men and women alike, old and young together!
- Let them praise the name of the Lord. **R**. The Lord's glory is above earth and heaven.
- He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. *R.*

734 READING FROM THE NEW TEST AMENT

734(1) 1 Corinthians 7.25-35

A virgin can devote herself to the work of the Lord.

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

- Concerning virgins, I have no command of the Lord, but I give my opinion as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy.
- I think that, in view of the impending crisis, it is well for you to remain as you are.
- Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife.
- But if you marry, you do not sin, and if a virgin marries, she does not sin.
 Yet those who marry will experience distress in this life, and I would spare you that.
- I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on,
 - let even those who have wives be as though they had none,
- and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions,

- and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it.

 For the present form of this world is passing away.
- I want you to be free from anxieties.

 The unmarried man is concerned about the affairs of the Lord, how to please the Lord;
- but the married man is concerned about the affairs of the world, how to please his wife,
- and his interests are divided.

 And the unmarried woman and the virgin are concerned about the affairs of the Lord, so that they may be holy in body and spirit; but the married woman is concerned about the affairs of the world, how to please her husband.
- I say this for your own benefit, not to put any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and unhindered devotion to the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

734(2)

2 Corinthians 10.17 - 11.2

I have promised you in marriage to one husband, as a chaste virgin for Christ.

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

- "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."
- For it is not those who commend themselves that are approved, but those whom the Lord commends.
- I wish you would bear with me in a little foolishness. Do bear with me!
- I feel a divine jealousy for you, for I promised you in marriage to one husband, to present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

735 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One of these verses may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

735(1) John 14.23

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

735(2)

This is the wise bridesmaid, whom the Lord found waiting; at his coming, she went in with him to the wedding feast.

735(3)

Come, bride of Christ, and receive the crown, which the Lord has prepared for you for ever.

For convenience, the verses for the acclamation are to be found before each gospel.

735-736 GOSPEL and Acclamation

The verse may accompany the singing of the acclamation. If the acclamation is not sung, the verse is omitted.

736(1)

Come, bride of Christ, and receive the crown, which the Lord has prepared for you for ever.

Matthew 19.3-12

Some have chosen a single life for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- Some Pharisees came to Jesus, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?"
- Jesus answered,
 - "Have you not read that the one who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,'
- 5 and said.
 - 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?

- So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

 Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."
- The Pharisees said to Jesus, "Why then did Moses command us to give a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her?"
- Jesus said to them, "It was because you were so hard-hearted that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.
- 9 And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another, commits adultery."
- His disciples said to Jesus,
 "If such is the case of a man with his wife,
 it is better not to marry."
- But Jesus said to them,
 "Not everyone can accept this teaching,
 but only those to whom it is given.
- For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.

 Let anyone accept this who can."

The gospel of the Lord.

736(2)

This is the wise bridesmaid, whom the Lord found waiting; at his coming, she went in with him to the wedding feast.

Matthew 25,1-13

Behold, the bridegroom! Go out to greet him!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

- "The kingdom of heaven will be like this.Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
- Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
- "When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them;
- but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
- As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.

- "But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
- 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.
- The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
- But the wise replied,'No! there will not be enough for you and for us;you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'
- "And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.
- Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'
- But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'"
- Jesus told the disciples, "Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." The gospel of the Lord.

736(3) John 14.23

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

Luke 10.38-42

Martha offers Jesus her hospitality, Mary offers him her attention.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus entered a village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.
- She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying.
- But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell Mary to help me."
- But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things;
- there is need of only one thing.

 Mary has chosen the better part,
 which will not be taken away from her."

The gospel of the Lord.

COMMON OF HOLY MEN AND WOMEN

When three readings are desired, the first reading is chosen from the Old Testament, except in the Easter Season when the first reading is traditionally chosen from the Acts of the Apostles or the Book of Revelation. In all cases the second reading is chosen from the New Testament. When only one reading precedes the gospel, the first reading may be chosen from the Old or New Testament.

737 First Reading from the Old Testament outside the Easter Season

- Genesis 12.1-4a 1)
- 4) **Deuteronomy 10.8-9**
- 7) Tobit 8.4b-9a
- 10) Esther 13.8-14, 17
- 13) Sirach 3.17-24
- 16) Jeremiah 20.7-9
- Proverbs 2.1-9 19)

- Leviticus 19.1-2, 17-18 2)
- 1 Kings 19.4-9a, 11-15a 5)
- Tobit 12.6-14a 8)
- 11) Proverbs 31.10-13, 16-20, 26-31
- 14) Sirach 26.1-4, 13-16
- 17) Micah 6.6-8
- 20) Isaiah 66.10-14c

- Deuteronomy 6.3-9
- 6) 1 Kings 19.16b, 19-21
- 9) Judith 8.2-8
- Sirach 2.7-11 12)
- 15) Isaiah 58.6-11
- 18) Zephaniah 2.3; 3.12-13

738 First Reading within the Easter Season

- Acts 4.32-35 1)
- Revelation 21.5-7 4)
- 2) Revelation 3.14b, 20-22
- Revelation 19.1, 5-9a

739 Responsorial Psalm

- Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R.2a; 40.5a; or 92.13-14)
- Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (R.1)
- Psalm 112.1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 (R.1a)
- 10) Psalm 25.4bc- 5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9, 10+14 (R.6)
- Psalm 15.1a+2-3a, 3b-4ab, 5 (R.1b)
- Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 (R.1a or 8a)
- Psalm 128.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1a)
- Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)
- Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 13-14, 17-18a (R.1a)
- Psalm 131.1, 2-3a (R. see 2)

