**Year A**

#### Day 1

# December 1, 2013

First Sunday of Advent   
Lectionary: 1  
  
Reading 1 [IS 2:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/2:1)

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!

#### Reading 2 [ROM 13:11-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/romans/13:11)

Brothers and sisters:  
You know the time;  
it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.  
For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed;  
the night is advanced, the day is at hand.  
Let us then throw off the works of darkness  
and put on the armor of light;  
let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day,  
not in orgies and drunkenness,  
not in promiscuity and lust,  
not in rivalry and jealousy.  
But put on the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

**Responsorial Psalm** [**PS 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9**](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/122:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 24:37-44](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/24:37)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“As it was in the days of Noah,  
so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.  
In those days before the flood,  
they were eating and drinking,  
marrying and giving in marriage,  
up to the day that Noah entered the ark.  
They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away.  
So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.  
Two men will be out in the field;  
one will be taken, and one will be left.   
Two women will be grinding at the mill;  
one will be taken, and one will be left.   
Therefore, stay awake!  
For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.   
Be sure of this: if the master of the house  
had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,  
he would have stayed awake  
and not let his house be broken into.  
So too, you also must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

**Day 2**

# December 2, 2013

### Monday of the First Week of Advent  Lectionary: 175

#### Reading 1 [IS 4:2-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/4:2)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/122:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 8:5-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/8:5)

When Jesus entered Capernaum,  
a centurion approached him and appealed to him, saying,  
“Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, suffering dreadfully.”   
He said to him, “I will come and cure him.”   
The centurion said in reply,  
“Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof;  
only say the word and my servant will be healed.  
For I too am a man subject to authority,  
with soldiers subject to me.  
And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes;  
and to another, ‘Come here,’ and he comes;  
and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”   
When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him,  
“Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith.   
I say to you, many will come from the east and the west,  
and will recline with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob  
at the banquet in the Kingdom of heaven.”

**Day 3**

# December 3, 2013

### Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest  Lectionary: 176

#### Reading 1 [IS 11:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/11:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/72:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 10:21-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/10:21)

Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said,  
“I give you praise, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for although you have hidden these things  
from the wise and the learned  
you have revealed them to the childlike.   
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.   
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.   
No one knows who the Son is except the Father,  
and who the Father is except the Son  
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.”  
  
Turning to the disciples in private he said,  
“Blessed are the eyes that see what you see.   
For I say to you,  
many prophets and kings desired to see what you see,  
but did not see it,   
and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.”

**Day 4**

# December 4, 2013

### Wednesday of the First Week of Advent  Lectionary: 177

#### Reading 1 [IS 25:6-10A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/25:6)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/23:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 15:29-37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/15:29)

At that time:  
Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee,  
went up on the mountain, and sat down there.   
Great crowds came to him,  
having with them the lame, the blind, the deformed, the mute,  
and many others.   
They placed them at his feet, and he cured them.   
The crowds were amazed when they saw the mute speaking,  
the deformed made whole,   
the lame walking,   
and the blind able to see,  
and they glorified the God of Israel.  
  
Jesus summoned his disciples and said,  
“My heart is moved with pity for the crowd,  
for they have been with me now for three days  
and have nothing to eat.   
I do not want to send them away hungry,  
for fear they may collapse on the way.”   
The disciples said to him,  
“Where could we ever get enough bread in this deserted place  
to satisfy such a crowd?”   
Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?”   
“Seven,” they replied, “and a few fish.”   
He ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground.   
Then he took the seven loaves and the fish,  
gave thanks, broke the loaves,  
and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds.   
They all ate and were satisfied.   
They picked up the fragments left over–seven baskets full.

**Day 5**

# December 5, 2013

### Thursday of the First Week of Advent  Lectionary: 178

#### Reading 1 [IS 26:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/26:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/118:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 7:21, 24-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/7:21)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’  
will enter the Kingdom of heaven,  
but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.  
  
“Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them  
will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.   
The rain fell, the floods came,  
and the winds blew and buffeted the house.   
But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.   
And everyone who listens to these words of mine  
but does not act on them  
will be like a fool who built his house on sand.   
The rain fell, the floods came,  
and the winds blew and buffeted the house.   
And it collapsed and was completely ruined.”

**Day 6**

# December 6, 2013

### Friday of the First Week of Advent  Lectionary: 179

#### Reading 1 [IS 29:17-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/29:17)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/27:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 9:27-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/9:27)

As Jesus passed by, two blind men followed him, crying out,  
“Son of David, have pity on us!”   
When he entered the house,  
the blind men approached him and Jesus said to them,  
“Do you believe that I can do this?”   
“Yes, Lord,” they said to him.   
Then he touched their eyes and said,  
“Let it be done for you according to your faith.”   
And their eyes were opened.   
Jesus warned them sternly,  
“See that no one knows about this.”   
But they went out and spread word of him through all that land.

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/30:19)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/147:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 9:35–10:1, 5A, 6-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/9:35)

Jesus went around to all the towns and villages,  
teaching in their synagogues,  
proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom,  
and curing every disease and illness.   
At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them  
because they were troubled and abandoned,  
like sheep without a shepherd.  
Then he said to his disciples,  
“The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few;  
so ask the master of the harvest  
to send out laborers for his harvest.”   
  
Then he summoned his Twelve disciples  
and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out  
and to cure every disease and every illness.   
  
Jesus sent out these Twelve after instructing them thus,  
“Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.   
As you go, make this proclamation: ‘The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.’   
Cure the sick, raise the dead,  
cleanse lepers, drive out demons.  
Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.”

**Day 8**

# December 8, 2013

### Second Sunday of Advent  Lectionary: 4

#### Reading 1 [IS 11:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/11:1)

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.

