

Year A

Day 1

DECEMBER 1, 2013

First Sunday of Advent
Lectionary: 1

Reading 1 **IS 2:1-5**

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz,
saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
In days to come,
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest mountain
and raised above the hills.
All nations shall stream toward it;
many peoples shall come and say:
"Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may instruct us in his ways,
and we may walk in his paths."
For from Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and impose terms on many peoples.
They shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
one nation shall not raise the sword against
another,
nor shall they train for war again.
O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Responsorial Psalm **PS 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9**

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
I rejoiced because they said to me,
"We will go up to the house of the LORD."
And now we have set foot
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
Jerusalem, built as a city
with compact unity.
To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD.
R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

According to the decree for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
In it are set up judgment seats,
seats for the house of David.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
May those who love you prosper!
May peace be within your walls,
prosperity in your buildings.
R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.
Because of my brothers and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you!"
Because of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will pray for your good.
R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Day 2

DECEMBER 2, 2013

Monday of the First Week of Advent
Lectionary: 175

Reading 1 **IS 4:2-6**

On that day,
The branch of the LORD will be luster and glory,
and the fruit of the earth will be honor and
splendor
for the survivors of Israel.
He who remains in Zion
and he who is left in Jerusalem
Will be called holy:
every one marked down for life in Jerusalem.
When the LORD washes away
the filth of the daughters of Zion,
And purges Jerusalem's blood from her midst
with a blast of searing judgment,
Then will the LORD create,
over the whole site of Mount Zion
and over her place of assembly,
A smoking cloud by day
and a light of flaming fire by night.
For over all, the LORD's glory will be shelter and
protection:
shade from the parching heat of day,
refuge and cover from storm and rain.

Responsorial Psalm PS 122:1-2, 3-4B, 4CD-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced because they said to me,
"We will go up to the house of the LORD."

And now we have set foot
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Jerusalem, built as a city
with compact unity.

To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

According to the decree for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

In it are set up judgment seats,
seats for the house of David.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
May those who love you prosper!
May peace be within your walls,
prosperity in your buildings.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Because of my relatives and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you!"

Because of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will pray for your good.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Day 3

DECEMBER 3, 2013

Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest
Lectionary: 176

Reading 1 IS 11:1-10

On that day,
A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,
and from his roots a bud shall blossom.
The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him:
a Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
A Spirit of counsel and of strength,
a Spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD,
and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD.
Not by appearance shall he judge,
nor by hearsay shall he decide,

But he shall judge the poor with justice,
and decide aright for the land's afflicted.
He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his
mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the
wicked.

Justice shall be the band around his waist,
and faithfulness a belt upon his hips.

Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
The calf and the young lion shall browse
together,
with a little child to guide them.
The cow and the bear shall be neighbors,
together their young shall rest;
the lion shall eat hay like the ox.
The baby shall play by the cobra's den,
and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair.
There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy
mountain;
for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the
LORD,
as water covers the sea.

On that day,
The root of Jesse,
set up as a signal for the nations,
The Gentiles shall seek out,
for his dwelling shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

R. (see 7) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

He shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help
him.

He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save.

**R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and
fullness of peace for ever.**

May his name be blessed forever;
as long as the sun his name shall remain.
In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed;
all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.

**R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and
fullness of peace for ever.**

Day 4

DECEMBER 4, 2013

Wednesday of the First Week of Advent
Lectionary: 177

Reading 1 [IS 25:6-10A](#)

On this mountain the LORD of hosts
will provide for all peoples
A feast of rich food and choice wines,
juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines.
On this mountain he will destroy
the veil that veils all peoples,
The web that is woven over all nations;
he will destroy death forever.
The Lord GOD will wipe away
the tears from all faces;
The reproach of his people he will remove
from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.

On that day it will be said:
“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
This is the LORD for whom we looked;
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”
For the hand of the LORD will rest on this
mountain.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6](#)

**R. (6cd) I shall live in the house of the Lord all
the days of my life.**
The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
Beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the
days of my life.**

He guides me in right paths
for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
With your rod and your staff
that give me courage.

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the
days of my life.**

You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the
days of my life.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come.

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord all the
days of my life.**

Day 5

DECEMBER 5, 2013

Thursday of the First Week of Advent
Lectionary: 178

Reading 1 [IS 26:1-6](#)

On that day they will sing this song in the land of
Judah:

“A strong city have we;
he sets up walls and ramparts to protect us.
Open up the gates
to let in a nation that is just,
one that keeps faith.
A nation of firm purpose you keep in peace;
in peace, for its trust in you.”

Trust in the LORD forever!
For the LORD is an eternal Rock.

He humbles those in high places,
and the lofty city he brings down;
He tumbles it to the ground,
levels it with the dust.
It is trampled underfoot by the needy,
by the footsteps of the poor.

Responsorial Psalm PS 118:1 AND 8-9,
19-21, 25-27A

R. (26a) Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to trust in man.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to trust in princes.

R. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Open to me the gates of justice;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.
This gate is the LORD's;
the just shall enter it.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and have been my savior.

R. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

or:

R. Alleluia.

O LORD, grant salvation!

O LORD, grant prosperity!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD;

we bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and he has given us light.

R. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Day 6

DECEMBER 6, 2013

Friday of the First Week of Advent

Lectionary: 179

Reading 1 IS 29:17-24

Thus says the Lord GOD:

But a very little while,
and Lebanon shall be changed into an orchard,
and the orchard be regarded as a forest!

On that day the deaf shall hear
the words of a book;

And out of gloom and darkness,
the eyes of the blind shall see.

The lowly will ever find joy in the LORD,
and the poor rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

For the tyrant will be no more
and the arrogant will have gone;

All who are alert to do evil will be cut off,
those whose mere word condemns a man,
Who ensnare his defender at the gate,
and leave the just man with an empty claim.

Therefore thus says the LORD,
the God of the house of Jacob,
who redeemed Abraham:

Now Jacob shall have nothing to be ashamed of,
nor shall his face grow pale.

When his children see
the work of my hands in his midst,

They shall keep my name holy;

they shall reverence the Holy One of Jacob,
and be in awe of the God of Israel.

Those who err in spirit shall acquire
understanding,

and those who find fault shall receive
instruction.

Responsorial Psalm PS 27:1, 4, 13-14

R. (1a) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear?

The LORD is my life's refuge;
of whom should I be afraid?

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

One thing I ask of the LORD;
this I seek:
To dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
That I may gaze on the loveliness of the LORD
and contemplate his temple.
R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.
I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD
in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD with courage;
be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.
R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Day 7

DECEMBER 7, 2013

Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and
Doctor of the Church
Lectionary: 180

Reading 1 **IS 30:19-21, 23-26**

Thus says the Lord GOD,
the Holy One of Israel:
O people of Zion, who dwell in Jerusalem,
no more will you weep;
He will be gracious to you when you cry out,
as soon as he hears he will answer you.
The Lord will give you the bread you need
and the water for which you thirst.
No longer will your Teacher hide himself,
but with your own eyes you shall see your
Teacher,
While from behind, a voice shall sound in your
ears:
“This is the way; walk in it,”
when you would turn to the right or to the left.

He will give rain for the seed
that you sow in the ground,
And the wheat that the soil produces
will be rich and abundant.
On that day your flock will be given pasture
and the lamb will graze in spacious meadows;
The oxen and the asses that till the ground
will eat silage tossed to them
with shovel and pitchfork.

Upon every high mountain and lofty hill
there will be streams of running water.
On the day of the great slaughter,
when the towers fall,
The light of the moon will be like that of the sun
and the light of the sun will be seven times
greater
like the light of seven days.
On the day the LORD binds up the wounds of his
people,
he will heal the bruises left by his blows.

Responsorial Psalm **PS 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6**

R. (see Isaiah 30:18d) **Blessed are all who wait
for the Lord.**

Praise the LORD, for he is good;
sing praise to our God, for he is gracious;
it is fitting to praise him.

The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem;
the dispersed of Israel he gathers.

R. Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.

He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.
He tells the number of the stars;
he calls each by name.

R. Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.
Great is our LORD and mighty in power:
to his wisdom there is no limit.

The LORD sustains the lowly;
the wicked he casts to the ground.

R. Blessed are all who wait for the Lord.

Day 8

DECEMBER 8, 2013

Second Sunday of Advent
Lectionary: 4

Reading 1 **IS 11:1-10**

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump
of Jesse,
and from his roots a bud shall blossom.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him:
a spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
a spirit of counsel and of strength,
a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD,

and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD.
 Not by appearance shall he judge,
 nor by hearsay shall he decide,
 but he shall judge the poor with justice,
 and decide aright for the land's afflicted.
 He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his
 mouth,
 and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the
 wicked.
 Justice shall be the band around his waist,
 and faithfulness a belt upon his hips.
 Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb,
 and the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
 the calf and the young lion shall browse
 together,
 with a little child to guide them.
 The cow and the bear shall be neighbors,
 together their young shall rest;
 the lion shall eat hay like the ox.
 The baby shall play by the cobra's den,
 and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair.
 There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy
 mountain;
 for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the
 LORD,
 as water covers the sea.
 On that day, the root of Jesse,
 set up as a signal for the nations,
 the Gentiles shall seek out,
 for his dwelling shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17](#)

R. (cf. 7) **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**
 O God, with your judgment endow the king,
 and with your justice, the king's son;
 he shall govern your people with justice
 and your afflicted ones with judgment.
 R. **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**
 Justice shall flower in his days,
 and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
 May he rule from sea to sea,
 and from the River to the ends of the earth.
 R. **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
 and the afflicted when he has no one to help
 him.
 He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
 the lives of the poor he shall save.
 R. **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**
 May his name be blessed forever;
 as long as the sun his name shall remain.
 In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed;
 all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.
 R. **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

Day 9

DECEMBER 9, 2013

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of
 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patronal Feastday of
 the United States of America
 Lectionary: 689

Reading 1 [GN 3:9-15, 20](#)

After the man, Adam, had eaten of the tree,
 the LORD God called to the man and asked him,
 "Where are you?"
 He answered, "I heard you in the garden;
 but I was afraid, because I was naked,
 so I hid myself."
 Then he asked, "Who told you that you were
 naked?"
 You have eaten, then,
 from the tree of which I had forbidden you to
 eat!"
 The man replied, "The woman whom you put
 here with me
 she gave me fruit from the tree, and so I ate it."
 The LORD God then asked the woman,
 "Why did you do such a thing?"
 The woman answered, "The serpent tricked me
 into it, so I ate it."

Then the LORD God said to the serpent:
 "Because you have done this, you shall be
 banned

from all the animals
and from all the wild creatures;
on your belly shall you crawl,
and dirt shall you 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 at your head,
while you strike at his heel.”

The man called his wife Eve,
because she became the mother of all the living.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 2-3AB.](#)
[3CD-4](#)

R. (1) Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done wondrous deeds;
His right hand has won victory for him,
his holy arm.

R. Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.

The LORD has made his salvation known:
in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.

He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness
toward the house of Israel.

R. Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation by our God.
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;
break into song; sing praise.

R. Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.

Day 10

DECEMBER 10, 2013

Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent
Lectionary: 182

Reading 1 [IS 40:1-11](#)

Comfort, give comfort to my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her
that her service is at an end,
her guilt is expiated;
Indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!

Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill shall be made low;
The rugged land shall be made a plain,
the rough country, a broad valley.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

A voice says, “Cry out!”

I answer, “What shall I cry out?”

“All flesh is grass,
and all their glory like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower wilts,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it.
So then, the people is the grass.
Though the grass withers and the flower wilts,
the word of our God stands forever.”

Go up onto a high mountain,
Zion, herald of glad tidings;
Cry out at the top of your voice,
Jerusalem, herald of good news!
Fear not to cry out
and say to the cities of Judah:
Here is your God!
Here comes with power
the Lord GOD,
who rules by his strong arm;
Here is his reward with him,
his recompense before him.
Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;
in his arms he gathers the lambs,
Carrying them in his bosom,
and leading the ewes with care.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 96:1-2, 3 AND 10AC, 11-12, 13](#)

R. (see Isaiah 40:10ab) **The Lord our God comes with power.**

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all you lands.

Sing to the LORD; bless his name;
announce his salvation, day after day.

R. **The Lord our God comes with power.**

Tell his glory among the nations;
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.
Say among the nations: The LORD is king;
he governs the peoples with equity.

R. **The Lord our God comes with power.**

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
let the sea and what fills it resound;
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!
Then let all the trees of the forest rejoice.

R. **The Lord our God comes with power.**

They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes;
for he comes to rule the earth.

He shall rule the world with justice
and the peoples with his constancy.

R. **The Lord our God comes with power.**

Day 11

DECEMBER 11, 2013

Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent
Lectionary: 183

Reading 1 [IS 40:25-31](#)

To whom can you liken me as an equal?
says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high
and see who has created these things:
He leads out their army and numbers them,
calling them all by name.

By his great might and the strength of his power
not one of them is missing!

Why, O Jacob, do you say,
and declare, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?

Do you not know
or have you not heard?

The LORD is the eternal God,
creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint nor grow weary,
and his knowledge is beyond scrutiny.
He gives strength to the fainting;
for the weak he makes vigor abound.
Though young men faint and grow weary,
and youths stagger and fall,
They that hope in the LORD will renew their
strength,
they will soar as with eagles’ wings;
They will run and not grow weary,
walk and not grow faint.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 AND 10](#)

R. (1) **O bless the Lord, my soul!**

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

R. **O bless the Lord, my soul!**

He pardons all your iniquities,
he heals all your ills.

He redeems your life from destruction,
he crowns you with kindness and compassion.

R. **O bless the Lord, my soul!**

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

R. **O bless the Lord, my soul!**

Day 12

DECEMBER 12, 2013

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Lectionary: 690A

Reading 1 [ZEC 2:14-17](#)

Sing and rejoice, O daughter Zion!
See, I am coming to dwell among you, says the
LORD.

Many nations shall join themselves to the LORD
on that day,
and they shall be his people,

and he will dwell among you,
and you shall know that the LORD of hosts has
sent me to you.
The LORD will possess Judah as his portion in
the holy land,
and he will again choose Jerusalem.
Silence, all mankind, in the presence of the
LORD!
For he stirs forth from his holy dwelling.

Or **RV 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB**

God's temple in heaven was opened,
and the ark of his covenant could be seen in the
temple.

A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman
clothed with the sun,
with the moon under her feet,
and on her head a crown of twelve stars.
She was with child and wailed aloud in pain as
she labored to give birth.
Then another sign appeared in the sky;
it was a huge red dragon, with seven heads and
ten horns,
and on its heads were seven diadems.
Its tail swept away a third of the stars in the sky
and hurled them down to the earth.
Then the dragon stood before the woman about
to give birth,
to devour her child when she gave birth.
She gave birth to a son, a male child,
destined to rule all the nations with an iron rod.
Her child was caught up to God and his throne.
The woman herself fled into the desert
where she had a place prepared by God.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:
"Now have salvation and power come,
and the Kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Anointed."

Responsorial Psalm **JDT 13:18BCDE, 19**

R. (15:9d) **You are the highest honor of our race.**
Blessed are you, daughter, by the Most High

God,
above all the women on earth;
and blessed be the LORD God,
the creator of heaven and earth.
R. **You are the highest honor of our race.**
Your deed of hope will never be forgotten
by those who tell of the might of God.
R. **You are the highest honor of our race.**

Day 13

DECEMBER 13, 2013

Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Lectionary: 185

Reading 1 **IS 48:17-19**

Thus says the LORD, your redeemer,
the Holy One of Israel:
I, the LORD, your God,
teach you what is for your good,
and lead you on the way you should go.
If you would hearken to my commandments,
your prosperity would be like a river,
and your vindication like the waves of the sea;
Your descendants would be like the sand,
and those born of your stock like its grains,
Their name never cut off
or blotted out from my presence.

Responsorial Psalm **PS 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6**

R. (see John 8:12) **Those who follow you, Lord,
will have the light of life.**

Blessed the man who follows not
the counsel of the wicked
Nor walks in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the company of the insolent,
But delights in the law of the LORD
and meditates on his law day and night.

R. **Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light
of life.**

He is like a tree
planted near running water,
That yields its fruit in due season,
and whose leaves never fade.

Whatever he does, prospers.

R. **Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light**

of life.

Not so the wicked, not so;
they are like chaff which the wind drives away.
For the LORD watches over the way of the just,
but the way of the wicked vanishes.

R. Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.