740 Second Reading or First Reading from the New Testament

- 1) Romans 8.26-30
- 2 Corinthians 10.17 11.2 4)
- 7) **Ephesians 3.14-19**
- 10) Philippians 4.4-9
- James 2.14-17 13)
- 1 John 3.14-18 16)
- 1 Corinthians 6.13c-15a,
- 17-20
- 1 Corinthians 1.26-31
- 5) Galatians 2.19-20
- 8) Ephesians 6.10-13, 18
- 11) Colossians 3.12-17
- 14) 1 Peter 3.1-9
- 17) 1 John 4.7-16 20) Hebrews 11.1-2, 8-13a
- 3) 1 Corinthians 12.31 - 13.13
- Galatians 6.14-16 6)
- 9) Philippians 3.8-14
- 12) 1 Timothy 5.3-10
- 15) 1 Peter 4.7b-11
- 1 John 5.1-5 18)

741 Gospel Acclamation

- Matthew 5:3
- See Matthew 11:25 4)
- Luke 21:36 7)
- 10) John 13:34
- John 15:9b, 5b
- Matthew 5:6
- 5) Matthew 11:28
- 8) John 8:12

- Matthew 5:8
- Matthew 23:11, 12b 6)
- 9) John 8:31b-32
- 12) John 15:4a, 5b

742 Gospel Reading

- 1) Matthew 5.1-12a
- 4) Matthew 11.25-30
- 7) **Matthew 18.1-5**
- 10) Matthew 22.34-40
- Matthew 25.31-46 13)
- 16) Mark 10.13-16
- Luke 9.57-62 19)
- 25) John 15.9-17
- 22) Luke 12.35-40
- 28) John 11.17-27

- 11) John 14:23

- Matthew 5.13-16
- 5) Matthew 13.44-46 Matthew 19.3-12 8)
- 11) Matthew 25.1-13
- Mark 3.31-35 14)
- 17) Mark 10.17-30
- 20) Luke 10.38-42
- 23) Luke 14.25-33
- John 17.20-26 26) 29) John 15.12-17

- Matthew 7.21-27
- 6) Matthew 16.24-27
- 9) Matthew 19.27-29
- 12) Matthew 25.14-30
- 15) Mark 9.33-37 18) Luke 6.27-38
- 21) Luke 12.32-34
- 24) John 15.1-8
- 27) Luke 7.11-17

737 FIRST READING OUTSIDE EASTER SEASON

737(1)

Genesis 12.1-4a

Depart from your homeland and kindred, and come.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

- 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.
- "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 the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
- 4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. *R.*
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. R.

737(2) Leviticus 19.1-2, 17-18

You must love your neighbour as yourself.

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

- The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:
- "Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.'
- "You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself.
- You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.'"

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15.1a+2-3a, 3b-4ab, 5 (R.1b)

- **R.** The just shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord.
- 1 Lord, who may abide in your tent?
- Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;
- who do not slander with their tongue. R.
 Those who do no evil to their friends,
 nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;
- in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the Lord. *R.*
- Those who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

 Those who do these things shall never be moved. *R*.

737(3) Deuteronomy 6.3-9

Hear, O Israel; love the Lord your God with all your heart.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people, saying,

- "Hear, O Israel, and observe the Lord's commandments diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.
- 4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
- You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.
- ⁶ "Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart.
- Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.
- Bind these words as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead,
- and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 (R.1a)

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. *R.*
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.

- 7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
- Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. *R*.
- They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their name is exalted in honour. **R**.

737(4) (for religious)

Deuteronomy 10.8-9

The Lord God will be your inheritance.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people, saying,

- The Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to him, and to bless in his name, to this day.
- "Therefore Levi has no allotment or inheritance with his kindred; the Lord is his inheritance, as the Lord your God promised him."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. *R.*
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R.*

Go out and stand on the mountain, in the sight of the Lord.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

- Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. Eliah asked that he might die:
 "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."
- Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched Elijah and said to him, "Get up and eat."
- Elijah looked,
 and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones,
 and a jar of water.
 He ate and drank, and lay down again.
- The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said,
 "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you."
- Elijah got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.
- 9 At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.
- The word of the Lord came to Elijah, telling him, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by."

 Now there was a great wind,

so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake;

and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

- When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

 Then there came a voice to him that said,
 "What are you doing here, Elijah?"
- He answered,
 "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts;
 for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant,
 thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword.
 I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."
- Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed following the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15.1a, 2-3a, 3b-4ab, 5 (R.1b)

- **R.** The just shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord.
- 1 Lord, who may abide in your tent?
- Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;
- who do not slander with their tongue. **R**.

 Those who do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;
- in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the Lord. *R.*
- Those who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent.
 Those who do these things shall never be moved. *R.*

737(6) (for religious)

1 Kings 19.16b, 19-21

Elisha set out, and followed Elijah, becoming his servant.

A reading from the first book of Kings.

The Lord spoke to the prophet Elijah and said,

- "You shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place."
- So Elijah set out from there, and found Elisha, who was ploughing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth.

Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him.

Elisah left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you."

Then Elijah said to him,

"Go back again; for what have I done to you?"

Elisha returned from following Elijah, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate.

Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

This is the word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.

- Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. *R.*
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

737(7)

Tobit 8.4b-9a

Grant, O God, that we may grow old together.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

On their wedding night,

- Tobias said to Sarah,

 "Sister, get up,
 and let us pray and implore our Lord
 that he grant us mercy and safety."
- So they began to pray and implore that they might be kept safe.