#### Reading 2 [ROM 15:4-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/romans/15:4)

Brothers and sisters:  
Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction,   
that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures   
we might have hope.  
May the God of endurance and encouragement   
grant you to think in harmony with one another,   
in keeping with Christ Jesus,   
that with one accord you may with one voice   
glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
  
Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you,   
for the glory of God.  
For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised  
to show God’s truthfulness,   
to confirm the promises to the patriarchs,   
but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.  
As it is written:Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentilesand sing praises to your name.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/72:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 3:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/3:1)

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea  
and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”  
It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:  
A voice of one crying out in the desert,Prepare the way of the Lord,make straight his paths.  
John wore clothing made of camel’s hair   
and had a leather belt around his waist.  
His food was locusts and wild honey.  
At that time Jerusalem, all Judea,  
and the whole region around the Jordan  
were going out to him  
and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River  
as they acknowledged their sins.  
  
When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees  
coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers!  
Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?  
Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance.  
And do not presume to say to yourselves,   
‘We have Abraham as our father.’  
For I tell you,   
God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones.  
Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees.  
Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit   
will be cut down and thrown into the fire.  
I am baptizing you with water, for repentance,   
but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.  
I am not worthy to carry his sandals.  
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.  
His winnowing fan is in his hand.  
He will clear his threshing floor   
and gather his wheat into his barn,   
but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/genesis/3:9)

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 meC  
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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/98:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 1:26-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/1:26)

The angel Gabriel was sent from God  
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,  
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,  
of the house of David,  
and the virgin’s name was Mary.  
And coming to her, he said,  
“Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.”  
But she was greatly troubled at what was said  
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.  
Then the angel said to her,  
“Do not be afraid, Mary,  
for you have found favor with God.  
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus.  
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,  
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,  
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,  
and of his Kingdom there will be no end.”  
But Mary said to the angel,  
“How can this be,  
since I have no relations with a man?”  
And the angel said to her in reply,  
“The Holy Spirit will come upon you,  
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.  
Therefore the child to be born  
will be called holy, the Son of God.  
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,  
has also conceived a son in her old age,  
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;  
for nothing will be impossible for God.”  
Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.  
May it be done to me according to your word.”  
Then the angel departed from her.

**Day 10**

# December 10, 2013

### Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent  Lectionary: 182

#### Reading 1 [IS 40:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/40:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/96:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 18:12-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/18:12)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“What is your opinion?   
If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray,  
will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills  
and go in search of the stray?   
And if he finds it, amen, I say to you, he rejoices more over it  
than over the ninety-nine that did not stray.   
In just the same way, it is not the will of your heavenly Father  
that one of these little ones be lost.”

**Day 11**

# December 11, 2013

Wednesday of the Second Week of Advent   
Lectionary: 183

#### Reading 1 [IS 40:25-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/40:25)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/103:1)

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!**

#### Gospel [MT 11:28-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/11:28)

Jesus said to the crowds:  
“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,  
and I will give you rest.   
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am meek and humble of heart;  
and you will find rest for yourselves.   
For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

**Day 12**

# December 12, 2013

### Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe  Lectionary: 690A

#### Reading 1 [ZEC 2:14-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/zechariah/2:14)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/revelation/11:19)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/judith/13:18)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 1:26-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/1:26)

The angel Gabriel was sent from God  
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,  
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,  
of the house of David,  
and the virgin’s name was Mary.  
And coming to her, he said,  
“Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.”  
But she was greatly troubled at what was said  
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.  
Then the angel said to her,  
“Do not be afraid, Mary,  
for you have found favor with God.  
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus.  
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,  
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,  
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,  
and of his Kingdom there will be no end.”  
But Mary said to the angel,  
“How can this be,  
since I have no relations with a man?”  
And the angel said to her in reply,  
“The Holy Spirit will come upon you,  
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.  
Therefore the child to be born  
will be called holy, the Son of God.  
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,  
has also conceived a son in her old age,  
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;  
for nothing will be impossible for God.”  
Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.  
May it be done to me according to your word.”  
Then the angel departed from her.

**Day 13**

# December 13, 2013

### Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr  Lectionary: 185

#### Reading 1 [IS 48:17-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/48:17)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/1:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 11:16-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/11:16)

Jesus said to the crowds:  
“To what shall I compare this generation?   
It is like children who sit in marketplaces and call to one another,  
‘We played the flute for you, but you did not dance,  
we sang a dirge but you did not mourn.’   
For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they said,  
‘He is possessed by a demon.’   
The Son of Man came eating and drinking and they said,  
‘Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard,  
a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’   
But wisdom is vindicated by her works.”

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/sirach/48:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/80:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 17:9A, 10-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/17:9)

As they were coming down from the mountain,  
the disciples asked Jesus,  
“Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?”  
He said in reply, “Elijah will indeed come and restore all things;  
but I tell you that Elijah has already come,  
and they did not recognize him but did to him whatever they pleased.   
So also will the Son of Man suffer at their hands.”  
Then the disciples understood  
that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

**Day 15**

# December 15, 2013

### Third Sunday of Advent  Lectionary: 7

#### Reading 1 [IS 35:1-6A, 10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/35:1)

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.

#### Reading 2 [JAS 5:7-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/james/5:7)

Be patient, brothers and sisters,  
until the coming of the Lord.  
See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth,   
being patient with it  
until it receives the early and the late rains.  
You too must be patient.  
Make your hearts firm,  
because the coming of the Lord is at hand.  
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.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/146:6)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 11:2-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/11:2)

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ,   
he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question,   
“Are you the one who is to come,  
or should we look for another?”  
Jesus said to them in reply,   
“Go and tell John what you hear and see:   
the blind regain their sight,   
the lame walk,  
lepers are cleansed,   
the deaf hear,  
the dead are raised,  
and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.  
And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me.”  
  