Day 14

DECEMBER 14, 2013

Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest
and Doctor of the Church
Lectionary: 186

Reading 1 SIR 48:1-4, 9-11

In those days,
like a fire there appeared the prophet Elijah
whose words were as a flaming furnace.
Their staff of bread he shattered,
in his zeal he reduced them to straits;
By the Lord's word he shut up the heavens
and three times brought down fire.
How awesome are you, Elijah, in your wondrous
deeds!
Whose glory is equal to yours?
You were taken aloft in a whirlwind of fire,
in a chariot with fiery horses.
You were destined, it is written, in time to come
to put an end to wrath before the day of the
LORD,
To turn back the hearts of fathers toward their
sons,
and to re-establish the tribes of Jacob.
Blessed is he who shall have seen you
and who falls asleep in your friendship.

Responsorial Psalm PS 80:2AC AND 3B, 15-16, 18-19

R. (4) Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.
O shepherd of Israel, hearken,
From your throne upon the cherubim, shine
forth.
Rouse your power.
R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face

and we shall be saved.

Once again, O LORD of hosts,
look down from heaven, and see;
Take care of this vine,
and protect what your right hand has planted
the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

May your help be with the man of your right
hand,
with the son of man whom you yourself made
strong.

Then we will no more withdraw from you;
give us new life, and we will call upon your
name.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Day 15

DECEMBER 15, 2013

Third Sunday of Advent
Lectionary: 7

Reading 1 IS 35:1-6A, 10

The desert and the parched land will exult;
the steppe will rejoice and bloom.
They will bloom with abundant flowers,
and rejoice with joyful song.
The glory of Lebanon will be given to them,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.
Strengthen the hands that are feeble,
make firm the knees that are weak,
say to those whose hearts are frightened:
Be strong, fear not!
Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense
he comes to save you.
Then will the eyes of the blind be opened,
the ears of the deaf be cleared;
then will the lame leap like a stag,
then the tongue of the mute will sing.

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will
return
and enter Zion singing,
crowned with everlasting joy;
they will meet with joy and gladness,
sorrow and mourning will flee.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10](#)

R. (cf. Is 35:4) **Lord, come and save us.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

The LORD God keeps faith forever,
secures justice for the oppressed,
gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets captives free.

R. **Lord, come and save us.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

The LORD gives sight to the blind;
the LORD raises up those who were bowed
down.

The LORD loves the just;
the LORD protects strangers.

R. **Lord, come and save us.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

The fatherless and the widow he sustains,
but the way of the wicked he thwarts.
The LORD shall reign forever;
your God, O Zion, through all generations.

R. **Lord, come and save us.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Day 16

DECEMBER 16, 2013

Monday of the Third Week of Advent
Lectionary: 187

Reading 1 [NM 24:2-7, 15-17A](#)

When Balaam raised his eyes and saw Israel
encamped, tribe by tribe,
the spirit of God came upon him,
and he gave voice to his oracle:

The utterance of Balaam, son of Beor,
the utterance of a man whose eye is true,
The utterance of one who hears what God says,
and knows what the Most High knows,
Of one who sees what the Almighty sees,
enraptured, and with eyes unveiled:
How goodly are your tents, O Jacob;
your encampments, O Israel!
They are like gardens beside a stream,
like the cedars planted by the LORD.
His wells shall yield free-flowing waters,
he shall have the sea within reach;
His king shall rise higher,
and his royalty shall be exalted.

Then Balaam gave voice to his oracle:

The utterance of Balaam, son of Beor,
the utterance of the man whose eye is true,
The utterance of one who hears what God says,
and knows what the Most High knows,
Of one who sees what the Almighty sees,
enraptured, and with eyes unveiled.
I see him, though not now;
I behold him, though not near:
A star shall advance from Jacob,
and a staff shall rise from Israel.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 25:4-5AB, 6 AND 7BC, 8-9](#)

R. (4) **Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.

R. **Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

Remember that your compassion, O LORD,
and your kindness are from of old.

In your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. **Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way.

He guides the humble to justice,
he teaches the humble his way.

R. **Teach me your ways, O Lord.**

Day 17

DECEMBER 17, 2013

Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent

Lectionary: 193

Reading 1 GN 49:2, 8-10

Jacob called his sons and said to them:

“Assemble and listen, sons of Jacob,
listen to Israel, your father.

“You, Judah, shall your brothers praise
—your hand on the neck of your enemies;
the sons of your father shall bow down to you.
Judah, like a lion’s whelp,
you have grown up on prey, my son.
He crouches like a lion recumbent,
the king of beasts—who would dare rouse him?
The scepter shall never depart from Judah,
or the mace from between his legs,
While tribute is brought to him,
and he receives the people’s homage.”

Responsorial Psalm PS 72:1-2, 3-4AB, 7-8, 17

R. (see 7) **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king’s son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

The mountains shall yield peace for the people,
and the hills justice.

He shall defend the afflicted among the people,
save the children of the poor.

R. **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R. **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness**

of peace for ever.

May his name be blessed forever;

as long as the sun his name shall remain.

In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed;
all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.

R. **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

Day 18

DECEMBER 18, 2013

Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent

Lectionary: 194

Reading 1 JER 23:5-8

Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD,
when I will raise up a righteous shoot to David;
As king he shall reign and govern wisely,
he shall do what is just and right in the land.
In his days Judah shall be saved,
Israel shall dwell in security.
This is the name they give him:
“The LORD our justice.”

Therefore, the days will come, says the LORD,
when they shall no longer say, “As the LORD
lives,
who brought the children of Israel out of the
land of Egypt”;
but rather, “As the LORD lives,
who brought the descendants of the house of
Israel
up from the land of the north”—
and from all the lands to which I banished them;
they shall again live on their own land.

Responsorial Psalm PS 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19

R. (see 7) **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king’s son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.

He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous deeds.

And blessed forever be his glorious name;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Day 19

DECEMBER 19, 2013

Thursday of Third Week of Advent
Lectionary: 195

Reading 1 **JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A**

There was a certain man from Zorah, of the clan
of the Danites,
whose name was Manoah.

His wife was barren and had borne no children.

An angel of the LORD appeared to the woman
and said to her,

“Though you are barren and have had no
children,

yet you will conceive and bear a son.

Now, then, be careful to take no wine or strong
drink

and to eat nothing unclean.

As for the son you will conceive and bear,
no razor shall touch his head,

for this boy is to be consecrated to God from the
womb.

It is he who will begin the deliverance of Israel
from the power of the Philistines.”

The woman went and told her husband,

“A man of God came to me;

he had the appearance of an angel of God,
terrible indeed.

I did not ask him where he came from, nor did
he tell me his name.

But he said to me,

‘You will be with child and will bear a son.

So take neither wine nor strong drink, and eat
nothing unclean.

For the boy shall be consecrated to God from the
womb,
until the day of his death.”

The woman bore a son and named him Samson.

The boy grew up and the LORD blessed him;
the Spirit of the LORD stirred him.

Responsorial Psalm **PS 71:3-4A, 5-6AB, 16-17**

**R. (see 8) My mouth shall be filled with your
praise, and I will sing your glory!**

Be my rock of refuge,

a stronghold to give me safety,

for you are my rock and my fortress.

O my God, rescue me from the hand of the
wicked.

**R. My mouth shall be filled with your praise, and I
will sing your glory!**

For you are my hope, O LORD;

my trust, O God, from my youth.

On you I depend from birth;

from my mother’s womb you are my strength.

**R. My mouth shall be filled with your praise, and I
will sing your glory!**

I will treat of the mighty works of the LORD;

O God, I will tell of your singular justice.

O God, you have taught me from my youth,

and till the present I proclaim your wondrous
deeds.

**R. My mouth shall be filled with your praise, and I
will sing your glory!**

Day 20

DECEMBER 20, 2013

Friday of Third Week of Advent
Lectionary: 196

Reading 1 [IS 7:10-14](#)

The LORD spoke to Ahaz:
Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God;
let it be deep as the nether world, or high as the sky!
But Ahaz answered,
“I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!”
Then Isaiah said:
Listen, O house of David!
Is it not enough for you to weary men,
must you also weary my God?
Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign:
the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall name him Emmanuel.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 24:1-2, 3-4AB, 5-6](#)

R. (see 7c and 10b) **Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.**

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it.
For he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

R. **Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.**
Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?
or who may stand in his holy place?
He whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean,
who desires not what is vain.

R. **Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.**
He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,
a reward from God his savior.
Such is the race that seeks for him,
that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.
R. **Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.**

Day 21

DECEMBER 21, 2013

Saturday of the Third Week of Advent
Lectionary: 197

Reading 1 [SG 2:8-14](#)

Hark! my lover—here he comes
springing across the mountains,
leaping across the hills.
My lover is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Here he stands behind our wall,
gazing through the windows,
peering through the lattices.
My lover speaks; he says to me,
“Arise, my beloved, my dove, my beautiful one,
and come!
“For see, the winter is past,
the rains are over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of pruning the vines has come,
and the song of the dove is heard in our land.
The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines, in bloom, give forth fragrance.
Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one,
and come!

“O my dove in the clefts of the rock,
in the secret recesses of the cliff,
Let me see you,
let me hear your voice,
For your voice is sweet,
and you are lovely.”

Or [ZEP 3:14-18A](#)

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!
Sing joyfully, O Israel!
Be glad and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
The LORD has removed the judgment against you,
he has turned away your enemies;

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.
On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged!
The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a mighty savior;
He will rejoice over you with gladness,
and renew you in his love,
He will sing joyfully because of you,
as one sings at festivals.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21](#)

R. (1a; 3a) **Exult, you just, in the Lord! Sing to him a new song.**

Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;
with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises.
Sing to him a new song;
pluck the strings skillfully, with shouts of
gladness.

R. **Exult, you just, in the Lord! Sing to him a new song.**

But the plan of the LORD stands forever;
the design of his heart, through all generations.
Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people he has chosen for his own
inheritance.

R. **Exult, you just, in the Lord! Sing to him a new song.**

Our soul waits for the LORD,
who is our help and our shield,
For in him our hearts rejoice;
in his holy name we trust.

R. **Exult, you just, in the Lord! Sing to him a new song.**

Day 22

DECEMBER 22, 2013

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Lectionary: 10

Reading 1 [IS 7:10-14](#)

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying:
Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God;
let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the

sky!

But Ahaz answered,

“I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!”

Then Isaiah said:

Listen, O house of David!

Is it not enough for you to weary people,
must you also weary my God?

Therefore the Lord himself will give you this
sign:

the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,
and shall name him Emmanuel.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6](#)

R. (7c and 10b) **Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;
the world and those who dwell in it.

For he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

R. **Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?
or who may stand in his holy place?

One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is
clean,

who desires not what is vain.

R. **Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,
a reward from God his savior.

Such is the race that seeks for him,
that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

R. **Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.**

Day 23

DECEMBER 23, 2013

Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Lectionary: 199

Reading 1 [MAL 3:1-4, 23-24](#)

Thus says the Lord GOD:

Lo, I am sending my messenger

to prepare the way before me;

And suddenly there will come to the temple
the LORD whom you seek,

And the messenger of the covenant whom you
desire.

Yes, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.
But who will endure the day of his coming?
And who can stand when he appears?
For he is like the refiner's fire,
or like the fuller's lye.
He will sit refining and purifying silver,
and he will purify the sons of Levi,
Refining them like gold or like silver
that they may offer due sacrifice to the LORD.
Then the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem
will please the LORD,
as in the days of old, as in years gone by.

Lo, I will send you
Elijah, the prophet,
Before the day of the LORD comes,
the great and terrible day,
To turn the hearts of the fathers to their
children,
and the hearts of the children to their fathers,
Lest I come and strike
the land with doom.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 25:4-5AB, 8-9, 10 AND 14](#)

R. (see Luke 21:28) **Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.**

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.

R. **Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.**

Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice,
he teaches the humble his way.

R. **Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.**

All the paths of the LORD are kindness and
constancy
toward those who keep his covenant and his
decrees.
The friendship of the LORD is with those who
fear him,
and his covenant, for their instruction.

R. **Lift up your heads and see; your redemption is near at hand.**

Day 24

DECEMBER 24, 2013

Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent
Lectionary: 200

Reading 1 [2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16](#)

When King David was settled in his palace,
and the LORD had given him rest from his
enemies on every side,
he said to Nathan the prophet,
“Here I am living in a house of cedar,
while the ark of God dwells in a tent!”
Nathan answered the king,
“Go, do whatever you have in mind,
for the LORD is with you.”
But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and
said:
“Go, tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the
LORD:
Should you build me a house to dwell in?

““It was I who took you from the pasture
and from the care of the flock
to be commander of my people Israel.
I have been with you wherever you went,
and I have destroyed all your enemies before
you.

And I will make you famous like the great ones
of the earth.

I will fix a place for my people Israel;
I will plant them so that they may dwell in their
place
without further disturbance.

Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them
as they did of old,

since the time I first appointed judges over my
people Israel.

I will give you rest from all your enemies.

The LORD also reveals to you
that he will establish a house for you.

And when your time comes and you rest with
your ancestors,

I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from
your loins,
and I will make his Kingdom firm.
I will be a father to him,
and he shall be a son to me.
Your house and your Kingdom shall endure
forever before me;
your throne shall stand firm forever.”

Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:2-3, 4-5, 27
AND 29](#)

R. (2) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

The favors of the LORD I will sing forever;
through all generations my mouth shall proclaim
your faithfulness.

For you have said, “My kindness is established
forever”;
in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

“I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to David my servant:
Forever will I confirm your posterity
and establish your throne for all generations.”

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

“He shall say of me, ‘You are my father,
my God, the rock, my savior.’

Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him,
and my covenant with him stands firm.”

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Day 25

DECEMBER 25, 2013 - MASS AT
MIDNIGHT

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
(Christmas)
Lectionary: 14

Reading 1 [IS 9:1-6](#)

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom
a light has shone.
You have brought them abundant joy
and great rejoicing,

as they rejoice before you as at the harvest,
as people make merry when dividing spoils.
For the yoke that burdened them,
the pole on their shoulder,
and the rod of their taskmaster
you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.
For every boot that tramped in battle,
every cloak rolled in blood,
will be burned as fuel for flames.
For a child is born to us, a son is given us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests.
They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero,
Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.
His dominion is vast
and forever peaceful,
from David’s throne, and over his kingdom,
which he confirms and sustains
by judgment and justice,
both now and forever.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

Responsorial Psalm [PS 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-
12, 13](#)

R. (Lk 2:11) Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all you lands.
Sing to the LORD; bless his name.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Announce his salvation, day after day.
Tell his glory among the nations;
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
let the sea and what fills it resound;
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!
Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes;
for he comes to rule the earth.

He shall rule the world with justice
and the peoples with his constancy.

R. Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord.

Day 26

DECEMBER 26, 2013

Feast of Saint Stephen, first martyr
Lectionary: 696

Reading 1 ACTS 6:8-10; 7:54-59

Stephen, filled with grace and power,
was working great wonders and signs among the people.
Certain members of the so-called Synagogue of Freedmen,
Cyrenians, and Alexandrians,
and people from Cilicia and Asia,
came forward and debated with Stephen,
but they could not withstand the wisdom and the spirit with which he spoke.

When they heard this, they were infuriated,
and they ground their teeth at him.
But he, filled with the Holy Spirit,
looked up intently to heaven
and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at
the right hand of God,
and he said,
“Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son
of Man
standing at the right hand of God.”
But they cried out in a loud voice, covered their
ears,
and rushed upon him together.
They threw him out of the city, and began to
stone him.
The witnesses laid down their cloaks
at the feet of a young man named Saul.
As they were stoning Stephen, he called out
“Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”

Responsorial Psalm PS 31:3CD-4, 6 AND 8AB, 16BC AND 17

R. (6) **Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**
Be my rock of refuge,
a stronghold to give me safety.
You are my rock and my fortress;

for your name's sake you will lead and guide me.
R. **Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**
Into your hands I commend my spirit;
you will redeem me, O LORD, O faithful God.
I will rejoice and be glad because of your mercy.
R. **Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**
Rescue me from the clutches of my enemies and
my persecutors.
Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your kindness.
R. **Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

Day 27

DECEMBER 27, 2013

Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
Lectionary: 697

Reading 1 1 JN 1:1-4

Beloved:
What was from the beginning,
what we have heard,
what we have seen with our eyes,
what we looked upon
and touched with our hands
concerns the Word of life —
for the life was made visible;
we have seen it and testify to it
and proclaim to you the eternal life
that was with the Father and was made visible to
us—
what we have seen and heard
we proclaim now to you,
so that you too may have fellowship with us;
for our fellowship is with the Father
and with his Son, Jesus Christ.
We are writing this so that our joy may be
complete.