Tobias began by saying, "Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors, and blessed is your name in all generations forever. Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you forever.

- "You made Adam, and for him you made his wife Eve as a helper and support. From the two of them the human race has sprung. You said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; let us make a helper for him like himself.'
- "I now am taking Sarah, not because of lust, but with sincerity. Grant that she and I may find mercy and that we may grow old together."
- 8 And they both said, "Amen. Amen."
- Then they went to sleep for the night.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1a)

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

- Happy is the one who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.
- You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. *R*.
- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.
- Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord. **R**.
- 5 The Lord bless you from Zion. May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
- May you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel! *R.*

737(8) (for those who work for the disadvantaged)

Tobit 12.6-14

Pray, fast, give alms.

A reading from the book of Tobit.

- Raphael called Tobit and his son Tobias privately and said to them,
 "Bless God and acknowledge him in the presence of all the living for the good things he has done for you.
 Bless and sing praise to his name.
 With fitting honour declare to all people the deeds of God.
 Do not be slow to acknowledge him.
- "It is good to conceal the secret of a king, but to acknowledge and reveal the works of God, and with fitting honour to acknowledge him.
 Do good and evil will not overtake you.
- Prayer with fasting is good, but better than both is almsgiving with righteousness.

 "A little with righteousness is better than wealth with wrongdoing. It is better to give alms than to lay up gold.
- For almsgiving saves from death and purges away every sin. Those who give alms will enjoy a full life,
- but those who commit sin and do wrong are their own worst enemies.
- "I will now declare the whole truth to you and will conceal nothing from you.

 Already I have declared it to you when I said,
 'It is good to conceal the secret of a king,
 but to reveal with due honour the words of God.'
- "So now when you and Sarah prayed, it was I who brought and read the record of your prayer before the glory of the Lord, and likewise whenever you would bury the dead.
- And that time when you did not hesitate to get up and leave your dinner to go and bury the dead,
- I was sent to you to test you."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 13-14, 17-18a (R.1a)

- **R.** O bless the Lord, my soul!
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. *R*.
- For the Lord forgives all your iniquity, and heals all your diseases.
- The Lord redeems your life from the Pit, and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. *R*.
- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. R.
- As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
- For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. **R**.
- The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him; and his righteousness to children's children,
- to those who keep his covenant. R.

737(9) (for widows)

Judith 8.2-8

Judith devoutly honoured the Lord.

A reading from the book of Judith.

- Manasseh, husband of Judith, who belonged to her tribe and family, had died during the barley harvest.
- For as he stood overseeing those who were binding sheaves in the field, he was overcome by the burning heat, and took to his bed and died in his town Bethulia. So they buried him with his ancestors in the field between Dothan and Balamon.
- Judith remained as a widow for three years and four months
- at home where she set up a tent for herself on the roof of her house. She put sackcloth around her waist and dressed in widow's clothing.
- She fasted all the days of her widowhood, except the day before the sabbath and the sabbath itself, the day before the new moon and the day of the new moon, and the festivals and days of rejoicing of the house of Israel.

- Judith was beautiful in appearance, and was very lovely to behold. Her husband Manasseh had left her gold and silver, men and women slaves, livestock, and fields; and she maintained this estate.
- No one spoke ill of Judith, for she feared God with great devotion.

This is the word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 131.1, 2-3a (R. see 2)

R. In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

- O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvellous for me. *R*.
- But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord forevermore. *R*.

737(10) Esther 13.8-14, 17

I feared lest I gave to creatures the glory owed to God.

A reading from the book of Esther.

- Mordecai prayed to the Lord, calling to remembrance all the works of the Lord.
- He said, "O Lord, Lord, you rule as King over all things, for the universe is in your power and there is no one who can oppose you when it is your will to save Israel,
- for you have made heaven and earth and every wonderful thing under heaven.
- "You are Lord of all, and there is no one who can resist you, the Lord.
- You know all things; you know, O Lord, that it was not in insolence or pride or for any love of glory that I did this, and refused to bow down to this proud Haman;

- for I would have been willing to kiss the soles of his feet to save Israel!
- "But I did this so that I might not set human glory above the glory of God, and I will not bow down to anyone but you, who are my Lord; and I will not do these things in pride.
- "Hear my prayer, and have mercy upon your inheritance; turn our mourning into feasting that we may live and sing praise to your name, O Lord; do not destroy the lips of those who praise you."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 (R.1a)

- **R.** I will bless the Lord at all times.
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. *R*.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. *R.*
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.
- O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.
- The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. *R.*

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

- A capable wife, who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.
- The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.
- She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.
- This fine woman seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.
- She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
- She girds herself with strength, and makes her arms strong.
- She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night.
- A good wife puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle.
- She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- Her children rise up and call her happy; her husband too, and he praises her:
- "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all."
- Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
- Give her a share in the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 131.1, 2-3a (R. see 2)

- **R.** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.
- O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high;
 I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvellous for me. *R.*
- But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord forevermore. R.

737(12) Sirach 2.7-11

All who fear the Lord, trust him, hope in his word, and love him.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; do not stray, or else you may fall.
- You who fear the Lord, trust in him, and your reward will not be lost.
- You who fear the Lord, hope for good things, for lasting joy and mercy.
- 10 Consider the generations of old and see:
 has anyone trusted in the Lord and been disappointed?
 Or has anyone persevered in the fear of the Lord
 and been forsaken?
 Or has anyone called upon him and been neglected?
- For the Lord is compassionate and merciful; he forgives sins and saves in time of distress.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9 (R.1a)

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. **R**.

- Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.
- They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. **R**.
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.
- 7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
- Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. **R**.
- They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honour. R.

737(13) Sirach 3.17-24

Be humble, and God will look upon you with favour.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- My child, perform your tasks with humility; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts.
- The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord.
- Many are lofty and renowned, but to the humble he reveals his secrets.
- For great is the might of the Lord; but by the humble he is glorified.
- Neither seek what is too difficult for you, nor investigate what is beyond your power.
- Reflect upon what you have been commanded, for what is hidden is not your concern.
- Do not meddle in matters that are beyond you, for more than you can understand has been shown you.
- For their conceit has led many astray, and wrong opinion has impaired their judgment.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 131.1, 2-3a (R. see 2)

- **R.** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.
- O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvellous for me. *R.*
- But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord forevermore. *R*.

737(14) Sirach 26.1-4, 13-16

Like the sun rising, so is the beauty of a good wife in the midst of her well-ordered home.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

- Happy is the husband of a good wife; the number of his days will be doubled.
- A loyal wife brings joy to her husband, and he will complete his years in peace.
- A good wife is a great blessing; she will be granted among the blessings of the man who fears the Lord.
- Whether rich or poor, his heart is content, and at all times his face is cheerful.
- A wife's charm delights her husband, and her skill puts flesh on his bones.
- A silent wife is a gift from the Lord, and nothing is so precious as her self-discipline.
- A modest wife adds charm to charm, and no scales can weigh the value of her chastity.
- Like the sun rising in the heights of the Lord, so is the beauty of a good wife in her well-ordered home.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1a)

- **R.** Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- Happy is the one who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.
- You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. *R*.

- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.
- Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord. **R**.
- The Lord bless you from Zion.

 May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
- May you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel! *R.*

737(15) (for those who work for the disadvantaged)

Isaiah 58.6-11
Let the hungry share your bread.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord:

- Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?
- Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
- Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
- 9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
- if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.
- The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 112.1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 (R.1a)

- **R.** Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. *R*.
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.
- 7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
- Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. *R.*
- They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their name is exalted in honour. **R**.

737(16) Jeremiah 20.7-9

To speak God's word: it was like a fire burning within my bones!

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

- O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed.
 - I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.
- For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
 I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
 For the word of the Lord has become for me
 a reproach and derision all day long.
- If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones;
 I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. *R.*
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

737(17) Micah 6.6-8

The Lord has told you, O mortal, what is good and what is asked of you.

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

Entering the temple of the Lord, I asked:

- "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
- Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
- The Lord has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4-6 (R.2a)

- **R.** Happy are they who delight in the law of the Lord.
- Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
- but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. *R.*
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
 In all that they do, they prosper. *R*.
- The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. *R*.

737(18)

Zephaniah 2.3; 3.12-13

Seek the Lord: the Lord is our shelter, our security.

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

- Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, who do his commands; seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the Lord's wrath.
- For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly.

 They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord—
- the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 (R.8a)

- **R.** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. *R*.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. **R**.
- The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.
- O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.
- The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. *R.*

737(19)

Proverbs 2.1-9

Seek for the gift of understanding.

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

- My child, if you accept my words and treasure up my commandments within you,
- making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding;
- if you indeed cry out for insight, and raise your voice for understanding;
- 4 if you seek it like silver, and search for it as for hidden treasures—
- then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.
- For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
- 7 he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,

- guarding the paths of justice and preserving the way of his faithful ones.
- 9 Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 (R.1a or 8a)

- **R.** I will bless the Lord at all times.
- or: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. R.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. *R*.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. *R*.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.
- O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.
- The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. *R.*

737(20) Isaiah 66.10-14c

I will give her prosperity, like a river in full flow.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her.
- that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious bosom.
- For thus says the Lord:
 I will extend prosperity to her like a river,
 and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;
 and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,
 and dandled on her knees.
- As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.
- You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of the Lord is with his servants.

The word of the Lord

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 131.1, 2-3a (R. see 2)

- **R.** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.
- O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high;
 I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. *R.*
- But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord forevermore. *R*.

738 FIRST READING WITHIN EASTER SEASON

738(1) (for religious)

Acts 4.32-35

All who believed were united in heart and soul.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

- The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.
- With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.
- There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.
- They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

- **R.** You are my inheritance, O Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- 1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. R.
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

738(2) Revelation 3.14b, 20-22

I will enter and eat with you, and you with me.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision the angel of the Lord spoke to me and said: Write to the churches and say,

- "Here are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin of God's creation:
- Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.
- To the one who conquers
 I will give a place with me on my throne,
 just as I myself conquered
 and sat down with my Father on his throne.
- Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4; 5, 6 (R.1)

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
- he restores my soul. **R.**
 - He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. *R*.
- You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. *R.*
- Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. *R*.

738(3) Revelation 19.1, 5-9a

Blessed are those invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision,

- I, John, heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah!
 Salvation and glory and power to our God."
- And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, and all who fear him, small and great."
- Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunderpeals, crying out, "Hallelujah!

 For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.
- "Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready;
- to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure"—
 for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.
- And the angel said to me,

 "Write this:
 Blessed are those
 who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."
 And the angel said to me,

 "These are true words of God."