As they were going off,  
Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John,   
“What did you go out to the desert to see?  
A reed swayed by the wind?  
Then what did you go out to see?  
Someone dressed in fine clothing?  
Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces.  
Then why did you go out? To see a prophet?  
Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.  
This is the one about whom it is written:  
Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;he will prepare your way before you.  
Amen, I say to you,  
among those born of women   
there has been none greater than John the Baptist;   
yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

**Day 16**

# December 16, 2013

### Monday of the Third Week of Advent  Lectionary: 187

#### Reading 1 [NM 24:2-7, 15-17A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/numbers/24:2)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/25:4)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 21:23-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/21:23)

When Jesus had come into the temple area,  
the chief priests and the elders of the people approached him  
as he was teaching and said,  
“By what authority are you doing these things?   
And who gave you this authority?”   
Jesus said to them in reply,  
“I shall ask you one question, and if you answer it for me,  
then I shall tell you by what authority I do these things.   
Where was John’s baptism from?  
Was it of heavenly or of human origin?”   
They discussed this among themselves and said,  
“If we say ‘Of heavenly origin,’ he will say to us,  
‘Then why did you not believe him?’   
But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we fear the crowd,  
for they all regard John as a prophet.”   
So they said to Jesus in reply, “We do not know.”   
He himself said to them,  
“Neither shall I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

**Day 17**

# December 17, 2013

### Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent  Lectionary: 193

#### Reading 1 [GN 49:2, 8-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/genesis/49:2)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/72:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 1:1-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/1:1)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ,  
the son of David, the son of Abraham.  
  
Abraham became the father of Isaac,  
Isaac the father of Jacob,  
Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.   
Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah,  
whose mother was Tamar.   
Perez became the father of Hezron,  
Hezron the father of Ram,  
Ram the father of Amminadab.   
Amminadab became the father of Nahshon,  
Nahshon the father of Salmon,  
Salmon the father of Boaz,  
whose mother was Rahab.   
Boaz became the father of Obed,  
whose mother was Ruth.   
Obed became the father of Jesse,  
Jesse the father of David the king.  
  
David became the father of Solomon,  
whose mother had been the wife of Uriah.   
Solomon became the father of Rehoboam,  
Rehoboam the father of Abijah,  
Abijah the father of Asaph.   
Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat,  
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram,  
Joram the father of Uzziah.   
Uzziah became the father of Jotham,  
Jotham the father of Ahaz,  
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah.   
Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh,  
Manasseh the father of Amos,  
Amos the father of Josiah.  
Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers  
at the time of the Babylonian exile.  
  
After the Babylonian exile,  
Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel,  
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,  
Zerubbabel the father of Abiud.   
Abiud became the father of Eliakim,  
Eliakim the father of Azor,  
Azor the father of Zadok.   
Zadok became the father of Achim,  
Achim the father of Eliud,  
Eliud the father of Eleazar.   
Eleazar became the father of Matthan,  
Matthan the father of Jacob,  
Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary.   
Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ.  
  
Thus the total number of generations  
from Abraham to David  
is fourteen generations;  
from David to the Babylonian exile, fourteen generations;  
from the Babylonian exile to the Christ,  
fourteen generations.

**Day 18**

# December 18, 2013

### Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent  Lectionary: 194

#### Reading 1 [JER 23:5-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/jeremiah/23:5)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/72:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 1:18-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/1:18)

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about.   
When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph,  
but before they lived together,  
she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.   
Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man,  
yet unwilling to expose her to shame,  
decided to divorce her quietly.   
Such was his intention when, behold,  
the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,   
“Joseph, son of David,  
do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.   
For it is through the Holy Spirit  
that this child has been conceived in her.   
She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,  
because he will save his people from their sins.”   
All this took place to fulfill  
what the Lord had said through the prophet:  
  
Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son,and they shall name him Emmanuel,  
  
which means “God is with us.”   
When Joseph awoke,  
he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him  
and took his wife into his home.   
He had no relations with her until she bore a son,  
and he named him Jesus.

**Day 19**

# December 19, 2013

 Thursday of Third Week of Advent   
Lectionary: 195

#### Reading 1 [JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/judges/13:2)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/71:3)

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!**

#### Gospel [LK 1:5-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/1:5)

In the days of Herod, King of Judea,  
there was a priest named Zechariah  
of the priestly division of Abijah;  
his wife was from the daughters of Aaron,  
and her name was Elizabeth.   
Both were righteous in the eyes of God,  
observing all the commandments  
and ordinances of the Lord blamelessly.   
But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren  
and both were advanced in years.   
  
Once when he was serving as priest  
in his division’s turn before God,  
according to the practice of the priestly service,  
he was chosen by lot  
to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to burn incense.   
Then, when the whole assembly of the people was praying outside  
at the hour of the incense offering,  
the angel of the Lord appeared to him,  
standing at the right of the altar of incense.   
Zechariah was troubled by what he saw, and fear came upon him.   
  
But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah,  
because your prayer has been heard.   
Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son,  
and you shall name him John.   
And you will have joy and gladness,  
and many will rejoice at his birth,  
for he will be great in the sight of the Lord.   
He will drink neither wine nor strong drink.   
He will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother’s womb,  
and he will turn many of the children of Israel  
to the Lord their God.   
He will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah  
to turn the hearts of fathers toward children  
and the disobedient to the understanding of the righteous,  
to prepare a people fit for the Lord.”   
  