Responsorial Psalm PS 97:1-2, 5-6, 11- 12

R. (12) **Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**
The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;
let the many isles be glad.
Clouds and darkness are around him,
justice and judgment are the foundation of his

throne.

R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!

The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the LORD of all the earth.

The heavens proclaim his justice,
and all peoples see his glory.

R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!

Light dawns for the just;
and gladness, for the upright of heart.

Be glad in the LORD, you just,
and give thanks to his holy name.

R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!

Day 28

DECEMBER 28, 2013

Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs

Lectionary: 698

Reading 1 1 JN 1:5–2:2

Beloved:

This is the message that we have heard from
Jesus Christ

and proclaim to you:

God is light, and in him there is no darkness at
all.

If we say, “We have fellowship with him,”
while we continue to walk in darkness,
we lie and do not act in truth.

But if we walk in the light as he is in the light,
then we have fellowship with one another,
and the Blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from
all sin.

If we say, “We are without sin,”
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and
just

and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from
every wrongdoing.

If we say, “We have not sinned,” we make him a
liar,
and his word is not in us.

My children, I am writing this to you
so that you may not commit sin.

But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with

the Father,

Jesus Christ the righteous one.

He is expiation for our sins,
and not for our sins only but for those of the
whole world.

Responsorial Psalm PS 124:2-3, 4-5, 7CD-8

**R. (7) Our soul has been rescued like a bird from
the fowler’s snare.**

Had not the LORD been with us—

When men rose up against us,
then would they have swallowed us alive,

When their fury was inflamed against us.

**R. Our soul has been rescued like a bird from the
fowler’s snare.**

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us;
The torrent would have swept over us;
over us then would have swept the raging
waters.

**R. Our soul has been rescued like a bird from the
fowler’s snare.**

Broken was the snare,
and we were freed.

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

**R. Our soul has been rescued like a bird from the
fowler’s snare.**

Day 29

DECEMBER 29, 2013

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and
Joseph

Lectionary: 17

Reading 1 SIR 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother’s authority he confirms over her sons.
Whoever honors his father atones for sins,
and preserves himself from them.

When he prays, he is heard;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.

Whoever honors his father is gladdened by
children,

and, when he prays, is heard.

Whoever reveres his father will live a long life;
he who obeys his father brings comfort to his
mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.
Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him;
revile him not all the days of his life;
kindness to a father will not be forgotten,
firmly planted against the debt of your sins
—a house raised in justice to you.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 128:1-2, 3, 4-5](#)

R. (cf. 1) **Blessed are those who fear the Lord and
walk in his ways.**

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,
who walks in his ways!

For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork;
blessed shall you be, and favored.

R. **Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk
in his ways.**

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
in the recesses of your home;
your children like olive plants
around your table.

R. **Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk
in his ways.**

Behold, thus is the man 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. **Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk
in his ways.**

Day 30

DECEMBER 30, 2013

The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas
Lectionary: 203

Reading 1 [1 JN 2:12-17](#)

I am writing to you, children,
because your sins have been forgiven for his
name's sake.

I am writing to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the
beginning.

I am writing to you, young men,
because you have conquered the Evil One.

I write to you, children,
because you know the Father.

I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the
beginning.

I write to you, young men,
because you are strong and the word of God
remains in you,
and you have conquered the Evil One.

Do not love the world or the things of the world.
If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father
is not in him.

For all that is in the world,
sensual lust, enticement for the eyes, and a
pretentious life,
is not from the Father but is from the world.
Yet the world and its enticement are passing
away.

But whoever does the will of God remains
forever.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 96:7-8A, 8B-9, 10](#)

R. (11a) **Let the heavens be glad and the earth
rejoice!**

Give to the LORD, you families of nations,
give to the LORD glory and praise;
give to the LORD the glory due his name!

R. **Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!**

Bring gifts, and enter his courts;
worship the LORD in holy attire.
Tremble before him, all the earth.

R. **Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!**

Say among the nations: The LORD is king.
He has made the world firm, not to be moved;
he governs the peoples with equity.

R. **Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!**

Day 31

DECEMBER 31, 2013

The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas
Lectionary: 204

Reading 1 [JN 2:18-21](#)

Children, it is the last hour;
and just as you heard that the antichrist was
coming,
so now many antichrists have appeared.
Thus we know this is the last hour.
They went out from us, but they were not really
of our number;
if they had been, they would have remained with
us.
Their desertion shows that none of them was of
our number.
But you have the anointing that comes from the
Holy One,
and you all have knowledge.
I write to you not because you do not know the
truth
but because you do, and because every lie is
alien to the truth.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 96:1-2, 11-12, 13](#)

R. (11a) **Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!**

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all you lands.
Sing to the LORD; bless his name;
announce his salvation, day after day.

R. **Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!**

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
let the sea and what fills it resound;
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!
Then shall all the trees of the forest exult before
the LORD.

R. **Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!**

The LORD comes,
he comes to rule the earth.
He shall rule the world with justice
and the peoples with his constancy.

R. **Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!**

Day 32

JANUARY 1, 2014

The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Lectionary: 18

Reading 1 [NM 6:22-27](#)

The LORD said to Moses:
“Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them:
This is how you shall bless the Israelites.
Say to them:
The LORD bless you and keep you!
The LORD let his face shine upon you, and be
gracious to you!
The LORD look upon you kindly and give you
peace!
So shall they invoke my name upon the
Israelites,
and I will bless them.”

Responsorial Psalm [PS 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8](#)

R/ (2a) **May God bless us in his mercy.**

May God have pity on us and bless us;
may he let his face shine upon us.
So may your way be known upon earth;
among all nations, your salvation.

R/ **May God bless us in his mercy.**

May the nations be glad and exult
because you rule the peoples in equity;
the nations on the earth you guide.

R/ **May God bless us in his mercy.**

May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you!
May God bless us,
and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

R/ **May God bless us in his mercy.**

Day 33

JANUARY 2, 2014

Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Lectionary: 205

Reading 1 1 JN 2:22-28

Beloved:

Who is the liar?

Whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ.

Whoever denies the Father and the Son, this is the antichrist.

Anyone who denies the Son does not have the Father,

but whoever confesses the Son has the Father as well.

Let what you heard from the beginning remain in you.

If what you heard from the beginning remains in you,

then you will remain in the Son and in the Father.

And this is the promise that he made us: eternal life.

I write you these things about those who would deceive you.

As for you,

the anointing that you received from him remains in you,

so that you do not need anyone to teach you.

But his anointing teaches you about everything and is true and not false;

just as it taught you, remain in him.

And now, children, remain in him,

so that when he appears we may have confidence and not be put to shame by him at his coming.

Responsorial Psalm PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4

R. (3cd) **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing to the LORD a new song,

for he has done wondrous deeds;

His right hand has won victory for him,

his holy arm.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

The LORD has made his salvation known: in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.

He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness

toward the house of Israel.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation by our God.

Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands; break into song; sing praise.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Day 34

JANUARY 3, 2014

Christmas Weekday

Lectionary: 206

Reading 1 1 JN 2:29-3:6

If you consider that God is righteous, you also know that everyone who acts in righteousness is begotten by him.

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;

what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,

for we shall see him as he is.

Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure, as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin commits lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness.

You know that he was revealed to take away sins,
and in him there is no sin.
No one who remains in him sins;
no one who sins has seen him or known him.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 3CD-4, 5-6](#)

R. (3cd) **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done wondrous deeds;
His right hand has won victory for him,
his holy arm.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation by our God.
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;
break into song; sing praise.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and melodious song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
sing joyfully before the King, the LORD.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Day 35

[JANUARY 4, 2014](#)

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton,
Religious
Lectionary: 207

Reading 1 [1 JN 3:7-10](#)

Children, let no one deceive you.
The person who acts in righteousness is
righteous,
just as he is righteous.
Whoever sins belongs to the Devil,
because the Devil has sinned from the
beginning.
Indeed, the Son of God was revealed to destroy
the works of the Devil.
No one who is begotten by God commits sin,
because God's seed remains in him;

he cannot sin because he is begotten by God.
In this way,
the children of God and the children of the Devil
are made plain;
no one who fails to act in righteousness belongs
to God,
nor anyone who does not love his brother.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 7-8, 9](#)

R. (3cd) **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done wondrous deeds;
His right hand has won victory for him,
his holy arm.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Let the sea and what fills it resound,
the world and those who dwell in it;
Let the rivers clap their hands,
the mountains shout with them for joy before
the LORD.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

The LORD comes;
he comes to rule the earth;
He will rule the world with justice
and the peoples with equity.

R. **All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.**

Day 36

[JANUARY 5, 2014](#)

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
Lectionary: 20

Reading 1 [IS 60:1-6](#)

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has
come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth,
and thick clouds cover the peoples;
but upon you the LORD shines,
and over you appears his glory.
Nations shall walk by your light,

and kings by your shining radiance.
Raise your eyes and look about;
they all gather and come to you:
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see,
your heart shall throb and overflow,
for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out
before you,
the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.
Caravans of camels shall fill you,
dromedaries from Midian and Ephah;
all from Sheba shall come
bearing gold and frankincense,
and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

R/ (cf. 11) **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R/ **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R/ **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer
gifts;
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.

R/ **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help
him.

He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save.

R/ **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

Day 37

JANUARY 6, 2014

Monday after Epiphany
Lectionary: 212

Reading 1 1 JN 3:22-4:6

Beloved:

We receive from him whatever we ask,
because we keep his commandments and do
what pleases him.

And his commandment is this:

we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus
Christ,

and love one another just as he commanded us.

Those who keep his commandments remain in
him, and he in them,

and the way we know that he remains in us
is from the Spirit whom he gave us.

Beloved, do not trust every spirit

but test the spirits to see whether they belong to
God,

because many false prophets have gone out into
the world.

This is how you can know the Spirit of God:

every spirit that acknowledges Jesus Christ come
in the flesh

belongs to God,

and every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus
does not belong to God.

This is the spirit of the antichrist

who, as you heard, is to come,
but in fact is already in the world.

You belong to God, children, and you have
conquered them,

for the one who is in you

is greater than the one who is in the world.

They belong to the world;

accordingly, their teaching belongs to the world,
and the world listens to them.

We belong to God, and anyone who knows God
listens to us,

while anyone who does not belong to God
refuses to hear us.

This is how we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of deceit.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 2:7BC-8, 10-12A](#)

R. (8ab) **I will give you all the nations for an inheritance.**

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son;
this day I have begotten you.
Ask of me and I will give you
the nations for an inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession."

R. **I will give you all the nations for an inheritance.**

And now, O kings, give heed;
take warning, you rulers of the earth.
Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice before
him;
with trembling rejoice.

R. **I will give you all the nations for an inheritance.**

Day 38

JANUARY 7, 2014

Tuesday after Epiphany

Lectionary: 213

Reading 1 [1 JN 4:7-10](#)

Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is of God;
everyone who loves is begotten by God and
knows God.
Whoever is without love does not know God, for
God is love.
In this way the love of God was revealed to us:
God sent his only-begotten Son into the world
so that we might have life through him.
In this is love:
not that we have loved God, but that he loved us
and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8](#)

R. (see 11) **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice

and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

The mountains shall yield peace for the people,
and the hills justice.

He shall defend the afflicted among the people,
save the children of the poor.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

Day 39

JANUARY 8, 2014

Wednesday after Epiphany

Lectionary: 214

Reading 1 [1 JN 4:11-18](#)

Beloved, if God so loved us,
we also must love one another.
No one has ever seen God.
Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us,
and his love is brought to perfection in us.

This is how we know that we remain in him and
he in us,
that he has given us of his Spirit.
Moreover, we have seen and testify
that the Father sent his Son as savior of the
world.
Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of
God,
God remains in him and he in God.
We have come to know and to believe in the love
God has for us.

God is love, and whoever remains in love
remains in God and God in him.
In this is love brought to perfection among us,
that we have confidence on the day of judgment
because as he is, so are we in this world.
There is no fear in love,
but perfect love drives out fear

because fear has to do with punishment,
and so one who fears is not yet perfect in love.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 72:1-2, 10, 12-13](#)

R. (see 11) **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer
gifts;
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help
him.

He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

Day 40

[JANUARY 9, 2014](#)

Thursday after Epiphany

Lectionary: 215

Reading 1 [1 JN 4:19-5:4](#)

Beloved, we love God because
he first loved us.
If anyone says, "I love God,"
but hates his brother, he is a liar;
for whoever does not love a brother whom he
has seen
cannot love God whom he has not seen.
This is the commandment we have from him:
Whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is
begotten by God,
and everyone who loves the Father
loves also the one begotten by him.
In this way 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 keep his commandments.

And his commandments are not burdensome,
for whoever is begotten by God conquers the
world.

And the victory that conquers the world is our
faith.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 72:1-2, 14 AND
15BC, 17](#)

R. (see 11) **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

From fraud and violence he shall redeem them,
and precious shall their blood be in his sight.

May they be prayed for continually;
day by day shall they bless him.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

May his name be blessed forever;
as long as the sun his name shall remain.

In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed;
all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.

R. **Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

Day 41

[JANUARY 10, 2014](#)

Friday after Epiphany

Lectionary: 216

Reading 1 [1 JN 5:5-13](#)

Beloved:

Who indeed is the victor over the world
but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of
God?

This is the one who came through water and
Blood, Jesus Christ,
not by water alone, but by water and Blood.
The Spirit is the one who testifies,
and the Spirit is truth.

So there are three who testify,
the Spirit, the water, and the Blood,
and the three are of one accord.
If we accept human testimony,
the testimony of God is surely greater.
Now the testimony of God is this,
that he has testified on behalf of his Son.
Whoever believes in the Son of God
has this testimony within himself.
Whoever does not believe God has made him a
liar
by not believing the testimony God has given
about his Son.
And this is the testimony:
God gave us eternal life,
and this life is in his Son.
Whoever possesses the Son has life;
whoever does not possess the Son of God does
not have life.

I write these things to you so that you may know
that you have eternal life,
you who believe in the name of the Son of God.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20](#)

R. (12a) **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Glorify the LORD, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion.
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;
he has blessed your children within you.

R. **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

He has granted peace in your borders;
with the best of wheat he fills you.
He sends forth his command to the earth;
swiftly runs his word!

R. **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

He has proclaimed his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his ordinances to Israel.
He has not done thus for any other nation;
his ordinances he has not made known to them.

Alleluia.

R. **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Day 42

JANUARY 11, 2014

Saturday after Epiphany

Lectionary: 217

Reading 1 [1 JN 5:14-21](#)

Beloved:

We have this confidence in him
that if we ask anything according to his will, he
hears us.

And if we know that he hears us in regard to
whatever we ask,
we know that what we have asked him for is
ours.

If anyone sees his brother sinning, if the sin is
not deadly,
he should pray to God and he will give him life.
This is only for those whose sin is not deadly.
There is such a thing as deadly sin,
about which I do not say that you should pray.
All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that is not
deadly.

We know that anyone begotten by God does not
sin;

but the one begotten by God he protects,
and the Evil One cannot touch him.

We know that we belong to God,
and the whole world is under the power of the
Evil One.

We also know that the Son of God has come
and has given us discernment to know the one
who is true.

And we are in the one who is true,
in his Son Jesus Christ.

He is the true God and eternal life.

Children, be on your guard against idols.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6A AND 9B](#)

R. (see 4a) **The Lord takes delight in his people.**
or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Sing to the LORD a new song
of praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let Israel be glad in their maker,
let the children of Zion rejoice in their king.

R. **The Lord takes delight in his people.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Let them praise his name in the festive dance,
let them sing praise to him with timbrel and
harp.

For the LORD loves his people,
and he adorns the lowly with victory.

R. **The Lord takes delight in his people.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Let the faithful exult in glory;
let them sing for joy upon their couches;
Let the high praises of God be in their throats.
This is the glory of all his faithful. Alleluia.

R. **The Lord takes delight in his people.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Day 43

JANUARY 12, 2014

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Lectionary: 21

Reading 1 IS 42:1-4, 6-7

Thus says the LORD:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,
upon whom I have put my spirit;
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,
not crying out, not shouting,
not making his voice heard in the street.
a bruised reed he shall not break,
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,
until he establishes justice on the earth;
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of

justice,

I have grasped you by the hand;
I formed you, and set you
as a covenant of the people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes of the blind,
to bring out prisoners from confinement,
and from the dungeon, those who live in
darkness.