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 13-14, 17-18a (R.1a)

R. O bless the Lord, my soul!

or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)

- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. *R.*
- For the Lord forgives all your iniquity, and heals all your diseases.
- The Lord redeems your life from the Pit, and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. *R*.
- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. R.
- As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
- For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. **R**.
- The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him; and his righteousness to children's children,
- to those who keep his covenant. R.

738(4)

Revelation 21.5-7
Those who conquer will inherit the waters of life.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In my vision

- the one who was seated on the throne said,
 "See, I am making all things new."
 Also he said,
 "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."
- Then he said to me,
 "It is done!
 I am the Alpha and the Omega,
 the beginning and the end.
 To the thirsty I will give water as a gift
- 7 Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

from the spring of the water of life.

Psalm 126.1-2ab, 2bc-3, 4-5, 6 (R.5)

- **R.** Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
- Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. **R**.

 Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
- The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. *R*.
- Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the desert of the Negev.
- May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. *R*.
- Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. *R.*

739 RESPONSORIAL PSALM

During the Easter Season, the refrain: "Alleluia" sung two or three times may be used in place of the proper refrain.

739(1)

Psalm 1.1-2, 3, 4+6 (R.2a; 40.5a; or 92.13-14)

- **R.** Happy are they who delight in the law of the Lord.
- or: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.
- or: The just will flourish like the palm tree in the garden of the Lord.
- Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers:
- but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. **R**.
- They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.
 In all that they do, they prosper. R.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. *R.*

739(2)

Psalm 15.1a+2-3a, 3b-4ab, 5 (R.1b)

R. The just shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord.

1 Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;

who do not slander with their tongue. *R*.

Those who do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;

in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour those who fear the Lord. *R.*

Those who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved. *R*.

739(3)

Psalm 16.1-2a+5, 7-8, 11 (R. see 5a)

R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.

- Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord."
- The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. *R*.
- I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. *R.*
- You show me the path of life.
 In your presence there is fullness of joy;
 in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. *R*.

739(4)

Psalm 23.1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (R.1)

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
- he restores my soul. **R**.

- He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
- Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. *R.*
- You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. *R*.
- Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. *R*.

739(5)

Psalm 34.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 (R.1a or 8a)

- **R.** I will bless the Lord at all times.
- or: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
- I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. *R*.
- O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. *R*.
- Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. *R*.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. *R*.
- O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.
- The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. *R.*

739(6)

Psalm 103.1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 13-14, 17-18a (R.1a)

- **R.** O bless the Lord, my soul!
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits. *R*.
- For the Lord forgives all your iniquity, and heals all your diseases.
- The Lord redeems your life from the Pit, and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. *R*.
- The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. R.
- As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
- For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. **R**.
- The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him; and his righteousness to children's children,
- to those who keep his covenant. R.

739(7)

Psalm 112.1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9 (R.1a)

- **R.** Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- or: Alleluia! (Two or three times)
- Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments.
- Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. *R*.
- It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.
- For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. **R**.
- 7 They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.
- Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. *R*.
- They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their name is exalted in honour. R.

739(8)

Psalm 128.1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (R.1a)

- **R.** Happy are those who fear the Lord.
- Happy is the one who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways.
- You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you. *R*.
- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table.
- Thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord. *R*.
- The Lord bless you from Zion.

 May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
- 6 May you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel! **R.**

739(9)

Psalm 131.1, 2-3a (R. see 2)

- **R.** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.
- O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high;
 I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvellous for me. R.
- But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother; my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.
- O Israel, hope in the Lord forevermore. *R*.

739(10)

Psalm 25.4bc-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9, 10+14 (R.6)

- **R.** Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord.
- Make me know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.
- Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation. **R**.
- Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- According to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord! *R*.
- Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
- 9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. R.

- All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.
- The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them. *R*.

740 READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

740(1) Romans 8.26-30

Those whom God justified are also glorified.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

- The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.
- And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.
- We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.
- For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
- And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(2) 1 Corinthians 1.26-31

God has chosen the lowest, the most despised.

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

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

2066 COMMONS

- But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;
- God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are,
- so that no one might boast in the presence of God.
- God is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,
- in order that, as it is written,
 "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

This is the word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(3)

1 Corinthians 12.31 - 13.13

Love will never end.

The shorter version (4-13) begins at the asterisk.

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

- Strive for the greater gifts.

 And I will show you a still more excellent way.
- If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels,but do not have love,I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
- And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.
- If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.
- *Love is patient; love is kind;

love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

- It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;
- it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.
- 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

 \triangleright

8 Love never ends.

But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

- For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part;
- but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.
- When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.
- For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face.

 Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.
- And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(4)

2 Corinthians 10.17 - 11.2

I have promised you in marriage to one husband, as a chaste virgin for Christ.

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

- "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."
- For it is not those who commend themselves that are approved, but those whom the Lord commends.
- I wish you would bear with me in a little foolishness. Do bear with me!
- I feel a divine jealousy for you, for I promised you in marriage to one husband, to present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

The word of the Lord.