Then Zechariah said to the angel,  
“How shall I know this?   
For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.”   
And the angel said to him in reply,  
“I am Gabriel, who stand before God.  
I was sent to speak to you and to announce to you this good news.   
But now you will be speechless and unable to talk  
until the day these things take place,  
because you did not believe my words,  
which will be fulfilled at their proper time.”  
Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah  
and were amazed that he stayed so long in the sanctuary.   
But when he came out, he was unable to speak to them,  
and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary.   
He was gesturing to them but remained mute.  
  
Then, when his days of ministry were completed, he went home.   
  
After this time his wife Elizabeth conceived,  
and she went into seclusion for five months, saying,  
“So has the Lord done for me at a time when he has seen fit  
to take away my disgrace before others.”

**Day 20**

# December 20, 2013

### Friday of Third Week of Advent  Lectionary: 196

#### Reading 1 [IS 7:10-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/7:10)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/24:1)

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.**

#### Gospel[LK 1:26-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/1:26)

In the sixth month,  
the angel Gabriel was sent from God  
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,  
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,  
of the house of David,  
and the virgin’s name was Mary.  
And coming to her, he said,  
“Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.”  
But she was greatly troubled at what was said  
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.  
Then the angel said to her,  
“Do not be afraid, Mary,  
for you have found favor with God.  
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus.  
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,  
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,  
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,  
and of his Kingdom there will be no end.”  
  
But Mary said to the angel,  
“How can this be,  
since I have no relations with a man?”  
And the angel said to her in reply,  
“The Holy Spirit will come upon you,  
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.  
Therefore the child to be born  
will be called holy, the Son of God.  
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,  
has also conceived a son in her old age,  
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;  
for nothing will be impossible for God.”  
  
Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.  
May it be done to me according to your word.”  
Then the angel departed from her

**Day 21**

# December 21, 2013

### Saturday of the Third Week of Advent  Lectionary: 197

#### Reading 1 [SG 2:8-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/songofsongs/2:8)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/zephaniah/3:14)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/33:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 1:39-45](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/1:39)

Mary set out in those days  
and traveled to the hill country in haste  
to a town of Judah,  
where she entered the house of Zechariah  
and greeted Elizabeth.   
When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting,  
the infant leaped in her womb,  
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,  
cried out in a loud voice and said,  
“Most blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.   
And how does this happen to me,  
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?   
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,  
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.   
Blessed are you who believed  
that what was spoken to you by the Lord  
would be fulfilled.”

**Day 22**

# December 22, 2013

### Fourth Sunday of Advent  Lectionary: 10

#### Reading 1 [IS 7:10-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/7:10)

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.

#### Reading 2 [ROM 1:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/romans/1:1)

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus,  
called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God,  
which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,  
the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh,   
but established as Son of God in power   
according to the Spirit of holiness   
through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him we have received the grace of apostleship,   
to bring about the obedience of faith,  
for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles,  
among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ;  
to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy.  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/24:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 1:18-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/1:18)

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about.  
When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph,   
but before they lived together,   
she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.  
Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man,  
yet unwilling to expose her to shame,   
decided to divorce her quietly.  
Such was his intention when, behold,  
the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,   
“Joseph, son of David,   
do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.  
For it is through the Holy Spirit   
that this child has been conceived in her.  
She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,   
because he will save his people from their sins.”  
All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:  
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,and they shall name him Emmanuel,  
which means “God is with us.”  
When Joseph awoke,  
he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him   
and took his wife into his home.

**Day 23**

# December 23, 2013

### Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent  Lectionary: 199

#### Reading 1 [MAL 3:1-4, 23-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/malachi/3:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/25:4)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 1:57-66](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/1:57)

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child  
she gave birth to a son.   
Her neighbors and relatives heard  
that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her,  
and they rejoiced with her.   
When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child,  
they were going to call him Zechariah after his father,  
but his mother said in reply,  
“No. He will be called John.”   
But they answered her,  
“There is no one among your relatives who has this name.”   
So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called.   
He asked for a tablet and wrote, “John is his name,”  
and all were amazed.  
Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed,  
and he spoke blessing God.  
Then fear came upon all their neighbors,  
and all these matters were discussed  
throughout the hill country of Judea.  
All who heard these things took them to heart, saying,  
“What, then, will this child be?  
For surely the hand of the Lord was with him.”

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/2samuel/7:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/89:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 1:67-79](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/1:67)

Zechariah his father, filled with the Holy Spirit, prophesied, saying:  
  
“Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;  
for he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hand of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.  
You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
to give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

**Day 25**

# December 25, 2013 - Mass At Midnight

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

#### Reading 1 [IS 9:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/isaiah/9:1)

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!

#### Reading 2 [TI 2:11-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/titus/2:11)

Beloved:  
The grace of God has appeared, saving all  
and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires   
and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age,   
as we await the blessed hope,   
the appearance of the glory of our great God   
and savior Jesus Christ,  
who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness   
and to cleanse for himself a people as his own,   
eager to do what is good.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/96:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 2:1-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/2:1)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus  
that the whole world should be enrolled.  
This was the first enrollment,   
when Quirinius was governor of Syria.  
So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town.  
And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth   
to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem,   
because he was of the house and family of David,   
to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.  
While they were there,  
the time came for her to have her child,   
and she gave birth to her firstborn son.  
She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger,   
because there was no room for them in the inn.  
  
Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields   
and keeping the night watch over their flock.  
The angel of the Lord appeared to them   
and the glory of the Lord shone around them,   
and they were struck with great fear.  
The angel said to them,  
“Do not be afraid;  
for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy   
that will be for all the people.  
For today in the city of David   
a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.  
And this will be a sign for you:   
you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes   
and lying in a manger.”  
And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel,  
praising God and saying:  
“Glory to God in the highest  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

**Day 26**

# December 26, 2013

### Feast of Saint Stephen, first martyr  Lectionary: 696

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 6:8-10; 7:54-59](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/acts/6:8)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/31:3)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 10:17-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/10:17)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Beware of men, for they will hand you over to courts  
and scourge you in their synagogues,  
and you will be led before governors and kings for my sake  
as a witness before them and the pagans.  
When they hand you over,  
do not worry about how you are to speak  
or what you are to say.  
You will be given at that moment what you are to say.  
For it will not be you who speak  
but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.  
Brother will hand over brother to death,  
and the father his child;  
children will rise up against parents and have them put to death.  
You will be hated by all because of my name,  
but whoever endures to the end will be saved.”

**Day 27**

# December 27, 2013

### Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist  Lectionary: 697

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 1:1-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/1john/1:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/97:1)

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!**

#### Gospel [JN 20:1A AND 2-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/john/20:1)

On the first day of the week,  
Mary Magdalene ran and went to Simon Peter  
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,  
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,  
and we do not know where they put him.”  
So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.  
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter  
and arrived at the tomb first;  
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in.  
When Simon Peter arrived after him,  
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,  
and the cloth that had covered his head,  
not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.  
Then the other disciple also went in,  
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,  
and he saw and believed.

**Day 28**

# December 28, 2013

### Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs  Lectionary: 698

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 1:5—2:2](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/1john/1:5)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/124:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 2:13-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/2:13)

When the magi had departed, behold,  
the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,  
“Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt,  
and stay there until I tell you.  
Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.”  
Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night  
and departed for Egypt.  
He stayed there until the death of Herod,  
that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled,  
Out of Egypt I called my son.  
  
When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi,  
he became furious.  
He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity  
two years old and under,  
in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi.  
Then was fulfilled what had been said through Jeremiah the prophet:  
  
A voice was heard in Ramah,sobbing and loud lamentation;Rachel weeping for her children,and she would not be consoled,since they were no more.

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/sirach/3:2)

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.

#### Reading 2 [COL 3:12-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/colossians/3:12)

Brothers and sisters:  
Put on, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved,  
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,  
bearing with one another and forgiving one another,   
if one has a grievance against another;   
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.  
And over all these put on love,   
that is, the bond of perfection.  
And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,   
the peace into which you were also called in one body.  
And be thankful.  
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,   
as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,   
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs   
with gratitude in your hearts to God.  
And whatever you do, in word or in deed,   
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,   
giving thanks to God the Father through him.   
  
Wives, be subordinate to your husbands,   
as is proper in the Lord.  
Husbands, love your wives,   
and avoid any bitterness toward them.  
Children, obey your parents in everything,   
for this is pleasing to the Lord.  
Fathers, do not provoke your children,   
so they may not become discouraged.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 128:1-2, 3, 4-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/128:1)

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.**

#### Gospe l[MT 2:13-15, 19-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/matthew/2:13)

When the magi had departed, behold,  
the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,  
“Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt,   
and stay there until I tell you.  
Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.”  
Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night   
and departed for Egypt.  
He stayed there until the death of Herod,   
that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled,  
Out of Egypt I called my son.  
  
When Herod had died, behold,  
the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream  
to Joseph in Egypt and said,  
“Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel,   
for those who sought the child’s life are dead.”  
He rose, took the child and his mother,   
and went to the land of Israel.  
But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea   
in place of his father Herod,   
he was afraid to go back there.  
And because he had been warned in a dream,   
he departed for the region of Galilee.  
He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth,  
so that what had been spoken through the prophets  
might be fulfilled,   
He shall be called a Nazorean.

**Day 30**

# December 30, 2013

### The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas  Lectionary: 203

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 2:12-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/1john/2:12)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/96:7)

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!**

#### Gospel [LK 2:36-40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/luke/2:36)

There was a prophetess, Anna,  
the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher.   
She was advanced in years,  
having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage,  
and then as a widow until she was eighty-four.   
She never left the temple,  
but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer.   
And coming forward at that very time,  
she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child  
to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.  
  
When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions  
of the law of the Lord,  
they returned to Galilee,  
to their own town of Nazareth.   
The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;  
and the favor of God was upon him.

**Day 31**

# December 31, 2013

 The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas   
Lectionary: 204

#### Reading 1[1 JN 2:18-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/1john/2:18)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/psalms/96:1)

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!**

#### Gospel [JN 1:1-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/john/1:1)

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God.   
All things came to be through him,  
and without him nothing came to be.  
What came to be through him was life,  
and this life was the light of the human race;  
the light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.  
  
A man named John was sent from God.  
He came for testimony, to testify to the light,   
so that all might believe through him.  
He was not the light,  
but came to testify to the light.  
The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.  
  
He was in the world,  
and the world came to be through him,  
but the world did not know him.  
He came to what was his own,  
but his own people did not accept him.  
  
But to those who did accept him  
he gave power to become children of God,   
to those who believe in his name,   
who were born not by natural generation   
nor by human choice nor by a man’s decision   
but of God.  
  
And the Word became flesh  
and made his dwelling among us,  
and we saw his glory,  
the glory as of the Father’s only-begotten Son,  
full of grace and truth.  
  
John testified to him and cried out, saying,   
“This was he of whom I said,   
‘The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me   
because he existed before me.’”  
From his fullness we have all received,  
grace in place of grace,  
because while the law was given through Moses,   
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.  
No one has ever seen God.  
The only-begotten Son, God, who is at the Father’s side,   
has revealed him.

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/numbers/6:22)

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.”