Responsorial Psalm PS 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

R/ (11b) **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

Give to the LORD, you sons of God,
give to the LORD glory and praise,
Give to the LORD the glory due his name;
adore the LORD in holy attire.

R/ **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters,
the LORD, over vast waters.

The voice of the LORD is mighty;
the voice of the LORD is majestic.

R/ **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

The God of glory thunders,
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
The LORD is enthroned above the flood;
the LORD is enthroned as king forever.

R/ **The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

Day 44

JANUARY 13, 2014

Monday of the First Week in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 305

Reading 1 1 SM 1:1-8

There was a certain man from Ramathaim,
Elkanah by name,
a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim.
He was the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu,
son of Tohu, son of Zuph, an Ephraimite.
He had two wives, one named Hannah, the other
Peninnah;
Peninnah had children, but Hannah was
childless.

This man regularly went on pilgrimage from his city
to worship the LORD of hosts and to sacrifice to him at Shiloh,
where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were ministering as priests of the LORD.
When the day came for Elkanah to offer sacrifice,
he used to give a portion each to his wife Peninnah
and to all her sons and daughters,
but a double portion to Hannah because he loved her,
though the LORD had made her barren.
Her rival, to upset her, turned it into a constant reproach to her
that the LORD had left her barren.
This went on year after year;
each time they made their pilgrimage to the sanctuary of the LORD,
Peninnah would approach her,
and Hannah would weep and refuse to eat.
Her husband Elkanah used to ask her:
“Hannah, why do you weep, and why do you refuse to eat?
Why do you grieve?
Am I not more to you than ten sons?”

Responsorial Psalm [PS 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19](#)

R. (17a) **To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

How shall I make a return to the LORD
for all the good he has done for me?

The cup of salvation I will take up,
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

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

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

My vows to the LORD I will pay
in the presence of all his people.
Precious in the eyes of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.

O LORD, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;

you have loosed my bonds.

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

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

My vows to the LORD I will pay
in the presence of all his people,
In the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

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

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Day 45

JANUARY 14, 2014

Tuesday of the First week in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 306

Reading 1 [1 SM 1:9-20](#)

Hannah rose after a meal at Shiloh,
and presented herself before the LORD;
at the time, Eli the priest was sitting on a chair
near the doorpost of the LORD's temple.
In her bitterness she prayed to the LORD,
weeping copiously,
and she made a vow, promising: “O LORD of
hosts,
if you look with pity on the misery of your
handmaid,
if you remember me and do not forget me,
if you give your handmaid a male child,
I will give him to the LORD for as long as he
lives;
neither wine nor liquor shall he drink,
and no razor shall ever touch his head.”
As she remained long at prayer before the
LORD,
Eli watched her mouth, for Hannah was praying
silently;
though her lips were moving, her voice could not
be heard.
Eli, thinking her drunk, said to her,
“How long will you make a drunken show of
yourself?
Sober up from your wine!”
“It isn't that, my lord,” Hannah answered.

“I am an unhappy woman.
 I have had neither wine nor liquor;
 I was only pouring out my troubles to the LORD.
 Do not think your handmaid a ne’er-do-well;
 my prayer has been prompted by my deep
 sorrow and misery.”
 Eli said, “Go in peace,
 and may the God of Israel grant you what you
 have asked of him.”
 She replied, “Think kindly of your maidservant,”
 and left.
 She went to her quarters, ate and drank with her
 husband,
 and no longer appeared downcast.
 Early the next morning they worshiped before
 the LORD,
 and then returned to their home in Ramah.

When Elkanah had relations with his wife
 Hannah,
 the LORD remembered her.
 She conceived, and at the end of her term bore a
 son
 whom she called Samuel, since she had asked
 the LORD for him.

Responsorial Psalm [1 SM 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8ABCD](#)

R. (see 1) **My heart exults in the Lord, my Savior.**

“My heart exults in the LORD,
 my horn is exalted in my God.
 I have swallowed up my enemies;
 I rejoice in my victory.”

R. **My heart exults in the Lord, my Savior.**

“The bows of the mighty are broken,
 while the tottering gird on strength.
 The well-fed hire themselves out for bread,
 while the hungry batten on spoil.
 The barren wife bears seven sons,
 while the mother of many languishes.”

R. **My heart exults in the Lord, my Savior.**

“The LORD puts to death and gives life;
 he casts down to the nether world;
 he raises up again.

The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
 he humbles, he also exalts.”

R. **My heart exults in the Lord, my Savior.**

“He raises the needy from the dust;
 from the dung heap he lifts up the poor,
 To seat them with nobles
 and make a glorious throne their heritage.”
 R. **My heart exults in the Lord, my Savior.**

Day 46

JANUARY 15, 2014

Wednesday of the First Week in Ordinary
 Time
 Lectionary: 307

Reading 1 [1 SM 3:1-10, 19-20](#)

During the time young Samuel was minister to
 the LORD under Eli,
 a revelation of the LORD was uncommon and
 vision infrequent.
 One day Eli was asleep in his usual place.
 His eyes had lately grown so weak that he could
 not see.
 The lamp of God was not yet extinguished,
 and Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the
 LORD
 where the ark of God was.
 The LORD called to Samuel, who answered,
 “Here I am.”

Samuel ran to Eli and said, “Here I am. You called me.”

“I did not call you,” Eli said. “Go back to sleep.”
 So he went back to sleep.

Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli.

“Here I am,” he said. “You called me.”

But Eli answered, “I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep.”

At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD,

because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet.

The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time.

Getting up and going to Eli, he said, “Here I am. You called me.”

Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling

the youth.

So Eli said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply,
'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'"
When Samuel went to sleep in his place,
the LORD came and revealed his presence,
calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!"
Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him,
not permitting any word of his to be without effect.

Thus all Israel from Dan to Beersheba
came to know that Samuel was an accredited
prophet of the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm **PS 40:2 AND 5, 7-8A, 8B-9, 10**

R. (8a and 9a) Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I have waited, waited for the LORD,
and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.
Blessed the man who makes the LORD his trust;
who turns not to idolatry
or to those who stray after falsehood.

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Sacrifice or oblation you wished not,
but ears open to obedience you gave me.
Burnt offerings or sin-offerings you sought not;
then said I, "Behold I come."

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me.
To do your will, O my God, is my delight,
and your law is within my heart!"

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I announced your justice in the vast assembly;
I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD,
know.

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Day 47

JANUARY 16, 2014

Thursday of the First Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 308

Reading 1 **1 SM 4:1-11**

The Philistines gathered for an attack on Israel.
Israel went out to engage them in battle and
camped at Ebenezer,
while the Philistines camped at Aphek.
The Philistines then drew up in battle formation
against Israel.
After a fierce struggle Israel was defeated by the
Philistines,
who slew about four thousand men on the
battlefield.
When the troops retired to the camp, the elders
of Israel said,
"Why has the LORD permitted us to be defeated
today
by the Philistines?
Let us fetch the ark of the LORD from Shiloh
that it may go into battle among us
and save us from the grasp of our enemies."

So the people sent to Shiloh and brought from
there
the ark of the LORD of hosts, who is enthroned
upon the cherubim.

The two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were
with the ark of God.

When the ark of the LORD arrived in the camp,
all Israel shouted so loudly that the earth
resounded.

The Philistines, hearing the noise of shouting,
asked,

"What can this loud shouting in the camp of the
Hebrews mean?"

On learning that the ark of the LORD had come
into the camp,
the Philistines were frightened.

They said, "Gods have come to their camp."

They said also, "Woe to us! This has never
happened before. Woe to us!

Who can deliver us from the power of these

mighty gods?
These are the gods that struck the Egyptians
with various plagues and with pestilence.
Take courage and be manly, Philistines;
otherwise you will become slaves to the
Hebrews,
as they were your slaves.
So fight manfully!”
The Philistines fought and Israel was defeated;
every man fled to his own tent.
It was a disastrous defeat,
in which Israel lost thirty thousand foot soldiers.
The ark of God was captured,
and Eli’s two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, were
among the dead.

Responsorial Psalm PS 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25

R. (27b) Redeem us, Lord, because of your mercy.
Yet now you have cast us off and put us in
disgrace,
and you go not forth with our armies.
You have let us be driven back by our foes;
those who hated us plundered us at will.
R. Redeem us, Lord, because of your mercy.
You made us the reproach of our neighbors,
the mockery and the scorn of those around us.
You made us a byword among the nations,
a laughingstock among the peoples.
R. Redeem us, Lord, because of your mercy.
Why do you hide your face,
forgetting our woe and our oppression?
For our souls are bowed down to the dust,
our bodies are pressed to the earth.
R. Redeem us, Lord, because of your mercy.

Day 48

JANUARY 17, 2014

Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot
Lectionary: 309

Reading 1 1 SM 8:4-7, 10-22A

All the elders of Israel came in a body to Samuel
at Ramah

and said to him, “Now that you are old,
and your sons do not follow your example,
appoint a king over us, as other nations have, to
judge us.”

Samuel was displeased when they asked for a
king to judge them.
He prayed to the LORD, however, who said in
answer:
“Grant the people’s every request.
It is not you they reject, they are rejecting me as
their king.”

Samuel delivered the message of the LORD in
full
to those who were asking him for a king.
He told them:
“The rights of the king who will rule you will be
as follows:
He will take your sons and assign them to his
chariots and horses,
and they will run before his chariot.
He will also appoint from among them his
commanders of groups
of a thousand and of a hundred soldiers.
He will set them to do his plowing and his
harvesting,
and to make his implements of war and the
equipment of his chariots.
He will use your daughters as ointment makers,
as cooks, and as bakers.
He will take the best of your fields, vineyards,
and olive groves,
and give them to his officials.
He will tithe your crops and your vineyards,
and give the revenue to his eunuchs and his
slaves.
He will take your male and female servants,
as well as your best oxen and your asses,
and use them to do his work.
He will tithe your flocks and you yourselves will
become his slaves.
When this takes place,
you will complain against the king whom you
have chosen,
but on that day the LORD will not answer you.”

The people, however, refused to listen to

Samuel's warning and said,
"Not so! There must be a king over us.
We too must be like other nations,
with a king to rule us and to lead us in warfare
and fight our battles."
When Samuel had listened to all the people had
to say,
he repeated it to the LORD, who then said to
him,
"Grant their request and appoint a king to rule
them."

Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:16-17, 18-19](#)

R. (2) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Blessed the people who know the joyful shout;
in the light of your countenance, O LORD, they
walk.

At your name they rejoice all the day,
and through your justice they are exalted.

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

For you are the splendor of their strength,
and by your favor our horn is exalted.

For to the LORD belongs our shield,
and to the Holy One of Israel, our King.

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Day 49

[JANUARY 18, 2014](#)

Saturday of the First Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 310

Reading 1 [1 SM 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1](#)

There was a stalwart man from Benjamin named
Kish,
who was the son of Abiel, son of Zeror,
son of Becorath, son of Aphiah, a Benjaminite.
He had a son named Saul, who was a handsome
young man.
There was no other child of Israel more
handsome than Saul;
he stood head and shoulders above the people.

Now the asses of Saul's father, Kish, had
wandered off.

Kish said to his son Saul, "Take one of the
servants with you
and go out and hunt for the asses."
Accordingly they went through the hill country
of Ephraim,
and through the land of Shalishah.
Not finding them there,
they continued through the land of Shaalim
without success.
They also went through the land of Benjamin,
but they failed to find the animals.

When Samuel caught sight of Saul, the LORD
assured him,
"This is the man of whom I told you; he is to
govern my people."

Saul met Samuel in the gateway and said,
"Please tell me where the seer lives."
Samuel answered Saul: "I am the seer.
Go up ahead of me to the high place and eat with
me today.
In the morning, before dismissing you,
I will tell you whatever you wish."

Then, from a flask he had with him, Samuel
poured oil on Saul's head;
he also kissed him, saying:
"The LORD anoints you commander over his
heritage.
You are to govern the LORD's people Israel,
and to save them from the grasp of their enemies
roundabout.

"This will be the sign for you
that the LORD has anointed you commander
over his heritage."

Responsorial Psalm [PS 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7](#)

R. (2a) Lord, in your strength the king is glad.
O LORD, in your strength the king is glad;
in your victory how greatly he rejoices!
You have granted him his heart's desire;
you refused not the wish of his lips.

R. Lord, in your strength the king is glad.
For you welcomed him with goodly blessings,
you placed on his head a crown of pure gold.

He asked life of you: you gave him
length of days forever and ever.
R. Lord, in your strength the king is glad.
Great is his glory in your victory;
majesty and splendor you conferred upon him.
For you made him a blessing forever;
you gladdened him with the joy of your face.
R. Lord, in your strength the king is glad.

Day 50

JANUARY 19, 2014

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 64

Reading 1 **IS 49:3, 5-6**

The LORD said to me: You are my servant,
Israel, through whom I show my glory.
Now the LORD has spoken
who formed me as his servant from the womb,
that Jacob may be brought back to him
and Israel gathered to him;
and I am made glorious in the sight of the
LORD,
and my God is now my strength!
It is too little, the LORD says, for you to be my
servant,
to raise up the tribes of Jacob,
and restore the survivors of Israel;
I will make you a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the
earth.

Responsorial Psalm **PS 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10**

R/ (8a and 9a) **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

I have waited, waited for the LORD,
and he stooped toward me and heard my cry.
And he put a new song into my mouth,
a hymn to our God.

R/ **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**
Sacrifice or offering you wished not,
but ears open to obedience you gave me.
Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not;

then said I, "Behold I come."

R/ **Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me,
to do your will, O my God, is my delight,
and your law is within my heart!"

R/ **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

I announced your justice in the vast assembly;
I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD,
know.

R/ **Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

Day 51

JANUARY 20, 2014

Monday of the Second Week in Ordinary
Time
Lectionary: 311

Reading 1 **1 SM 15:16-23**

Samuel said to Saul:

"Stop! Let me tell you what the LORD said to me
last night."

Saul replied, "Speak!"

Samuel then said: "Though little in your own
esteem,

are you not leader of the tribes of Israel?

The LORD anointed you king of Israel and sent
you on a mission, saying,

'Go and put the sinful Amalekites under a ban of
destruction.

Fight against them until you have exterminated
them.'

Why then have you disobeyed the LORD?

You have pounced on the spoil, thus displeasing
the LORD."

Saul answered Samuel: "I did indeed obey the
LORD

and fulfill the mission on which the LORD sent
me.

I have brought back Agag, and I have destroyed
Amalek under the ban.

But from the spoil the men took sheep and oxen,
the best of what had been banned,
to sacrifice to the LORD their God in Gilgal."

But Samuel said:

"Does the LORD so delight in burnt offerings

and sacrifices
as in obedience to the command of the LORD?
Obedience is better than sacrifice,
and submission than the fat of rams.
For a sin like divination is rebellion,
and presumption is the crime of idolatry.
Because you have rejected the command of the LORD,
he, too, has rejected you as ruler.”

Responsorial Psalm PS 50:8-9, 16BC-17, 21 AND 23

R. (23b) To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

“Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you,
for your burnt offerings are before me always.
I take from your house no bullock,
no goats out of your fold.”

R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

“Why do you recite my statutes,
and profess my covenant with your mouth,
Though you hate discipline
and cast my words behind you?”

R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

“When you do these things, shall I be deaf to it?
Or do you think that I am like yourself?
I will correct you by drawing them up before
your eyes.

He that offers praise as a sacrifice glorifies me;
and to him that goes the right way I will show
the salvation of God.”

R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

Day 52

JANUARY 21, 2014

Memorial of Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
Lectionary: 312

Reading 1 1 SM 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel:
“How long will you grieve for Saul,
whom I have rejected as king of Israel?

Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way.
I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem,
for I have chosen my king from among his sons.”
But Samuel replied:
“How can I go?
Saul will hear of it and kill me.”
To this the LORD answered:
“Take a heifer along and say,
‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’
Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I myself will tell
you what to do;
you are to anoint for me the one I point out to
you.”

Samuel did as the LORD had commanded him.
When he entered Bethlehem,
the elders of the city came trembling to meet
him and inquired,
“Is your visit peaceful, O seer?”

He replied:

“Yes! I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.
So cleanse yourselves and join me today for the
banquet.”

He also had Jesse and his sons cleanse
themselves
and invited them to the sacrifice.

As they came, he looked at Eliab and thought,
“Surely the LORD’s anointed is here before
him.”

But the LORD said to Samuel:

“Do not judge from his appearance or from his
lofty stature,
because I have rejected him.