740(5) Galatians 2.19-20

It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

My brothers and sisters,

- through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God.
 I have been crucified with Christ;
- and it is no longer I who live,
 but it is Christ who lives in me.
 And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,
 who loved me and gave himself for me.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(6) Galatians 6.14-16

Through Christ, I have been crucified to the world, and the world to me.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

- May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything!
- As for those who will follow this rule—
 peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(7) Ephesians 3.14-19

I pray that you may know the love of Christ, a love beyond knowledge.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- I bow my knees before the Father,
- from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name.
- I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit,
- and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

- I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints,
 - what is the breadth and length and height and depth,
- and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(8)

Ephesians 6.10-13, 18

Clothe yourself in the whole armour of God.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

- Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.
- Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
- For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.
- Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.
- Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication.
 To that end keep alert
 and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(9)

Philippians 3.8-14

I race for but one prize: God's heavenly call, in Christ Jesus.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

- and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.
- I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death,
- if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.
- Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.
- Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
- I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(10) Philippians 4.4-9

Let your minds dwell on what is holy.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

- ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
- Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.
- Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
- And the peace of God,
 which surpasses all understanding,
 will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- Finally, beloved,
 whatever is true, whatever is honourable,
 whatever is just, whatever is pure,
 whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,
 if there is any excellence
 and if there is anything worthy of praise,
 think about these things.

Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(11)

Colossians 3.12-17

Love one another, the bond of perfection.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

- As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.
- Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.
- Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.
- And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.
- Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.
- And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(12) (for widows)

1 Timothy 5.3-10

A widow, alone, can set her hopes on God.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

- 3 Honour widows who are really widows.
- If a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn their religious duty to their own family and make some repayment to their parents; for this is pleasing in God's sight.

- The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day;
- but the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives.
- Give these commands as well, so that they may be above reproach.
- And whoever does not provide for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
- 9 Let a widow be put on the list if she is not less than sixty years old and has been married only once;
- she must be well attested for her good works, as one who has brought up children, shown hospitality, washed the saints' feet, helped the afflicted, and devoted herself to doing good in every way.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(13) James 2.14-17

Faith, without good works, is dead.

A reading from the letter of James.

- What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you?
- 15 If brothers or sisters are without clothing and lack daily food,
- and one of you says to them,
 "Go in peace;
 keep warm and eat your fill,"
 and yet you do not supply their bodily needs,
 what is the good of that?
- So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The word of the Lord.

740(14) 1 Peter 3.1-9

The saintly women hoped in God.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- Wives, accept the authority of your husbands, so that, even if some of them do not obey the word, they may be won over without a word by their wives' conduct,
- when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.
- Do not adorn yourselves outwardly by braiding your hair, and by wearing gold ornaments or fine clothing;
- rather, let your adornment be the inner self with the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in God's sight.
- It was in this way long ago that the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves by accepting the authority of their husbands.
- Thus Sarah obeyed Abraham and called him lord. You have become her daughters as long as you do what is good and never let fears alarm you.
- Husbands, show consideration for your wives in your life together, paying honour to the woman as the weaker sex, since they too are also heirs of the gracious gift of life—so that nothing may hinder your prayers.
- Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind.
- Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse;
 but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing.
 It is for this that you were called—
 that you might inherit a blessing.

The word of the Lord.

740(15) 1 Peter 4.7b-11

Serve one another, using the unique gifts you have received from God.

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

- ⁷ Be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers.
- Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.
- 9 Be hospitable to one another without complaining.
- Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.
- Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(16) 1 John 3.14-18

We should surrender our lives for one another.

A reading from the first letter of John.

- We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another.Whoever does not love abides in death.
- All who hate a brother or sister are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them.
- We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.
- How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?
- Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

The word of the Lord.

740(17) 1 John 4.7-16

All who abide in love, abide in God, and God in them.

A reading from the first letter of John.

- Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
- 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.
- God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.
- In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.
- Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.
- No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.
- By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.
- And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world.
- God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God.
- So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

The word of the Lord.

740(18) 1 John 5.1-5

The victory that conquers the world is our faith.

A reading from the first letter of John.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

- By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.
- For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,
- for whatever is born of God conquers the world.
 And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.
- Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(19)

1 Corinthians 6.13c-15a, 17-20

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

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

- The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.
- And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.
- Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?
- Anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.
- Shun fornication!
 Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself.
- Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?
- For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

740(20) Hebrews 11.1-2, 8-13a

They looked forward to the city God would build for them.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

- Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
- Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.
- By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.
- By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.
- For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.
- By faith Sarah herself, though barren, received power to conceive, even when she was too old, because she considered God faithful who had promised.
- Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."
- All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

741 GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One of these verses may accompany the singing of the Alleluia. If the Alleluia is not sung, the acclamation is omitted.

741(1) Matthew 5.3

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

741(2) Matthew 5.6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right; they shall be satisfied.

741(3)Blessed are the pure of heart,

for they shall see God.

741(4) See Matthew 11.25

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

741(5) Matthew 11.28

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

741(6) Matthew 23.11, 12b

Whoever is greatest among you will serve the rest. All who humble themselves shall be exalted.

741(7) Luke 21.36

Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

741(8) John 8.12

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

741(9) John 8.31b-32

If you stay in my word, you will indeed be my disciples, and you will know the truth, says the Lord.

741(10) John 13.34

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

741(11) John 14.23

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

741(12) John 15.4a, 5b

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

741(13) John 15.9b, 5b

Remain in my love, says the Lord; those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

For convenience, the verses for the acclamation are to be found before each gospel.

742 GOSPEL and ACCLAMATION

The verse may accompany the singing of the acclamation. If the acclamation is not sung, the verse is omitted.

742(1) Matthew 5.3

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Matthew 5.1-12a

Be glad and rejoice, for your reward is great in heaven.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
- Then Jesus began to speak, and taught them, saying:
- 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- ⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will 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 people 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, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." The gospel of the Lord.