#### Reading 2 [GAL 4:4-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/4:4)

Brothers and sisters:  
When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,  
born of a woman, born under the law,   
to ransom those under the law,   
so that we might receive adoption as sons.  
As proof that you are sons,   
God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,   
crying out, “Abba, Father!”  
So you are no longer a slave but a son,   
and if a son then also an heir, through God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/67:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 2:16-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/2:16)

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph,  
and the infant lying in the manger.  
When they saw this,  
they made known the message   
that had been told them about this child.  
All who heard it were amazed  
by what had been told them by the shepherds.  
And Mary kept all these things,  
reflecting on them in her heart.  
Then the shepherds returned,  
glorifying and praising God  
for all they had heard and seen,   
just as it had been told to them.  
  
When eight days were completed for his circumcision,  
he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel  
before he was conceived in the womb.

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/2:22)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

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.**

#### Gospel  [JN 1:19-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/1:19)

This is the testimony of John.   
When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him  
to ask him, “Who are you?”  
He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted,  
“I am not the Christ.”   
So they asked him,  
“What are you then? Are you Elijah?”   
And he said, “I am not.”   
“Are you the Prophet?”  
He answered, “No.”   
So they said to him,  
“Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us?   
What do you have to say for yourself?”  
He said:  
“I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’  
as Isaiah the prophet said.”   
Some Pharisees were also sent.   
They asked him,  
“Why then do you baptize  
if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?”   
John answered them,  
“I baptize with water;  
but there is one among you whom you do not recognize,  
the one who is coming after me,  
whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.”   
This happened in Bethany across the Jordan,  
where John was baptizing.

**Day 34**

# January 3, 2014

### Christmas Weekday  Lectionary: 206

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 2:29-3:6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/2:29)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

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.**

#### Gospel  [JN 1:29-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/1:29)

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said,  
“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.  
He is the one of whom I said,  
‘A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me  
because he existed before me.’  
I did not know him,  
but the reason why I came baptizing with water  
was that he might be made known to Israel.”  
John testified further, saying,  
“I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from the sky  
and remain upon him.  
I did not know him,  
but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me,  
‘On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain,  
he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’  
Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”

**Day 35**

# January 4, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious Lectionary: 207

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 3:7-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/3:7)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

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.**

#### Gospel  [JN 1:35-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/1:35)

John was standing with two of his disciples,  
and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said,  
“Behold, the Lamb of God.”  
The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus.  
Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them,  
“What are you looking for?”  
They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher),  
“where are you staying?”  
He said to them, “Come, and you will see.”  
So they went and saw where he was staying,  
and they stayed with him that day.  
It was about four in the afternoon.  
Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter,  
was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus.  
He first found his own brother Simon and told him,  
“We have found the Messiah,” which is translated Christ.  
Then he brought him to Jesus.  
Jesus looked at him and said,  
“You are Simon the son of John;  
you will be called Cephas,” which is translated Peter.

**Day 36**

# January 5, 2014

### Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord  Lectionary: 20

#### Reading 1 [IS 60:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/60:1)

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.

#### Reading 2  [EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/3:2)

Brothers and sisters:  
You have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace   
that was given to me for your benefit,   
namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation.  
It was not made known to people in other generations   
as it has now been revealed  
to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:   
that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body,  
and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/72:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 2:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/2:1)

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,  
in the days of King Herod,   
behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,   
“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising  
and have come to do him homage.”  
When King Herod heard this,  
he was greatly troubled,   
and all Jerusalem with him.  
Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people,   
He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.  
They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea,   
for thus it has been written through the prophet:  
And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;since from you shall come a ruler,who is to shepherd my people Israel.”  
Then Herod called the magi secretly   
and ascertained from them the time of the star’s appearance.  
He sent them to Bethlehem and said,   
“Go and search diligently for the child.  
When you have found him, bring me word,   
that I too may go and do him homage.”  
After their audience with the king they set out.  
And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them,   
until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.  
They were overjoyed at seeing the star,   
and on entering the house  
they saw the child with Mary his mother.  
They prostrated themselves and did him homage.  
Then they opened their treasures   
and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.  
And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod,   
they departed for their country by another way.

**Day 37**

# January 6, 2014

### Monday after Epiphany Lectionary: 212

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 3:22-4:6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/3:22)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/2:7)

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.**

#### Gospel[MT 4:12-17, 23-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/4:12)

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested,  
he withdrew to Galilee.   
He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea,  
in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali,  
that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet   
might be fulfilled:  
  
Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan,Galilee of the Gentiles,the people who sit in darknesshave seen a great light,on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by deathlight has arisen.  
  
From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say,  
“Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand.”  
  
He went around all of Galilee,  
teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom,  
and curing every disease and illness among the people.   
His fame spread to all of Syria,  
and they brought to him all who were sick with various diseases  
and racked with pain,  
those who were possessed, lunatics, and paralytics,  
and he cured them.   
And great crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, and Judea,  
and from beyond the Jordan followed him.

**Day 38**

# January 7, 2014

### Tuesday after Epiphany Lectionary: 213

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 4:7-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/4:7)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/72:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 6:34-44](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/6:34)

When Jesus saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them,  
for they were like sheep without a shepherd;  
and he began to teach them many things.   
By now it was already late and his disciples approached him and said,  
“This is a deserted place and it is already very late.   
Dismiss them so that they can go   
to the surrounding farms and villages  
and buy themselves something to eat.”   
He said to them in reply,  
“Give them some food yourselves.”   
But they said to him,  
“Are we to buy two hundred days’ wages worth of food  
and give it to them to eat?”   
He asked them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.”   
And when they had found out they said,  
“Five loaves and two fish.”   
So he gave orders to have them sit down in groups on the green grass.   
The people took their places in rows by hundreds and by fifties.   
Then, taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven,   
he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples  
to set before the people;  
he also divided the two fish among them all.   
They all ate and were satisfied.   
And they picked up twelve wicker baskets full of fragments  
and what was left of the fish.   
Those who ate of the loaves were five thousand men.