Not as man sees does God see,
because he sees the appearance
but the LORD looks into the heart.”

Then Jesse called Abinadab and presented him
before Samuel,

who said, “The LORD has not chosen him.”

Next Jesse presented Shammah, but Samuel
said,

“The LORD has not chosen this one either.”

In the same way Jesse presented seven sons
before Samuel,

but Samuel said to Jesse,

“The LORD has not chosen any one of these.”

Then Samuel asked Jesse,

“Are these all the sons you have?”

Jesse replied,
 “There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep.”
 Samuel said to Jesse,
 “Send for him;
 we will not begin the sacrificial banquet until he arrives here.”
 Jesse sent and had the young man brought to them.
 He was ruddy, a youth handsome to behold and making a splendid appearance.
 The LORD said,
 “There—anoint him, for this is he!”
 Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and from that day on, the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David.
 When Samuel took his leave, he went to Ramah.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:20, 21-22, 27-28](#)

R. (21a) I have found David, my servant.
 Once you spoke in a vision,
 and to your faithful ones you said:
 “On a champion I have placed a crown;
 over the people I have set a youth.”
R. I have found David, my servant.
 “I have found David, my servant;
 with my holy oil I have anointed him,
 That my hand may be always with him,
 and that my arm may make him strong.”
R. I have found David, my servant.
 “He shall say of me, ‘You are my father,
 my God, the Rock, my savior.’
 And I will make him the first-born,
 highest of the kings of the earth.”
R. I have found David, my servant.

Day 53

JANUARY 22, 2014

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of
 Unborn Children
 Lectionary: 313

Reading 1 [1 SM 17:32-33, 37, 40-51](#)

David spoke to Saul:
 “Let your majesty not lose courage.
 I am at your service to go and fight this Philistine.”
 But Saul answered David,
 “You cannot go up against this Philistine and fight with him,
 for you are only a youth, while he has been a warrior from his youth.”

David continued:
 “The LORD, who delivered me from the claws of the lion and the bear,
 will also keep me safe from the clutches of this Philistine.”
 Saul answered David, “Go! the LORD will be with you.”

Then, staff in hand, David selected five smooth stones from the wadi
 and put them in the pocket of his shepherd’s bag.
 With his sling also ready to hand, he approached the Philistine.

With his shield bearer marching before him,
 the Philistine also advanced closer and closer to David.

When he had sized David up,
 and seen that he was youthful, and ruddy, and handsome in appearance,
 the Philistine held David in contempt.
 The Philistine said to David,
 “Am I a dog that you come against me with a staff?”

Then the Philistine cursed David by his gods
 and said to him, “Come here to me,
 and I will leave your flesh for the birds of the air

and the beasts of the field.”
 David answered him:
 “You come against me with sword and spear and scimitar,
 but I come against you in the name of the LORD of hosts,
 the God of the armies of Israel that you have insulted.
 Today the LORD shall deliver you into my hand; I will strike you down and cut off your head.
 This very day I will leave your corpse and the corpses of the Philistine army for the birds of the air
 and the beasts of the field;
 thus the whole land shall learn that Israel has a God.
 All this multitude, too,
 shall learn that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves.
 For the battle is the LORD’s and he shall deliver you into our hands.”

The Philistine then moved to meet David at close quarters,
 while David ran quickly toward the battle line in the direction of the Philistine.
 David put his hand into the bag and took out a stone,
 hurled it with the sling,
 and struck the Philistine on the forehead.
 The stone embedded itself in his brow,
 and he fell prostrate on the ground.
 Thus David overcame the Philistine with sling and stone;
 he struck the Philistine mortally, and did it without a sword.
 Then David ran and stood over him;
 with the Philistine’s own sword which he drew from its sheath
 he dispatched him and cut off his head.

Responsorial Psalm [**PS 144:1B, 2, 9-10**](#)

R. (1) **Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!**
 Blessed be the LORD, my rock,
 who trains my hands for battle, my fingers for war.
 R. **Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!**

My refuge and my fortress,
 my stronghold, my deliverer,
 My shield, in whom I trust,
 who subdues my people under me.
 R. **Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!**
 O God, I will sing a new song to you;
 with a ten-stringed lyre I will chant your praise,
 You who give victory to kings,
 and deliver David, your servant from the evil sword.
 R. **Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!**

Day 54

[JANUARY 23, 2014](#)

Thursday of the Second week in Ordinary
 Time
 Lectionary: 314

Reading 1 [**1 SM 18:6-9;19:1-7**](#)

When David and Saul approached
 (on David’s return after slaying the Philistine),
 women came out from each of the cities of Israel
 to meet King Saul,
 singing and dancing, with tambourines, joyful
 songs, and sistrums.
 The women played and sang:

“Saul has slain his thousands,
 and David his ten thousands.”

Saul was very angry and resentful of the song,
 for he thought:
 “They give David ten thousands, but only
 thousands to me.
 All that remains for him is the kingship.”
 And from that day on, Saul was jealous of David.

Saul discussed his intention of killing David
 with his son Jonathan and with all his servants.
 But Saul’s son Jonathan, who was very fond of
 David, told him:
 “My father Saul is trying to kill you.
 Therefore, please be on your guard tomorrow
 morning;
 get out of sight and remain in hiding.

I, however, will go out and stand beside my father in the countryside where you are, and will speak to him about you. If I learn anything, I will let you know.”

Jonathan then spoke well of David to his father Saul, saying to him: “Let not your majesty sin against his servant David, for he has committed no offense against you, but has helped you very much by his deeds. When he took his life in his hands and slew the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great victory for all Israel through him, you were glad to see it. Why, then, should you become guilty of shedding innocent blood by killing David without cause?” Saul heeded Jonathan’s plea and swore, “As the LORD lives, he shall not be killed.” So Jonathan summoned David and repeated the whole conversation to him. Jonathan then brought David to Saul, and David served him as before.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 56:2-3, 9-10A, 10B-11, 12-13](#)

R. (5b) In God I trust; I shall not fear.
Have mercy on me, O God, for men trample upon me;
all the day they press their attack against me.
My adversaries trample upon me all the day;
yes, many fight against me.

R. In God I trust; I shall not fear.
My wanderings you have counted;
my tears are stored in your flask;
are they not recorded in your book?
Then do my enemies turn back,
when I call upon you.

R. In God I trust; I shall not fear.
Now I know that God is with me.
In God, in whose promise I glory,
in God I trust without fear;
what can flesh do against me?
R. In God I trust; I shall not fear.

I am bound, O God, by vows to you;
your thank offerings I will fulfill.
For you have rescued me from death,
my feet, too, from stumbling;
that I may walk before God in the light of the living.

R. In God I trust; I shall not fear.

Day 55

JANUARY 24, 2014

Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church
Lectionary: 315

Reading 1 [1 SM 24:3-21](#)

Saul took three thousand picked men from all Israel and went in search of David and his men in the direction of the wild goat crags. When he came to the sheepfolds along the way, he found a cave, which he entered to relieve himself. David and his men were occupying the inmost recesses of the cave.

David’s servants said to him, “This is the day of which the LORD said to you, ‘I will deliver your enemy into your grasp; do with him as you see fit.’” So David moved up and stealthily cut off an end of Saul’s mantle. Afterward, however, David regretted that he had cut off an end of Saul’s mantle. He said to his men, “The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD’s anointed, as to lay a hand on him, for he is the LORD’s anointed.” With these words David restrained his men and would not permit them to attack Saul. Saul then left the cave and went on his way. David also stepped out of the cave, calling to Saul, “My lord the king!”

When Saul looked back, David bowed to the ground in homage and asked Saul:
 “Why do you listen to those who say,
 ‘David is trying to harm you’?
 You see for yourself today that the LORD just now delivered you
 into my grasp in the cave.
 I had some thought of killing you, but I took pity on you instead.
 I decided, ‘I will not raise a hand against my lord,
 for he is the LORD’s anointed and a father to me.’
 Look here at this end of your mantle which I hold.
 Since I cut off an end of your mantle and did not kill you,
 see and be convinced that I plan no harm and no rebellion.
 I have done you no wrong,
 though you are hunting me down to take my life.
 The LORD will judge between me and you,
 and the LORD will exact justice from you in my case.
 I shall not touch you.
 The old proverb says, ‘From the wicked comes forth wickedness.’
 So I will take no action against you.
 Against whom are you on campaign, O king of Israel?
 Whom are you pursuing? A dead dog, or a single flea!
 The LORD will be the judge; he will decide between me and you.
 May he see this, and take my part,
 and grant me justice beyond your reach!”
 When David finished saying these things to Saul,
 Saul answered,
 “Is that your voice, my son David?”
 And Saul wept aloud.
 Saul then said to David: “You are in the right rather than I;
 you have treated me generously, while I have done you harm.
 Great is the generosity you showed me today,
 when the LORD delivered me into your grasp and you did not kill me.
 For if a man meets his enemy, does he send him

away unharmed?
 May the LORD reward you generously for what you have done this day.
 And now, I know that you shall surely be king and that sovereignty over Israel shall come into your possession.”

Responsorial Psalm **PS 57:2, 3-4, 6 AND 11**

R. (2a) **Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.**
 Have mercy on me, O God; have mercy on me,
 for in you I take refuge.
 In the shadow of your wings I take refuge,
 till harm pass by.
R. Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.
 I call to God the Most High,
 to God, my benefactor.
 May he send from heaven and save me;
 may he make those a reproach who trample upon me;
 may God send his mercy and his faithfulness.
R. Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.
 Be exalted above the heavens, O God;
 above all the earth be your glory!
 For your mercy towers to the heavens,
 and your faithfulness to the skies.
R. Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.

Day 56

JANUARY 25, 2014

Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul,
 Apostle
 Lectionary: 519

Reading 1 **ACTS 22:3-16**

Paul addressed the people in these words:
 “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia,
 but brought up in this city.
 At the feet of Gamaliel I was educated strictly in our ancestral law
 and was zealous for God, just as all of you are today.
 I persecuted this Way to death,
 binding both men and women and delivering them to prison.

Even the high priest and the whole council of elders
can testify on my behalf.
For from them I even received letters to the brothers
and set out for Damascus to bring back to Jerusalem
in chains for punishment those there as well.

“On that journey as I drew near to Damascus,
about noon a great light from the sky suddenly
shone around me.
I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me,
‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’
I replied, ‘Who are you, sir?’
And he said to me,
‘I am Jesus the Nazorean whom you are
persecuting.’
My companions saw the light
but did not hear the voice of the one who spoke
to me.
I asked, ‘What shall I do, sir?’
The Lord answered me, ‘Get up and go into
Damascus,
and there you will be told about everything
appointed for you to do.’
Since I could see nothing because of the
brightness of that light,
I was led by hand by my companions and
entered Damascus.

“A certain Ananias, a devout observer of the law,
and highly spoken of by all the Jews who lived
there,
came to me and stood there and said,
‘Saul, my brother, regain your sight.’
And at that very moment I regained my sight
and saw him.
Then he said,
‘The God of our ancestors designated you to
know his will,
to see the Righteous One, and to hear the sound
of his voice;
for you will be his witness before all
to what you have seen and heard.
Now, why delay?
Get up and have yourself baptized and your sins

washed away,
calling upon his name.’”

Or ACTS 9:1-22

Saul, still breathing murderous threats against
the disciples of the Lord,
went to the high priest and asked him
for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, that,
if he should find any men or women who
belonged to the Way,
he might bring them back to Jerusalem in
chains.

On his journey, as he was nearing Damascus,
a light from the sky suddenly flashed around
him.
He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to
him,
“Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”
He said, “Who are you, sir?”
The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are
persecuting.
Now get up and go into the city and you will be
told what you must do.”
The men who were traveling with him stood
speechless,
for they heard the voice but could see no one.
Saul got up from the ground,
but when he opened his eyes he could see
nothing;
so they led him by the hand and brought him to
Damascus.
For three days he was unable to see, and he
neither ate nor drank.

There was a disciple in Damascus named
Ananias,
and the Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.”
He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”
The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the
street called Straight
and ask at the house of Judas for a man from
Tarsus named Saul.
He is there praying,
and in a vision he has seen a man named
Ananias
come in and lay his hands on him,
that he may regain his sight.”

But Ananias replied,
“Lord, I have heard from many sources about
this man,
what evil things he has done to your holy ones in
Jerusalem.

And here he has authority from the chief priests
to imprison all who call upon your name.”

But the Lord said to him,
“Go, for this man is a chosen instrument of mine
to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and
children of Israel,
and I will show him what he will have to suffer
for my name.”

So Ananias went and entered the house;
laying his hands on him, he said,
“Saul, my brother, the Lord has sent me,
Jesus who appeared to you on the way by which
you came,
that you may regain your sight and be filled with
the Holy Spirit.”

Immediately things like scales fell from his eyes
and he regained his sight.
He got up and was baptized,
and when he had eaten, he recovered his
strength.

He stayed some days with the disciples in
Damascus,
and he began at once to proclaim Jesus in the
synagogues,
that he is the Son of God.
All who heard him were astounded and said,
“Is not this the man who in Jerusalem
ravaged those who call upon this name,
and came here expressly to take them back in
chains
to the chief priests?”
But Saul grew all the stronger
and confounded the Jews who lived in
Damascus,
proving that this is the Christ.

Responsorial Psalm [**PS 117:1BC, 2**](#)

R. (Mark 16:15) **Go out to all the world and tell the
Good News.**

or:

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Praise the LORD, all you nations;
glorify him, all you peoples!

R. **Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.**
or:

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

For steadfast is his kindness toward us,
and the fidelity of the LORD endures forever.

R. **Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.**
or:

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Day 57

JANUARY 26, 2014

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 67

Reading 1 [**IS 8:23-9:3**](#)

First the Lord degraded the land of Zebulun
and the land of Naphtali;
but in the end he has glorified the seaward road,
the land west of the Jordan,
the District of the Gentiles.

Anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness:
for there is no gloom where but now there was
distress.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom
a light has shone.
You have brought them abundant joy
and great rejoicing,
as they rejoice before you as at the harvest,
as people make merry when dividing spoils.
For the yoke that burdened them,
the pole on their shoulder,
and the rod of their taskmaster
you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.

Responsorial Psalm [**PS 27:1, 4, 13-14**](#)

R/ (1a) **The Lord is my light and my salvation.**
The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear?

The LORD is my life's refuge;
of whom should I be afraid?
R/ **The Lord is my light and my salvation.**
One thing I ask of the LORD;
this I seek:
To dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
That I may gaze on the loveliness of the LORD
and contemplate his temple.
R/ **The Lord is my light and my salvation.**
I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD
in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD with courage;
be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.
R/ **The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

Day 58

JANUARY 27, 2014

Monday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 317

Reading 1 2 SM 5:1-7, 10

All the tribes of Israel came to David in Hebron
and said:
"Here we are, your bone and your flesh.
In days past, when Saul was our king,
it was you who led the children of Israel out and
brought them back.
And the LORD said to you, 'You shall shepherd
my people Israel
and shall be commander of Israel.'"
When all the elders of Israel came to David in
Hebron,
King David made an agreement with them there
before the LORD,
and they anointed him king of Israel.
David was thirty years old when he became
king,
and he reigned for forty years:
seven years and six months in Hebron over
Judah,
and thirty-three years in Jerusalem
over all Israel and Judah.

Then the king and his men set out for Jerusalem

against the Jebusites who inhabited the region.
David was told, "You cannot enter here:
the blind and the lame will drive you away!"
which was their way of saying, "David cannot
enter here."
But David did take the stronghold of Zion, which
is the City of David.

David grew steadily more powerful,
for the LORD of hosts was with him.

Responsorial Psalm PS 89:20, 21-22, 25-26

R. (25a) **My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him.**

Once you spoke in a vision,
and to your faithful ones you said:
"On a champion I have placed a crown;
over the people I have set a youth."

R. **My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him.**

"I have found David, my servant;
with my holy oil I have anointed him,
That my hand may be always with him,
and that my arm may make him strong."

R. **My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him.**

"My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him,
and through my name shall his horn be exalted.
I will set his hand upon the sea,
his right hand upon the rivers."

R. **My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him.**

Day 59

JANUARY 28, 2014

Memorial of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest
and Doctor of the Church
Lectionary: 318

Reading 1 2 SM 6:12B-15, 17-19

David went to bring up the ark of God from the
house of Obed-edom
into the City of David amid festivities.