742(2)
John 8.12

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Matthew 5.13-16

You are the light of the world.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples,

- "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.
- "You are the light of the world.A city built on a hill cannot be hid.
- No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.
- "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(3) John 14.23

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

Matthew 7.21-27

The wise build on rock, not sand.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples,

- "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.
- "On that day many will say to me,
 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name,
 and cast out demons in your name,
 and do many deeds of power in your name?'
- Then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; go away from me, you evildoers.'

- ²⁴ "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.
- The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.
- "And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand.
- The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"

The gospel of the Lord.

742(4) See Matthew 11.25

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Matthew 11.25-30

Father, you have not shown these things to the learned, but you have revealed them to infants.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- At that time, Jesus exclaimed:
 "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
 because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent
 and have revealed them to infants;
- yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.
- "All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
- "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.
- Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
- For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(5) John 15.9b, 5b

Remain in my love, says the Lord; those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

Matthew 13.44-46

Those who find treasure hidden in a field sell all to buy that field.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds:

- "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; the finder joyfully goes home, sells everything and buys that field.
- "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;
- on finding one pearl of great value, the merchant went and sold everything and bought that pearl."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(6) Matthew 5.6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right; they shall be satisfied.

Matthew 16.24-27

Those who lose their life for my sake will, indeed, find it.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Jesus told his disciples,
 - "If any want to become my followers,
 - let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
- For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.
- "For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?
 - Or what will they give in return for their life?
- "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

742(7) Matthew 23.11, 12b

Whoever is greatest among you will serve the rest. All who humble themselves shall be exalted.

Matthew 18.1-5

Unless you change and become like little children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

- The disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"
- Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, and said,
- "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(8) (for religious)

John 8.31b-32

If you stay in my word, you will indeed be my disciples, and you will know the truth, says the Lord.

Matthew 19.3-12

Some have chosen a single life for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- Some Pharisees came to Jesus, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?"
- 4 Jesus answered.
 - "Have you not read that the one who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,'
- 5 and said.
 - 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?
- So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

 Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."
- 7 The Pharisees said to Jesus, "Why then did Moses command us to give a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her?"

- Jesus said to them, "It was because you were so hard-hearted that Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.
- "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another, commits adultery."
- His disciples said to Jesus,

 "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry."
- But Jesus said to them,
 "Not everyone can accept this teaching,
 but only those to whom it is given.
- For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.

 Let anyone accept this who can."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(9) Matthew 5.3

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Matthew 19.27-29

You who have given up everything and followed me will receive a hundredfold in return.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I tall you it will be

"Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven."

- Then Peter said in reply,
 "Look, we have left everything and followed you.
 What then will we have?"
- Jesus said to them,
 "Truly I tell you,
 at the renewal of all things,
 when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory,
 you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones,
 judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(10) John 13.34

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Matthew 22.34-40

You shall love the Lord your God; and you shall love your neighbour as you love yourself.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.
- When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together,
- and one of them, a lawyer, asked Jesus a question to test him.
- "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"
- Jesus said to him,
 "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
 and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'
- This is the greatest and first commandment.
- And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'
- On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(11) Matthew 5.8

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.

Matthew 25.1-13

Behold, the bridegroom! Go out to greet him!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

- "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this.Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.
- ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
- When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them;
- but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.
- As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.

- "But at midnight there was a shout,'Look! Here is the bridegroom!Come out to meet him.'
- 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.
- The foolish said to the wise,
 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
- But the wise replied,
 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us;
 you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'
- "And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.
- Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.'
- But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.'"
- Jesus told the disciples, "Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." The gospel of the Lord.

742(12)
John 14.23

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

Matthew 25.14-30

You have proven trustworthy in a few things; enter into the joy of your master.

The shorter version (14-21) concludes at the asterisk.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus, teaching his disciples about the kingdom of heaven, told them this parable:

- "A man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them;
- to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability.Then he went away.
- "The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents.
- In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.
- But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

- "After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.
- Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.'
- His master said to him,

 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
 you have been trustworthy in a few things,
 I will put you in charge of many things;
 enter into the joy of your master.' *
- "And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.'
- His master said to him,

 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
 you have been trustworthy in a few things,
 I will put you in charge of many things;
 enter into the joy of your master.'
- "Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed;
- so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.'
- 26 But his master replied,
 'You wicked and lazy slave!
 You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?
- Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.
- 28 "'So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.
- For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.
- As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"
 - The gospel of the Lord.

742(13) (for those who work for the disadvantaged)

John 13.34

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Matthew 25.31-46

Whatever you do the least of mine, you do also to me.

The shorter version (31-40) concludes at the asterisk.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.
- All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
- and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.
- "Then the king will say to those at his right hand,
 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father,
 inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;
- for I was hungry and you gave me food,
 I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
 I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
- I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'
- "Then the righteous will answer him,
 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food,
 or thirsty and gave you something to drink?
- And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?
- And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'
- And the king will answer them,
 'Truly I tell you,
 just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine,
 you did it to me.' *
- "Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;

- for I was hungry and you gave me no food,
 I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,
- I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'
- "Then they also will answer,
 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty
 or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison,
 and did not take care of you?'
- Then he will answer them,
 'Truly I tell you,
 just as you did not do it to one of the least of these,
 you did not do it to me.'
- And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(14)John 8.31b-32

If you stay in my word, you will indeed be my disciples, and you will know the truth, says the Lord.