**Day 39**

# January 8, 2014

### Wednesday after Epiphany  Lectionary: 214

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 4:11-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/4:11)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/72:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 6:34-44](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/6:34)

When Jesus saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them,  
for they were like sheep without a shepherd;  
and he began to teach them many things.   
By now it was already late and his disciples approached him and said,  
“This is a deserted place and it is already very late.   
Dismiss them so that they can go   
to the surrounding farms and villages  
and buy themselves something to eat.”   
He said to them in reply,  
“Give them some food yourselves.”   
But they said to him,  
“Are we to buy two hundred days’ wages worth of food  
and give it to them to eat?”   
He asked them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.”   
And when they had found out they said,  
“Five loaves and two fish.”   
So he gave orders to have them sit down in groups on the green grass.   
The people took their places in rows by hundreds and by fifties.   
Then, taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven,   
he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples  
to set before the people;  
he also divided the two fish among them all.   
They all ate and were satisfied.   
And they picked up twelve wicker baskets full of fragments  
and what was left of the fish.   
Those who ate of the loaves were five thousand men.

**Day 40**

# January 9, 2014

### Thursday after Epiphany Lectionary: 215

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 4:19-5:4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/4:19)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/72:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 4:14-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/4:14)

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit,  
and news of him spread throughout the whole region.   
He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all.  
  
He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up,  
and went according to his custom  
into the synagogue on the sabbath day.   
He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah.   
He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,because he has anointed meto bring glad tidings to the poor.He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captivesand recovery of sight to the blind,to let the oppressed go free,and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.  
  
Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down,  
and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him.   
He said to them,  
“Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”   
And all spoke highly of him  
and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth.

**Day 41**

# January 10, 2014

### Friday after Epiphany Lectionary: 216

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 5:5-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/5:5)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/147:12)

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.**

#### Gospel [LK 5:12-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/5:12)

It happened that there was a man full of leprosy in one of the towns where Jesus was;  
and when he saw Jesus,  
he fell prostrate, pleaded with him, and said,  
“Lord, if you wish, you can make me clean.”   
Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him, and said,  
“I do will it. Be made clean.”   
And the leprosy left him immediately.   
Then he ordered him not to tell anyone, but  
“Go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing  
what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them.”   
The report about him spread all the more,  
and great crowds assembled to listen to him  
and to be cured of their ailments,  
but he would withdraw to deserted places to pray.

**Day 42**

# January 11, 2014

### Saturday after Epiphany Lectionary: 217

#### Reading 1 [1 JN 5:14-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/5:14)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/149:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [JN 3:22-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/3:22)

Jesus and his disciples went into the region of Judea,  
where he spent some time with them baptizing.   
John was also baptizing in Aenon near Salim,  
because there was an abundance of water there,  
and people came to be baptized,  
for John had not yet been imprisoned.   
Now a dispute arose between the disciples of John and a Jew  
about ceremonial washings.   
So they came to John and said to him,  
“Rabbi, the one who was with you across the Jordan,  
to whom you testified,  
here he is baptizing and everyone is coming to him.”  
John answered and said,  
“No one can receive anything except what has been given from heaven.   
You yourselves can testify that I said that I am not the Christ,  
but that I was sent before him.   
The one who has the bride is the bridegroom;  
the best man, who stands and listens for him,  
rejoices greatly at the bridegroom’s voice.   
So this joy of mine has been made complete.   
He must increase; I must decrease.”

**Day 43**

# January 12, 2014

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Lectionary: 21

#### Reading 1 [IS 42:1-4, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/42:1)

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.

#### Reading 2 [ACTS 10:34-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/10:34)

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered  
in the house of Cornelius, saying:   
“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.  
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly  
is acceptable to him.  
You know the word that he sent to the Israelites   
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all,   
what has happened all over Judea,   
beginning in Galilee after the baptism  
that John preached,   
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth  
with the Holy Spirit and power.  
He went about doing good   
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,   
for God was with him.”

#### Responsorial Psalm  [PS 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/29:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 3:13-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/3:13)

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan  
to be baptized by him.  
John tried to prevent him, saying,   
“I need to be baptized by you,  
and yet you are coming to me?”  
Jesus said to him in reply,  
“Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us  
to fulfill all righteousness.”  
Then he allowed him.  
After Jesus was baptized,  
he came up from the water and behold,  
the heavens were opened for him,   
and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove  
and coming upon him.  
And a voice came from the heavens, saying,   
“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

**Day 44**

# January 13, 2014

### Monday of the First Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 305

#### Reading 1 [1 SM 1:1-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/1:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/116:12)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 1:14-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/1:14)

After John had been arrested,  
Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the Gospel of God:  
“This is the time of fulfillment.  
The Kingdom of God is at hand.  
Repent, and believe in the Gospel.”  
  
As he passed by the Sea of Galilee,  
he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea;  
they were fishermen.  
Jesus said to them,  
“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”  
Then they left their nets and followed him.  
He walked along a little farther  
and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John.  
They too were in a boat mending their nets.  
Then he called them.  
So they left their father Zebedee in the boat  
along with the hired men and followed him.