As soon as the bearers of the ark of the LORD
 had advanced six steps,
 he sacrificed an ox and a fatling.
 Then David, girt with a linen apron,
 came dancing before the LORD with abandon,
 as he and all the house of Israel were bringing up
 the ark of the LORD
 with shouts of joy and to the sound of the horn.
 The ark of the LORD was brought in and set in
 its place
 within the tent David had pitched for it.
 Then David offered burnt offerings and peace
 offerings before the LORD.
 When he finished making these offerings,
 he blessed the people in the name of the LORD
 of hosts.
 He then distributed among all the people,
 to each man and each woman in the entire
 multitude of Israel,
 a loaf of bread, a cut of roast meat, and a raisin
 cake.
 With this, all the people left for their homes.

Responsorial Psalm PS 24:7, 8, 9, 10

R. (8) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!
 Lift up, O gates, your lintels;
 reach up, you ancient portals,
 that the king of glory may come in!

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!
 Who is this king of glory?
 The LORD, strong and mighty,
 the LORD, mighty in battle.

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!
 Lift up, O gates, your lintels;
 reach up, you ancient portals,
 that the king of glory may come in!

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!
 Who is this king of glory?
 The LORD of hosts; he is the king of glory.

R. Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Day 60

Day 61

Day 62

Day 63

JANUARY 29, 2014

« [January 28](#) | [January 30](#) »

Wednesday of the Third Week in Ordinary
 Time

Lectionary: 319

Reading 12 SM 7:4-17

That night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said:

“Go, tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the
 LORD:

Should you build me a house to dwell in?
 I have not dwelt in a house
 from the day on which I led the children of
 Israel
 out of Egypt to the present,
 but I have been going about in a tent under
 cloth.

In all my wanderings everywhere among the
 children of Israel,

did I ever utter a word to any one of the judges
 whom I charged to tend my people Israel, to
 ask:

Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’

“Now then, speak thus to my servant David,
 ‘The LORD of hosts has this to say:

It was I who took you from the pasture
 and from the care of the flock
 to be commander of my people Israel.

I have been with you wherever you went,
 and I have destroyed all your enemies before
 you.

And I will make you famous like the great ones
 of the earth.

I will fix a place for my people Israel;
 I will plant them so that they may dwell in their
 place
 without further disturbance.

Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them
 as they did of old,
 since the time I first appointed judges over my
 people Israel.

I will give you rest from all your enemies.

The LORD also reveals to you that he will

establish a house for you.
 And when your time comes and you rest with
 your ancestors,
 I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from
 your loins,
 and I will make his Kingdom firm.
 It is he who shall build a house for my name.
 And I will make his royal throne firm forever.
 I will be a father to him,
 and he shall be a son to me.
 And if he does wrong,
 I will correct him with the rod of men
 and with human chastisements;
 but I will not withdraw my favor from him
 as I withdrew it from your predecessor Saul,
 whom I removed from my presence.
 Your house and your kingdom shall endure
 forever before me;
 your throne shall stand firm forever.”

Nathan reported all these words and this entire
 vision to David.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30](#)

R. (29a) For ever I will maintain my love for my servant.

“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
 I have sworn to David my servant:
 I will make your dynasty stand forever
 and establish your throne through all ages.”

R. For ever I will maintain my love for my servant.

“He shall cry to me, ‘You are my father,
 my God, the Rock that brings me victory!’
 I myself make him firstborn,
 Most High over the kings of the earth.”

R. For ever I will maintain my love for my servant.

“Forever I will maintain my love for him;
 my covenant with him stands firm.
 I will establish his dynasty forever,
 his throne as the days of the heavens.”

R. For ever I will maintain my love for my servant.

Day 64

JANUARY 30, 2014

Thursday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time
 Lectionary: 320

Reading 1 [2 SM 7:18-19, 24-29](#)

After Nathan had spoken to King David,
 the king went in and sat before the LORD and
 said,
 “Who am I, Lord GOD, and who are the
 members of my house,
 that you have brought me to this point?
 Yet even this you see as too little, Lord GOD;
 you have also spoken of the house of your
 servant
 for a long time to come:
 this too you have shown to man, Lord GOD!

“You have established for yourself your people
 Israel as yours forever,
 and you, LORD, have become their God.
 And now, LORD God, confirm for all time the
 prophecy you have made
 concerning your servant and his house,
 and do as you have promised.
 Your name will be forever great, when men say,
 ‘The LORD of hosts is God of Israel,’
 and the house of your servant David stands firm
 before you.

It is you, LORD of hosts, God of Israel,
 who said in a revelation to your servant,
 ‘I will build a house for you.’
 Therefore your servant now finds the courage to
 make this prayer to you.

And now, Lord GOD, you are God and your
 words are truth;
 you have made this generous promise to your
 servant.

Do, then, bless the house of your servant
 that it may be before you forever;
 for you, Lord GOD, have promised,
 and by your blessing the house of your servant
 shall be blessed forever.”

Responsorial Psalm [PS 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14](#)

R. (Lk 1:32b) **The Lord God will give him the throne of David, his father.**

LORD, remember David
and all his anxious care;
How he swore an oath to the LORD,
vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob.

R. **The Lord God will give him the throne of David, his father.**

"I will not enter the house where I live,
nor lie on the couch where I sleep;
I will give my eyes no sleep,
my eyelids no rest,
Till I find a home for the LORD,
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."

R. **The Lord God will give him the throne of David, his father.**

The LORD swore an oath to David
a firm promise from which he will not withdraw:
"Your own offspring
I will set upon your throne."

R. **The Lord God will give him the throne of David, his father.**

"If your sons keep my covenant,
and the decrees which I shall teach them,
Their sons, too, forever
shall sit upon your throne."

R. **The Lord God will give him the throne of David, his father.**

For the LORD has chosen Zion,
he prefers her for his dwelling:
"Zion is my resting place forever;
in her I will dwell, for I prefer her."

R. **The Lord God will give him the throne of David, his father.**

Day 65

JANUARY 31, 2014

Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest
Lectionary: 321

Reading 1 2 SM 11:1-4A, 5-10A, 13-17

At the turn of the year, when kings go out on campaign,
David sent out Joab along with his officers

and the army of Israel,
and they ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah.

David, however, remained in Jerusalem.

One evening David rose from his siesta
and strolled about on the roof of the palace.

From the roof he saw a woman bathing, who was very beautiful.

David had inquiries made about the woman and was told,

"She is Bathsheba, daughter of Eliam,
and wife of Joab's armor bearer Uriah the Hittite."

Then David sent messengers and took her.

When she came to him, he had relations with her.

She then returned to her house.

But the woman had conceived,
and sent the information to David, "I am with child."

David therefore sent a message to Joab,

"Send me Uriah the Hittite."

So Joab sent Uriah to David.

When he came, David questioned him about Joab, the soldiers,

and how the war was going, and Uriah answered that all was well.

David then said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and bathe your feet."

Uriah left the palace,
and a portion was sent out after him from the king's table.

But Uriah slept at the entrance of the royal palace

with the other officers of his lord, and did not go down

to his own house.

David was told that Uriah had not gone home.

On the day following, David summoned him,
and he ate and drank with David, who made him drunk.

But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his bed

among his lord's servants, and did not go down to his home.

The next morning David wrote a letter to Joab which he sent by Uriah.

In it he directed:

“Place Uriah up front, where the fighting is fierce.

Then pull back and leave him to be struck down dead.”

So while Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah

to a place where he knew the defenders were strong.

When the men of the city made a sortie against Joab,

some officers of David’s army fell,

and among them Uriah the Hittite died.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:3-4, 5-6A, 6BCD-7, 10-11](#)

R. (see 3a) **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense.

Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
and of my sin cleanse me.

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

For I acknowledge my offense,
and my sin is before me always:
“Against you only have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight.”

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

I have done such evil in your sight
that you are just in your sentence,
blameless when you condemn.

True, I was born guilty,
a sinner, even as my mother conceived me.

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

Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness;
the bones you have crushed shall rejoice.

Turn away your face from my sins,
and blot out all my guilt.

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

Day 66

FEBRUARY 1, 2014

Saturday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 322

Reading 1 [2 SM 12:1-7A, 10-17](#)

The LORD sent Nathan to David, and when he came to him,

Nathan said: “Judge this case for me!

In a certain town there were two men, one rich, the other poor.

The rich man had flocks and herds in great numbers.

But the poor man had nothing at all except one little ewe lamb that he had bought.

He nourished her, and she grew up with him and his children.

She shared the little food he had and drank from his cup and slept in his bosom.

She was like a daughter to him.

Now, the rich man received a visitor, but he would not take from his own flocks and herds

to prepare a meal for the wayfarer who had come to him.

Instead he took the poor man’s ewe lamb and made a meal of it for his visitor.”

David grew very angry with that man and said to him:

“As the LORD lives, the man who has done this merits death!

He shall restore the ewe lamb fourfold because he has done this and has had no pity.”

Then Nathan said to David: “You are the man!

Thus says the LORD God of Israel:

‘The sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me

and have taken the wife of Uriah to be your wife.’ Thus says the LORD:

‘I will bring evil upon you out of your own house.

I will take your wives while you live to see it, and will give them to your neighbor.

He shall lie with your wives in broad daylight.

You have done this deed in secret,

but I will bring it about in the presence of all
Israel,
and with the sun looking down.”

Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned
against the LORD.”

Nathan answered David: “The LORD on his part
has forgiven your sin:

you shall not die.

But since you have utterly spurned the LORD by
this deed,

the child born to you must surely die.”

Then Nathan returned to his house.

The LORD struck the child that the wife of Uriah
had borne to David,

and it became desperately ill.

David besought God for the child.

He kept a fast, retiring for the night

to lie on the ground clothed in sackcloth.

The elders of his house stood beside him
urging him to rise from the ground; but he
would not,

nor would he take food with them.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17](#)

R. (12a) **Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

A clean heart create for me, O God,
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.

Cast me not out from your presence,
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. **Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

Give me back the joy of your salvation,
and a willing spirit sustain in me.

I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners shall return to you.

R. **Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

Free me from blood guilt, O God, my saving
God;

then my tongue shall revel in your justice.

O Lord, open my lips,

and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R. **Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

Day 67

FEBRUARY 2, 2014

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Lectionary: 524

Reading 1 [MAL 3:1-4](#)

Thus says the Lord God:

Lo, I am sending my messenger

to prepare the way before me;

And suddenly there will come to the temple
the LORD whom you seek,

And the messenger of the covenant whom you
desire.

Yes, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

But who will endure the day of his coming?

And who can stand when he appears?

For he is like the refiner's fire,

or like the fuller's lye.

He will sit refining and purifying silver,

and he will purify the sons of Levi,

Refining them like gold or like silver

that they may offer due sacrifice to the LORD.

Then the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem

will please the LORD,

as in the days of old, as in years gone by.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 24:7, 8, 9, 10](#)

R. (8) **Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!**

Lift up, O gates, your lintels;

reach up, you ancient portals,

that the king of glory may come in!

R. **Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!**

Who is this king of glory?

The LORD, strong and mighty,

the LORD, mighty in battle.

R. **Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!**

Lift up, O gates, your lintels;

reach up, you ancient portals,

that the king of glory may come in!

R. **Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!**

Who is this king of glory?

The LORD of hosts; he is the king of glory.

R. **Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!**

Day 68

FEBRUARY 3, 2014

Monday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 323

Reading 1 2 SM 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13

An informant came to David with the report,
“The children of Israel have transferred their
loyalty to Absalom.”

At this, David said to all his servants
who were with him in Jerusalem:

“Up! Let us take flight, or none of us will escape
from Absalom.

Leave quickly, lest he hurry and overtake us,
then visit disaster upon us and put the city to the
sword.”

As David went up the Mount of Olives, he wept
without ceasing.

His head was covered, and he was walking
barefoot.

All those who were with him also had their heads
covered
and were weeping as they went.

As David was approaching Bahurim,
a man named Shimei, the son of Gera
of the same clan as Saul’s family,
was coming out of the place, cursing as he came.
He threw stones at David and at all the king’s
officers,

even though all the soldiers, including the royal
guard,

were on David’s right and on his left.

Shimei was saying as he cursed:

“Away, away, you murderous and wicked man!
The LORD has requited you for all the bloodshed
in the family of Saul,
in whose stead you became king,
and the LORD has given over the kingdom to
your son Absalom.

And now you suffer ruin because you are a
murderer.”

Abishai, son of Zeruiah, said to the king:

“Why should this dead dog curse my lord the

king?

Let me go over, please, and lop off his head.”

But the king replied: “What business is it of mine
or of yours,

sons of Zeruiah, that he curses?

Suppose the LORD has told him to curse David;
who then will dare to say, ‘Why are you doing
this?’”

Then the king said to Abishai and to all his
servants:

“If my own son, who came forth from my loins,
is seeking my life,

how much more might this Benjaminite do so?

Let him alone and let him curse, for the LORD
has told him to.

Perhaps the LORD will look upon my affliction
and make it up to me with benefits
for the curses he is uttering this day.”

David and his men continued on the road,
while Shimei kept abreast of them on the
hillside,

all the while cursing and throwing stones and
dirt as he went.

Responsorial Psalm PS 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

R. (8a) **Lord, rise up and save me.**

O LORD, how many are my adversaries!

Many rise up against me!

Many are saying of me,

“There is no salvation for him in God.”

R. **Lord, rise up and save me.**

But you, O LORD, are my shield;

my glory, you lift up my head!

When I call out to the LORD,

he answers me from his holy mountain.

R. **Lord, rise up and save me.**

When I lie down in sleep,

I wake again, for the LORD sustains me.

I fear not the myriads of people

arrayed against me on every side.

R. **Lord, rise up and save me.**

Day 69

FEBRUARY 4, 2014

Tuesday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 324

Reading 1 2 SM 18:9-10, 14B, 24-25A, 30-19:3

Absalom unexpectedly came up against David's servants.

He was mounted on a mule,
and, as the mule passed under the branches of a large terebinth,
his hair caught fast in the tree.

He hung between heaven and earth
while the mule he had been riding ran off.
Someone saw this and reported to Joab
that he had seen Absalom hanging from a terebinth.

And taking three pikes in hand,
he thrust for the heart of Absalom,
still hanging from the tree alive.

Now David was sitting between the two gates,
and a lookout went up to the roof of the gate
above the city wall,
where he looked about and saw a man running
all alone.

The lookout shouted to inform the king, who said,

"If he is alone, he has good news to report."
The king said, "Step aside and remain in attendance here."

So he stepped aside and remained there.
When the Cushite messenger came in, he said,
"Let my lord the king receive the good news
that this day the LORD has taken your part,
freeing you from the grasp of all who rebelled
against you."

But the king asked the Cushite, "Is young Absalom safe?"

The Cushite replied, "May the enemies of my lord the king
and all who rebel against you with evil intent
be as that young man!"

The king was shaken,
and went up to the room over the city gate to weep.

He said as he wept,
"My son Absalom! My son, my son Absalom!
If only I had died instead of you,
Absalom, my son, my son!"

Joab was told that the king was weeping and mourning for Absalom;
and that day's victory was turned into mourning for the whole army
when they heard that the king was grieving for his son.

Responsorial Psalm PS 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

R. (1a) **Listen, Lord, and answer me.**

Incline your ear, O LORD; answer me,
for I am afflicted and poor.

Keep my life, for I am devoted to you;
save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God.

R. **Listen, Lord, and answer me.**

Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for to you I call all the day.
Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

R. **Listen, Lord, and answer me.**

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in kindness to all who call upon you.
Hearken, O LORD, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my pleading.

R. **Listen, Lord, and answer me.**

Day 70

FEBRUARY 5, 2014

Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
Lectionary: 325

Reading 1 2 SM 24:2, 9-17

King David said to Joab and the leaders of the army who were with him,
"Tour all the tribes in Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba
and register the people, that I may know their

number.”

Joab then reported to the king the number of people registered:
in Israel, eight hundred thousand men fit for military service;
in Judah, five hundred thousand.

Afterward, however, David regretted having numbered the people,
and said to the LORD:
“I have sinned grievously in what I have done.
But now, LORD, forgive the guilt of your servant,
for I have been very foolish.”

When David rose in the morning,
the LORD had spoken to the prophet Gad,
David’s seer, saying:
“Go and say to David, ‘This is what the LORD says:
I offer you three alternatives;
choose one of them, and I will inflict it on you.’”
Gad then went to David to inform him.
He asked: “Do you want a three years’ famine to come upon your land,
or to flee from your enemy three months while he pursues you,
or to have a three days’ pestilence in your land?
Now consider and decide what I must reply to him who sent me.”
David answered Gad: “I am in very serious difficulty.
Let us fall by the hand of God, for he is most merciful;
but let me not fall by the hand of man.”