Mark 3.31-35

Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus' mother and his brothers arrived at the house where he was; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him.
- A crowd was sitting around Jesus; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you."
- And Jesus replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?"
- And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!
- Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(15) (for teachers)

See Matthew 11.25

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Mark 9.33-37

Whoever welcomes a child such as this, welcomes me.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- Jesus and the disciples came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house Jesus asked them.
 - "What were you arguing about on the way?"
- But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.
- Jesus sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."
- Then he took a little child and put it among the disciples; and taking it in his arms, Jesus said to them,
- "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me, welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

 The gospel of the Lord.

742(16) (for teachers)

See Matthew 11.25

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Mark 10.13-16

Let the little children come to me.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- People were bringing little children to Jesus in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them.
- But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to the disciples, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.
- Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it."
- And he took the children up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.
 - The gospel of the Lord.

742(17) Matthew 5.3

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Mark 10.17-30

Sell your possessions; come, follow me.

The shorter version (17-27) concludes at the asterisk.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

- As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- Jesus said to him,"Why do you call me good?No one is good but God alone.
- "You know the commandments:

 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery;
 You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness;
 You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother."
- The man said to Jesus, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth."
- Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said,
 "You lack one thing;
 go, sell what you own,
 and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven;
 then come, follow me."
- When the man heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.
- Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"
- And the disciples were perplexed at these words.

 But Jesus said to them again,

 "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!
- It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."
- They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?"
- Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." *

- Peter began to say to Jesus, "Look, we have left everything and followed you."
- Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,
- who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—
 houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—
 and in the age to come eternal life."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(18) John 13.34

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Luke 6.27-38

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 27 "I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
- bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.
- If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.
- Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again.
- "Do to others as you would have them do to you.
- If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.
- If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.
- If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you?

 Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.
- "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return.

Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

- "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.
- Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned.

"Forgive, and you will be forgiven;

give, and it will be given to you.

A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(19) (for religious)

John 8.12

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Luke 9.57-62

Wherever you go, I will follow you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- As Jesus and his disciples were going along the road, someone said to Jesus,
 "I will follow you wherever you go."
- And Jesus said to him,
 "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests;
 but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."
- To another Jesus said, "Follow me."
 But this one said,
 "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."
- But Jesus said to him,
 "Let the dead bury their own dead;
 but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."
- Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home."
- Jesus said to him,
 "No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(20)
John 14.23

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.

Luke 10.38-42

Martha offers Jesus her hospitality, Mary offers him her attention.

- A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.
- Jesus entered a village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home.
- She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying.
- But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell Mary to help me."
- But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things;
- there is need of only one thing.

 Mary has chosen the better part,
 which will not be taken away from her."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(21) (for religious)

Matthew 5.3

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Luke 12.32-34

It has pleased the Father to give you the kingdom.

★ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples,

- "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
- Sell your possessions, and give alms.

 Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.
- For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
 - The gospel of the Lord.

742(22)

Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man.

Luke 12.35-40

Be prepared, always.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit;
- be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.
- 37 Blessed are those slaves
 whom the master finds alert when he comes;
 truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt
 and have them sit down to eat,
 and he will come and serve them.
- "If the master comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.
- "But know this:if the owner of the househad known at what hour the thief was coming,he would not have let his house be broken into.
- You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(23) (for religious)

Matthew 5.3

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Luke 14.25-33

You cannot be my disciple if you do not give up your possessions.

₩ A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them,
- "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, spouse and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.

- Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.
- "For which of you,intending to build a tower,does not first sit down and estimate the cost,to see whether he has enough to complete it?
- Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him,
- saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'
- "Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand?
- If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.
- "So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(24)John 15.9b, 5b

Remain in my love, says the Lord; those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

John 15.1-8

Those who abide in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

⚠ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.
- He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit, he prunes to make it bear more fruit.
- You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.
- Abide in me as I abide in you.

 Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.
- I am the vine, you are the branches.

 Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

- Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.
- "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(25)

John 13.34

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

John 15.9-17

You are my friends, if you do as I have told you to do.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

- 9 "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
- If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
- "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- "You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
- "You did not choose me but I chose you.

 And I appointed you to go and bear fruit,
 fruit that will last,
 so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The gospel of the Lord.

742(26) John 15.9b, 5b

Remain in my love, says the Lord; those who live in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit.

John 17.20-26

It is my desire that those you have given me, Father, may be with me where I am.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

When the hour had come for Jesus to pass from this world to his Father, he raised his eyes to heaven and prayed, saying:

- "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word,
- that they may all be one.
 As you, Father, are in me and I am in you,
 may they also be in us,
 so that the world may believe that you have sent me.
- "The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,
- I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.
- "Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.
- 25 "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me.
- I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(27) Luke 7.16

A great prophet has appeared among us, God has visited his people.

Luke 7.11-17 Young man, I say to you, rise!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

- Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him.
- As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town.
- When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep."
- Then Jesus came forward and touched the pallet, and the bearers stood still.

 And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!"
- The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.
- Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favourably on his people!"
- This word about Jesus spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

The gospel of the Lord.

742(28) John 8.12

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

John 11.17-27

I am the resurrection and the life.

- ★ A reading from the holy gospel according to John.
- When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.
- Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away,
- and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.
- When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home.

- Martha said to Jesus,
 "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.
- But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him."
- Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."
- Martha said to him,

"I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus said to her,

"I am the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me,

even though they die, will live,

- and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
- She said to him,
 "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah,
 the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

The gospel of the Lord.

742(29) John 15.15b

I call you my friends, says the Lord, for I have made known to you all that the Father has told me.

John 15.12-17

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

During the supper, before he departed to the Father, Jesus said to the disciples,

- "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
- "You did not choose me but I chose you.

 And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

The gospel of the Lord.

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