Thus David chose the pestilence.
Now it was the time of the wheat harvest
when the plague broke out among the people.
The LORD then sent a pestilence over Israel
from morning until the time appointed,
and seventy thousand of the people from Dan to Beer-sheba died.

But when the angel stretched forth his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it,
the LORD regretted the calamity
and said to the angel causing the destruction among the people,
“Enough now! Stay your hand.”
The angel of the LORD was then standing
at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

When David saw the angel who was striking the people,
he said to the LORD: “It is I who have sinned;
it is I, the shepherd, who have done wrong.
But these are sheep; what have they done?
Punish me and my kindred.”

Responsorial Psalm [PS 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7](#)

R. (see 5c) **Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.**
Blessed is he whose fault is taken away,
whose sin is covered.
Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt,
in whose spirit there is no guile.
R. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.
Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
my guilt I covered not.
I said, “I confess my faults to the LORD,”
and you took away the guilt of my sin.
R. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.
For this shall every faithful man pray to you
in time of stress.
Though deep waters overflow,
they shall not reach him.
R. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.
You are my shelter; from distress you will preserve me;
with glad cries of freedom you will ring me round.
R. Lord, forgive the wrong I have done.

Day 71

FEBRUARY 6, 2014

Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions,
Martyrs
Lectionary: 326

Reading 1 [1 KGS 2:1-4, 10-12](#)

When the time of David’s death drew near,
he gave these instructions to his son Solomon:
“I am going the way of all flesh.
Take courage and be a man.
Keep the mandate of the LORD, your God,
following his ways
and observing his statutes, commands,

ordinances, and decrees
as they are written in the law of Moses,
that you may succeed in whatever you do,
wherever you turn, and the LORD may fulfill
the promise he made on my behalf when he said,
‘If your sons so conduct themselves
that they remain faithful to me with their whole
heart
and with their whole soul,
you shall always have someone of your line
on the throne of Israel.’”

David rested with his ancestors and was buried
in the City of David.
The length of David’s reign over Israel was forty
years:
he reigned seven years in Hebron
and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.

Solomon was seated on the throne of his father
David,
with his sovereignty firmly established.

Responsorial Psalm [1 CHR 29:10, 11AB, 11D-12A, 12BCD](#)

R. (12b) **Lord, you are exalted over all.**

“Blessed may you be, O LORD,
God of Israel our father,
from eternity to eternity.”

R. **Lord, you are exalted over all.**

“Yours, O LORD, are grandeur and power,
majesty, splendor, and glory.”

R. **Lord, you are exalted over all.**

“LORD, you are exalted over all.
Yours, O LORD, is the sovereignty;
you are exalted as head over all.
Riches and honor are from you.”

R. **Lord, you are exalted over all.**

“In your hand are power and might;
it is yours to give grandeur and strength to all.”

R. **Lord, you are exalted over all.**

Day 72

FEBRUARY 7, 2014

Friday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 327

Reading 1 [SIR 47:2-11](#)

Like the choice fat of the sacred offerings,
so was David in Israel.
He made sport of lions as though they were kids,
and of bears, like lambs of the flock.
As a youth he slew the giant
and wiped out the people’s disgrace,
When his hand let fly the slingstone
that crushed the pride of Goliath.
Since he called upon the Most High God,
who gave strength to his right arm
To defeat the skilled warrior
and raise up the might of his people,
Therefore the women sang his praises,
and ascribed to him tens of thousands
and praised him when they blessed the Lord.
When he assumed the royal crown, he battled
and subdued the enemy on every side.
He destroyed the hostile Philistines
and shattered their power till our own day.
With his every deed he offered thanks
to God Most High, in words of praise.
With his whole being he loved his Maker
and daily had his praises sung;
He set singers before the altar and by their
voices
he made sweet melodies,
He added beauty to the feasts
and solemnized the seasons of each year
So that when the Holy Name was praised,
before daybreak the sanctuary would resound.
The LORD forgave him his sins
and exalted his strength forever;
He conferred on him the rights of royalty
and established his throne in Israel.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 18:31, 47 AND 50, 51](#)

R. (see 47b) **Blessed be God my salvation!**
God’s way is unerring,

the promise of the LORD is fire-tried;
he is a shield to all who take refuge in him.

R. Blessed be God my salvation!

The LORD live! And blessed be my Rock!

Extolled be God my savior.

Therefore will I proclaim you, O LORD, among
the nations,
and I will sing praise to your name.

R. Blessed be God my salvation!

You who gave great victories to your king
and showed kindness to your anointed,
to David and his posterity forever.

R. Blessed be God my salvation!

Day 73

FEBRUARY 8, 2014

Saturday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary
Time

Lectionary: 328

Reading 1 1 KGS 3:4-13

Solomon went to Gibeon to sacrifice there,
because that was the most renowned high place.
Upon its altar Solomon offered a thousand burnt
offerings.

In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a
dream at night.

God said, "Ask something of me and I will give it
to you."

Solomon answered:

"You have shown great favor to your servant, my
father David,
because he behaved faithfully toward you,
with justice and an upright heart;
and you have continued this great favor toward
him, even today,
seating a son of his on his throne.

O LORD, my God, you have made me, your
servant,

king to succeed my father David;

but I am a mere youth, not knowing at all how to
act.

I serve you in the midst of the people whom you
have chosen,

a people so vast that it cannot be numbered or

counted.

Give your servant, therefore, an understanding
heart

to judge your people and to distinguish right
from wrong.

For who is able to govern this vast people of
yours?"

The LORD was pleased that Solomon made this
request.

So God said to him: "Because you have asked for
this—

not for a long life for yourself,

nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies,

but for understanding so that you may know
what is right—

I do as you requested.

I give you a heart so wise and understanding

that there has never been anyone like you up to
now,

and after you there will come no one to equal
you.

In addition, I give you what you have not asked
for,

such riches and glory that among kings there is
not your like."

Responsorial Psalm PS 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

R. (12b) Lord, teach me your statutes.

How shall a young man be faultless in his way?

By keeping to your words.

R. Lord, teach me your statutes.

With all my heart I seek you;

let me not stray from your commands.

R. Lord, teach me your statutes.

Within my heart I treasure your promise,
that I may not sin against you.

R. Lord, teach me your statutes.

Blessed are you, O LORD;

teach me your statutes.

R. Lord, teach me your statutes.

With my lips I declare

all the ordinances of your mouth.

R. Lord, teach me your statutes.

In the way of your decrees I rejoice,

as much as in all riches.

R. Lord, teach me your statutes.

Day 74

FEBRUARY 9, 2014

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 73

Reading 1 IS 58:7-10

Thus says the LORD:

Share your bread with the hungry,
shelter the oppressed and the homeless;
clothe the naked when you see them,
and do not turn your back on your own.

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your wound shall quickly be healed;
your vindication shall go before you,
and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear
guard.

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer,
you shall cry for help, and he will say: Here I am!

If you remove from your midst
oppression, false accusation and malicious
speech;
if you bestow your bread on the hungry
and satisfy the afflicted;
then light shall rise for you in the darkness,
and the gloom shall become for you like midday.

Responsorial Psalm PS 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R/ (4a) **The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.**

or:

R/ **Alleluia.**

Light shines through the darkness for the upright;

he is gracious and merciful and just.

Well for the man who is gracious and lends,
who conducts his affairs with justice.

R/ **The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.**

or:

R/ **Alleluia.**

He shall never be moved;
the just one shall be in everlasting

remembrance.

An evil report he shall not fear;
his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.

R/ **The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.**

or:

R/ **Alleluia.**

His heart is steadfast; he shall not fear.

Lavishly he gives to the poor;

His justice shall endure forever;

his horn shall be exalted in glory.

R/ **The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.**

or:

R/ **Alleluia.**

Day 75

FEBRUARY 10, 2014

Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin

Lectionary: 329

Reading 1 1 KGS 8:1-7, 9-13

The elders of Israel and all the leaders of the tribes,

the princes in the ancestral houses of the children of Israel,

came to King Solomon in Jerusalem,

to bring up the ark of the LORD's covenant from the City of David, which is Zion.

All the people of Israel assembled before King Solomon

during the festival in the month of Ethanim (the seventh month).

When all the elders of Israel had arrived,

the priests took up the ark;

they carried the ark of the LORD

and the meeting tent with all the sacred vessels that were in the tent.

(The priests and Levites carried them.)

King Solomon and the entire community of Israel

present for the occasion

sacrificed before the ark sheep and oxen

too many to number or count.

The priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD
to its place beneath the wings of the cherubim in the sanctuary,
the holy of holies of the temple.
The cherubim had their wings spread out over the place of the ark,
sheltering the ark and its poles from above.
There was nothing in the ark but the two stone tablets
which Moses had put there at Horeb,
when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel
at their departure from the land of Egypt.

When the priests left the holy place,
the cloud filled the temple of the LORD
so that the priests could no longer minister because of the cloud,
since the LORD's glory had filled the temple of the LORD.

Then Solomon said, "The LORD intends to dwell in the dark cloud;
I have truly built you a princely house,
a dwelling where you may abide forever."

Responsorial Psalm PS 132:6-7, 8-10

R. (8a) **Lord, go up to the place of your rest!**
Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Jaar.
Let us enter into his dwelling,
let us worship at his footstool.

R. **Lord, go up to the place of your rest!**
Advance, O LORD, to your resting place,
you and the ark of your majesty.
May your priests be clothed with justice;
let your faithful ones shout merrily for joy.
For the sake of David your servant,
reject not the plea of your anointed.

R. **Lord, go up to the place of your rest!**

Day 76

FEBRUARY 11, 2014

Tuesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 330

Reading 1 1 KGS 8:22-23, 27-30

Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD
in the presence of the whole community of Israel,
and stretching forth his hands toward heaven,
he said, "LORD, God of Israel,
there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below;
you keep your covenant of mercy with your servants
who are faithful to you with their whole heart.

"Can it indeed be that God dwells on earth?
If the heavens and the highest heavens cannot contain you,
how much less this temple which I have built!
Look kindly on the prayer and petition of your servant, O LORD, my God,
and listen to the cry of supplication which I, your servant,
utter before you this day.
May your eyes watch night and day over this temple,
the place where you have decreed you shall be honored;
may you heed the prayer which I, your servant, offer in this place.
Listen to the petitions of your servant and of your people Israel
which they offer in this place.
Listen from your heavenly dwelling and grant pardon."

Responsorial Psalm PS 84:3, 4, 5 AND 10, 11

R. (2) **How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!**
My soul yearns and pines

for the courts of the LORD.
My heart and my flesh
cry out for the living God.

R. How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!

Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest
in which she puts her young—
Your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my king and my God!

R. How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!

Blessed they who dwell in your house!
continually they praise you.
O God, behold our shield,
and look upon the face of your anointed.

R. How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!

I had rather one day in your courts
than a thousand elsewhere;
I had rather lie at the threshold of the house of
my God
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

R. How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!

Day 77

FEBRUARY 12, 2014

Wednesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary
Time
Lectionary: 331

Reading 1 1 KGS 10:1-10

The queen of Sheba, having heard of Solomon's fame,
came to test him with subtle questions.
She arrived in Jerusalem with a very numerous retinue,
and with camels bearing spices,
a large amount of gold, and precious stones.
She came to Solomon and questioned him on every subject
in which she was interested.
King Solomon explained everything she asked about,

and there remained nothing hidden from him that he could not explain to her.

When the queen of Sheba witnessed Solomon's great wisdom,
the palace he had built, the food at his table,
the seating of his ministers, the attendance and garb of his waiters,
his banquet service,
and the burnt offerings he offered in the temple of the LORD,
she was breathless.

"The report I heard in my country
about your deeds and your wisdom is true," she told the king.

"Though I did not believe the report until I came and saw with my own eyes,
I have discovered that they were not telling me the half.

Your wisdom and prosperity surpass the report I heard.

Blessed are your men, blessed these servants of yours,
who stand before you always and listen to your wisdom.

Blessed be the LORD, your God,
whom it has pleased to place you on the throne of Israel.

In his enduring love for Israel,
the LORD has made you king to carry out judgment and justice."

Then she gave the king one hundred and twenty gold talents,
a very large quantity of spices, and precious stones.

Never again did anyone bring such an abundance of spices
as the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon.

Responsorial Psalm PS 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40

R. (30a) **The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.**
Commit to the LORD your way;
trust in him, and he will act.

He will make justice dawn for you like the light;
bright as the noonday shall be your vindication.

R. **The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.**

The mouth of the just man tells of wisdom
and his tongue utters what is right.

The law of his God is in his heart,
and his steps do not falter.

R. The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.

The salvation of the just is from the LORD;
he is their refuge in time of distress.

And the LORD helps them and delivers them;
he delivers them from the wicked and saves
them,

because they take refuge in him.

R. The mouth of the just murmurs wisdom.

Day 78

FEBRUARY 13, 2014

Thursday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 332

Reading 1 **1 KGS 11:4-13**

When Solomon was old his wives had turned his
heart to strange gods,

and his heart was not entirely with the LORD,
his God,

as the heart of his father David had been.

By adoring Astarte, the goddess of the Sidonians,
and Milcom, the idol of the Ammonites,

Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD;

he did not follow him unreservedly as his father
David had done.

Solomon then built a high place to Chemosh, the
idol of Moab,

and to Molech, the idol of the Ammonites,
on the hill opposite Jerusalem.

He did the same for all his foreign wives
who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

The LORD, therefore, became angry with
Solomon,

because his heart was turned away from the
LORD, the God of Israel,

who had appeared to him twice

(for though the LORD had forbidden him

this very act of following strange gods,

Solomon had not obeyed him).

So the LORD said to Solomon: "Since this is

what you want,

and you have not kept my covenant and my
statutes

which I enjoined on you,

I will deprive you of the kingdom and give it to
your servant.

I will not do this during your lifetime, however,
for the sake of your father David;

it is your son whom I will deprive.

Nor will I take away the whole kingdom.

I will leave your son one tribe for the sake of my
servant David

and of Jerusalem, which I have chosen."

Responsorial Psalm **PS 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 AND 40**

**R. (4a) Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your
people.**

Blessed are they who observe what is right,
who do always what is just.

Remember us, O LORD, as you favor your
people;

visit us with your saving help.

**R. Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your
people.**

But they mingled with the nations

and learned their works.

They served their idols,

which became a snare for them.

**R. Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your
people.**

They sacrificed their sons

and their daughters to demons.

And the LORD grew angry with his people,
and abhorred his inheritance.

**R. Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your
people.**

Day 79

FEBRUARY 14, 2014

Memorial of Saints Cyril, Monk, and
Methodius, Bishop
Lectionary: 333

Reading 1 1 KGS 11:29-32; 12:19

Jeroboam left Jerusalem,
and the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite met him on
the road.

The two were alone in the area,
and the prophet was wearing a new cloak.
Ahijah took off his new cloak,
tore it into twelve pieces, and said to Jeroboam:

“Take ten pieces for yourself;
the LORD, the God of Israel, says:
‘I will tear away the kingdom from Solomon’s
grasp
and will give you ten of the tribes.
One tribe shall remain to him for the sake of
David my servant,
and of Jerusalem,
the city I have chosen out of all the tribes of
Israel.’”

Israel went into rebellion against David’s house
to this day.

Responsorial Psalm PS 81:10-11AB, 12-13, 14-15

R. (11a and 9a) **I am the Lord, your God: hear my voice.**

“There shall be no strange god among you
nor shall you worship any alien god.

I, the LORD, am your God
who led you forth from the land of Egypt.”

R. **I am the Lord, your God: hear my voice.**

“My people heard not my voice,
and Israel obeyed me not;
So I gave them up to the hardness of their
hearts;
they walked according to their own counsels.”

R. **I am the Lord, your God: hear my voice.**

“If only my people would hear me,

and Israel walk in my ways,
Quickly would I humble their enemies;
against their foes I would turn my hand.”

R. **I am the Lord, your God: hear my voice.**

Day 80

FEBRUARY 15, 2014

Saturday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 334

Reading 1 1 KGS 12:26-32; 13:33-34

Jeroboam thought to himself:

“The kingdom will return to David’s house.

If now this people go up to offer sacrifices
in the temple of the LORD in Jerusalem,
the hearts of this people will return to their
master,

Rehoboam, king of Judah,
and they will kill me.”

After taking counsel, the king made two calves of
gold

and said to the people:

“You have been going up to Jerusalem long
enough.

Here is your God, O Israel, who brought you up
from the land of Egypt.”

And he put one in Bethel, the other in Dan.

This led to sin, because the people frequented
those calves

in Bethel and in Dan.

He also built temples on the high places
and made priests from among the people who
were not Levites.

Jeroboam established a feast in the eighth
month

on the fifteenth day of the month

to duplicate in Bethel the pilgrimage feast of
Judah,

with sacrifices to the calves he had made;
and he stationed in Bethel priests of the high
places he had built.

Jeroboam did not give up his evil ways after this,
but again made priests for the high places
from among the common people.

Whoever desired it was consecrated
and became a priest of the high places.
This was a sin on the part of the house of
Jeroboam
for which it was to be cut off and destroyed from
the earth.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 106:6-7AB, 19-20, 21-22](#)

R. (4a) **Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**
We have sinned, we and our fathers;
we have committed crimes; we have done wrong.
Our fathers in Egypt
considered not your wonders.
R. **Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**
They made a calf in Horeb
and adored a molten image;
They exchanged their glory
for the image of a grass-eating bullock.
R. **Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**
They forgot the God who had saved them,
who had done great deeds in Egypt,
Wondrous deeds in the land of Ham,
terrible things at the Red Sea.
R. **Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

Day 81

[FEBRUARY 16, 2014](#)

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 76

Reading 1 [SIR 15:15-20](#)

If you choose you can keep the commandments,
they will save you;
if you trust in God, you too shall live;
he has set before you fire and water
to whichever you choose, stretch forth your
hand.
Before man are life and death, good and evil,
whichever he chooses shall be given him.
Immense is the wisdom of the Lord;

he is mighty in power, and all-seeing.
The eyes of God are on those who fear him;
he understands man's every deed.
No one does he command to act unjustly,
to none does he give license to sin.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34](#)

R/ (1b) **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**

Blessed are they whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD.
Blessed are they who observe his decrees,
who seek him with all their heart.

R/ **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**

You have commanded that your precepts
be diligently kept.

Oh, that I might be firm in the ways
of keeping your statutes!

R/ **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**

Be good to your servant, that I may live
and keep your words.

Open my eyes, that I may consider
the wonders of your law.

R/ **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**

Instruct me, O LORD, in the way of your
statutes,

that I may exactly observe them.

Give me discernment, that I may observe your
law

and keep it with all my heart.

R/ **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**

Day 82

[FEBRUARY 17, 2014](#)

Monday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 335

Reading 1 [JAS 1:1-11](#)

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus
Christ,

to the twelve tribes in the dispersion, greetings.

Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters,
when you encounter various trials,
for you know that the testing of your faith
produces perseverance.
And let perseverance be perfect,
so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking
in nothing.

But if any of you lacks wisdom,
he should ask God who gives to all generously
and ungrudgingly,
and he will be given it.

But he should ask in faith, not doubting,
for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea
that is driven and tossed about by the wind.
For that person must not suppose that he will
receive anything from the Lord,
since he is a man of two minds, unstable in all
his ways.

The brother in lowly circumstances
should take pride in high standing,
and the rich one in his lowliness,
for he will pass away “like the flower of the
field.”

For the sun comes up with its scorching heat and
dries up the grass,
its flower droops, and the beauty of its
appearance vanishes.

So will the rich person fade away in the midst of
his pursuits.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76](#)

R. (77a) **Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

Before I was afflicted I went astray,
but now I hold to your promise.

R. **Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

You are good and bountiful;
teach me your statutes.

R. **Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

It is good for me that I have been afflicted,
that I may learn your statutes.

R. **Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

The law of your mouth is to me more precious
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

R. **Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

I know, O LORD, that your ordinances are just,
and in your faithfulness you have afflicted me.

R. **Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

Let your kindness comfort me
according to your promise to your servants.

R. **Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

Day 83

FEBRUARY 18, 2014

Tuesday of the sixth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 336

Reading 1 [JAS 1:12-18](#)

Blessed is he who perseveres in temptation,
for when he has been proven he will receive the
crown of life

that he promised to those who love him.

No one experiencing temptation should say,
“I am being tempted by God”;

for God is not subject to temptation to evil,
and he himself tempts no one.

Rather, each person is tempted when lured and
enticed by his desire.

Then desire conceives and brings forth sin,
and when sin reaches maturity it gives birth to
death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers and
sisters:

all good giving and every perfect gift is from
above,

coming down from the Father of lights,
with whom there is no alteration or shadow
caused by change.

He willed to give us birth by the word of truth
that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his
creatures.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 94:12-13A, 14-15, 18-19](#)

R. (12a) **Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.**

Blessed the man whom you instruct, O LORD,
whom by your law you teach,
Giving him rest from evil days.

R. Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.
For the LORD will not cast off his people,
nor abandon his inheritance;
But judgment shall again be with justice,
and all the upright of heart shall follow it.
R. Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.
When I say, "My foot is slipping,"
your mercy, O LORD, sustains me;
When cares abound within me,
your comfort gladdens my soul.
R. Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.

Day 84

FEBRUARY 19, 2014

Wednesday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary
Time
Lectionary: 337

Reading 1 [JAS 1:19-27](#)

Know this, my dear brothers and sisters:
everyone should be quick to hear, slow to speak,
slow to anger
for anger does not accomplish
the righteousness of God.
Therefore, put away all filth and evil excess
and humbly welcome the word that has been
planted in you
and is able to save your souls.

Be doers of the word and not hearers only,
deluding yourselves.
For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a
doer,
he is like a man who looks at his own face in a
mirror.
He sees himself, then goes off and promptly
forgets
what he looked like.
But the one who peers into the perfect law of
freedom and perseveres,
and is not a hearer who forgets but a doer who
acts;
such a one shall be blessed in what he does.

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not

bridle his tongue
but deceives his heart, his religion is vain.
Religion that is pure and undefiled before God
and the Father is this:
to care for orphans and widows in their affliction
and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 15:2-3A, 3AB-4AB, 5](#)

R. (1b) Who shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord?

He who walks blamelessly and does justice;
who thinks the truth in his heart
and slanders not with his tongue.

R. Who shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord?

Who harms not his fellow man,
nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor;
By whom the reprobate is despised,
while he honors those who fear the LORD.

R. Who shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord?

Who lends not his money at usury
and accepts no bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things
shall never be disturbed.

R. Who shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord?

Day 85

FEBRUARY 20, 2014

Thursday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 338

Reading 1 [JAS 2:1-9](#)

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality
as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord
Jesus Christ.

For if a man with gold rings and fine clothes
comes into your assembly,
and a poor person with shabby clothes also
comes in,
and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine
clothes
and say, "Sit here, please,"
while you say to the poor one, "Stand there," or
"Sit at my feet,"
have you not made distinctions among

yourselves
and become judges with evil designs?

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters.
Did not God choose those who are poor in the world
to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom
that he promised to those who love him?
But you dishonored the poor.
Are not the rich oppressing you?
And do they themselves not haul you off to court?
Is it not they who blaspheme the noble name
that was invoked over you?
However, if you fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture,
You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you
are doing well.
But if you show partiality, you commit sin,
and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

Responsorial Psalm PS 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

R. (7a) **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**
I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall be ever in my mouth.
Let my soul glory in the LORD;
the lowly will hear me and be glad.
R. **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**
Glorify the LORD with me,
let us together extol his name.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.
R. **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**
Look to him that you may be radiant with joy,
and your faces may not blush with shame.
When the poor one called out, the LORD heard,
and from all his distress he saved him.
R. **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**

Day 86

FEBRUARY 21, 2014

Friday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 339

Reading 1 JAS 2:14-24, 26

What good is it, my brothers and sisters,
if someone says he has faith but does not have works?

Can that faith save him?
If a brother or sister has nothing to wear
and has no food for the day,
and one of you says to them,
“Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,”
but you do not give them the necessities of the body,
what good is it?
So also faith of itself,
if it does not have works, is dead.

Indeed someone might say,
“You have faith and I have works.”
Demonstrate your faith to me without works,
and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.
You believe that God is one.
You do well.

Even the demons believe that and tremble.
Do you want proof, you ignoramus,
that faith without works is useless?
Was not Abraham our father justified by works
when he offered his son Isaac upon the altar?
You see that faith was active along with his works,
and faith was completed by the works.
Thus the Scripture was fulfilled that says,
*Abraham believed God,
and it was credited to him as righteousness,
and he was called the friend of God.*
See how a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.
For just as a body without a spirit is dead,
so also faith without works is dead.

Responsorial Psalm PS 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

R. (see 1b) **Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.**
Blessed the man who fears the LORD,
who greatly delights in his commands.
His posterity shall be mighty upon the earth;
the upright generation shall be blessed.
R. **Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.**

Wealth and riches shall be in his house;
his generosity shall endure forever.
Light shines through the darkness for the upright;
he is gracious and merciful and just.
R. Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.
Well for the man who is gracious and lends,
who conducts his affairs with justice;
He shall never be moved;
the just man shall be in everlasting remembrance.
R. Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.

Day 87

FEBRUARY 22, 2014

Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle
Lectionary: 535

Reading 1 1 PT 5:1-4

Beloved:
I exhort the presbyters among you,
as a fellow presbyter and witness to the sufferings of Christ
and one who has a share in the glory to be revealed.
Tend the flock of God in your midst,
overseeing not by constraint but willingly,
as God would have it, not for shameful profit but eagerly.
Do not lord it over those assigned to you,
but be examples to the flock.
And when the chief Shepherd is revealed,
you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Responsorial Psalm PS 23:1-3A, 4, 5, 6

R. (1) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
Beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.
R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
With your rod and your staff
that give me courage.
R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
You spread the table before me
in the sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Only goodness and kindness follow me
all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
for years to come.
R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Day 88

FEBRUARY 23, 2014

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 79

Reading 1 LV 19:1-2, 17-18

The LORD said to Moses,
“Speak to the whole Israelite community and tell them:
Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.
“You shall not bear hatred for your brother or sister in your heart.
Though you may have to reprove your fellow citizen,
do not incur sin because of him.
Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people.
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
I am the LORD.”

Responsorial Psalm PS 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13

R/ (8a) The Lord is kind and merciful.
Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.
R/ **The Lord is kind and merciful.**
He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion.
R/ **The Lord is kind and merciful.**
Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
nor does he requite us according to our crimes.
R/ **The Lord is kind and merciful.**
As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he put our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.
R/ **The Lord is kind and merciful.**

Day 89

FEBRUARY 24, 2014

Monday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary
Time
Lectionary: 341

Reading 1 **JAS 3:13-18**

Beloved:
Who among you is wise and understanding?
Let him show his works by a good life
in the humility that comes from wisdom.
But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish
ambition in your hearts,
do not boast and be false to the truth.
Wisdom of this kind does not come down from
above
but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.
For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist,
there is disorder and every foul practice.
But the wisdom from above is first of all pure,
then peaceable, gentle, compliant,
full of mercy and good fruits,
without inconstancy or insincerity.
And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace
for those who cultivate peace.

Responsorial Psalm **PS 19:8, 9, 10, 15**

R. (9a) **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**
The law of the LORD is perfect,
refreshing the soul;
The decree of the LORD is trustworthy,
giving wisdom to the simple.
R. **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**
The precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
The command of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eye.
R. **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**
The fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;
The ordinances of the LORD are true,
all of them just.
R. **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**
Let the words of my mouth and the thought of
my heart
find favor before you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.
R. **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

Day 90

FEBRUARY 25, 2014

« [February 24](#) | [February 26](#) »

Tuesday of the Seventh week in Ordinary
Time
Lectionary: 342

Reading 1 **JAS 4:1-10**

Beloved:
Where do the wars and where do the conflicts
among you come from?
Is it not from your passions that make war
within your members?
You covet but do not possess.
You kill and envy but you cannot obtain;
you fight and wage war.
You do not possess because you do not ask.
You ask but do not receive, because you ask
wrongly,
to spend it on your passions.

Adulterers!

Do you not know that to be a lover of the world means enmity with God?

Therefore, whoever wants to be a lover of the world

makes himself an enemy of God.

Or do you suppose that the Scripture speaks without meaning when it says,

The spirit that he has made to dwell in us tends toward jealousy?

But he bestows a greater grace; therefore, it says:

*God resists the proud,
but gives grace to the humble.*

So submit yourselves 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 of two minds.

Begin to lament, to mourn, to weep.

Let your laughter be turned into mourning

and your joy into dejection.

Humble yourselves before the Lord

and he will exalt you.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 55:7-8, 9-10A, 10B-11A, 23](#)

R. (23a) Throw your cares on the Lord, and he will support you.

And I say, "Had I but wings like a dove,

I would fly away and be at rest.

Far away I would flee;

I would lodge in the wilderness."

R. Throw your cares on the Lord, and he will support you.

"I would wait for him who saves me from the violent storm and the tempest."

Engulf them, O Lord; divide their counsels.

R. Throw your cares on the Lord, and he will support you.

In the city I see violence and strife, day and night they prowl about upon its walls.

R. Throw your cares on the Lord, and he will support you.

Cast your care upon the LORD,

and he will support you;

never will he permit the just man to be

disturbed.

R. Throw your cares on the Lord, and he will support you.

Day 91

FEBRUARY 26, 2014

Wednesday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 343

Reading 1 [JAS 4:13-17](#)

Beloved:

Come now, you who say,

"Today or tomorrow we shall go into such and such a town,

spend a year there doing business, and make a profit"—

you have no idea what your life will be like tomorrow.

You are a puff of smoke that appears briefly and then disappears.

Instead you should say,

"If the Lord wills it, we shall live to do this or that."

But now you are boasting in your arrogance.

All such boasting is evil.

So for one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, it is a sin.

Responsorial Psalm [PS 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11](#)

R. (Matthew 5:3) Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Hear this, all you peoples;

hearken, all who dwell in the world,

Of lowly birth or high degree,

rich and poor alike.

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Why should I fear in evil days

when my wicked ensnarers ring me round?

They trust in their wealth;

the abundance of their riches is their boast.

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Yet in no way can a man redeem himself,
or pay his own ransom to God;
Too high is the price to redeem one's life; he
would never have enough
to remain alive always and not see destruction.

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

For he can see that wise men die,
and likewise the senseless and the stupid pass
away,
leaving to others their wealth.

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Day 92

FEBRUARY 27, 2014

Thursday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary
Time

Lectionary: 344

Reading 1 JAS 5:1-6

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your
impending miseries.
Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have
become moth-eaten,
your gold and silver have corroded,
and that corrosion will be a testimony against
you;
it will devour your flesh like a fire.
You have stored up treasure for the last days.
Behold, the wages you withheld from the
workers
who harvested your fields are crying aloud;
and the cries of the harvesters
have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.
You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure;
you have fattened your hearts for the day of
slaughter.
You have condemned;
you have murdered the righteous one;
he offers you no resistance.

**Responsorial Psalm PS 49:14-15AB,
15CD-16, 17-18, 19-20**

R. (Matthew 5:3) **Blessed are the poor in spirit;
the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

This is the way of those whose trust is folly,
the end of those contented with their lot:
Like sheep they are herded into the nether
world;
death is their shepherd and the upright rule over
them.

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Quickly their form is consumed;
the nether world is their palace.

But God will redeem me
from the power of the nether world by receiving
me.

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Fear not when a man grows rich,
when the wealth of his house becomes great,
For when he dies, he shall take none of it;
his wealth shall not follow him down.

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Though in his lifetime he counted himself
blessed,
“They will praise you for doing well for yourself,”
He shall join the circle of his forebears
who shall never more see light.

R. Blessed are the poor in spirit; the Kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Day 93

FEBRUARY 28, 2014

Friday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 345

Reading 1 JAS 5:9-12

Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one
another,
that you may not be judged.
Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates.
Take as an example of hardship and patience,
brothers and sisters,
the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
Indeed we call blessed those who have

persevered.

You have heard of the perseverance of Job,
and you have seen the purpose of the Lord,
because *the Lord is compassionate and merciful*.

But above all, my brothers and sisters, do not
swear,
either by heaven or by earth or with any other
oath,
but let your “Yes” mean “Yes” and your “No”
mean “No,”
that you may not incur condemnation.

Responsorial Psalm PS 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12

R. (8a) The Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

He pardons all your iniquities,
he heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
he crowns you with kindness and compassion.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
He will not always chide,
nor does he keep his wrath forever.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who
fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he put our transgressions from us.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.