**Day 45**

# January 14, 2014

### Tuesday of the First week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 306

#### Reading 1 [1 SM 1:9-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/1:9)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/2:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 1:21-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/1:21)

Jesus came to Capernaum with his followers,   
and on the sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught.  
The people were astonished at his teaching,  
for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.  
In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit;  
he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?  
Have you come to destroy us?  
I know who you are–the Holy One of God!”   
Jesus rebuked him and said, “Quiet! Come out of him!”  
The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him.  
All were amazed and asked one another,  
“What is this?  
A new teaching with authority.  
He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him.”  
His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.

**Day 46**

# January 15, 2014

### Wednesday of the First Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 307

#### Reading 1 [1 SM 3:1-10, 19-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/3:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/40:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 1:29-39](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/1:29)

On leaving the synagogue  
Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John.  
Simon’s mother-in-law lay sick with a fever.  
They immediately told him about her.  
He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up.  
Then the fever left her and she waited on them.  
  
When it was evening, after sunset,  
they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons.  
The whole town was gathered at the door.  
He cured many who were sick with various diseases,  
and he drove out many demons,  
not permitting them to speak because they knew him.  
  
Rising very early before dawn,   
he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.  
Simon and those who were with him pursued him  
and on finding him said, “Everyone is looking for you.”  
He told them, “Let us go on to the nearby villages  
that I may preach there also.  
For this purpose have I come.”  
So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons   
throughout the whole of Galilee.

**Day 47**

# January 16, 2014

### Thursday of the First Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 308

#### Reading 1 [1 SM 4:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/4:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/44:10)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 1:40-45](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/1:40)

A leper came to him and kneeling down begged him and said,  
“If you wish, you can make me clean.”  
Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand,  
touched the leper, and said to him,   
“I do will it. Be made clean.”  
The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean.  
Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once.  
Then he said to him, “See that you tell no one anything,  
but go, show yourself to the priest  
and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed;  
that will be proof for them.”  
The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter.  
He spread the report abroad  
so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly.  
He remained outside in deserted places,  
and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

**Day 48**

# January 17, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Anthony, Abbot Lectionary: 309

#### Reading 1 [1 SM 8:4-7, 10-22A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/8:4)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/89:16)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 2:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/2:1)

When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days,  
it became known that he was at home.  
Many gathered together so that there was no longer room for them,  
not even around the door,  
and he preached the word to them.  
They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men.  
Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd,  
they opened up the roof above him.  
After they had broken through,  
they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying.  
When Jesus saw their faith, he said to him,  
“Child, your sins are forgiven.”  
Now some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves,  
“Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming.  
Who but God alone can forgive sins?”  
Jesus immediately knew in his mind what   
they were thinking to themselves,   
so he said, “Why are you thinking such things in your hearts?  
Which is easier, to say to the paralytic,  
‘Your sins are forgiven,’  
or to say, ‘Rise, pick up your mat and walk’?  
But that you may know  
that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth”  
–he said to the paralytic,  
“I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home.”  
He rose, picked up his mat at once,   
and went away in the sight of everyone.  
They were all astounded  
and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this.”

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/9:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/21:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 2:13-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/2:13)

Jesus went out along the sea.  
All the crowd came to him and he taught them.  
As he passed by, he saw Levi, son of Alphaeus,  
sitting at the customs post.  
Jesus said to him, “Follow me.”  
And he got up and followed Jesus.  
While he was at table in his house,  
many tax collectors and sinners sat with Jesus and his disciples;  
for there were many who followed him.  
Some scribes who were Pharisees saw that Jesus was eating with sinners  
and tax collectors and said to his disciples,  
“Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?”   
Jesus heard this and said to them,  
“Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do.  
I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.”

**Day 50**

# January 19, 2014

### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 64

#### Reading 1 [IS 49:3, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/49:3)

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.

#### Reading 2 [1 COR 1:1-3](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/1:1)

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,  
and Sosthenes our brother,  
to the church of God that is in Corinth,  
to you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy,  
with all those everywhere who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,   
their Lord and ours.  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Responsorial Psalm  [PS 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/40:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [JN 1:29-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/1:29)

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said,  
“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.  
He is the one of whom I said,  
‘A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me  
because he existed before me.’  
I did not know him,  
but the reason why I came baptizing with water  
was that he might be made known to Israel.”  
John testified further, saying,  
“I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven  
and remain upon him.  
I did not know him,  
but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me,  
‘On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain,  
he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’  
Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”

**Day 51**

# January 20, 2014

### Monday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 311

#### Reading 1 [1 SM 15:16-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/15:16)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/50:8)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 2:18-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/2:18)

The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were accustomed to fast.  
People came to Jesus and objected,  
“Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast,  
but your disciples do not fast?”  
Jesus answered them,  
“Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?  
As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast.  
But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them,  
and then they will fast on that day.  
No one sews a piece of unshrunken cloth on an old cloak.  
If he does, its fullness pulls away,  
the new from the old, and the tear gets worse.  
Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins.  
Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins,  
and both the wine and the skins are ruined.  
Rather, new wine is poured into fresh wineskins.”

**Day 52**

# January 21, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr Lectionary: 312

#### Reading 1 [1 SM 16:1-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/16:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/89:20)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 2:23-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/2:23)

As Jesus was passing through a field of grain on the sabbath,  
his disciples began to make a path while picking the heads of grain.  
At this the Pharisees said to him,  
“Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the sabbath?”  
He said to them,  
“Have you never read what David did  
when he was in need and he and his companions were hungry?  
How he went into the house of God when Abiathar was high priest  
and ate the bread of offering that only the priests could lawfully eat,  
and shared it with his companions?”  
Then he said to them,  
“The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath.  
That is why the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/17:32)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/144:1)

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!**

#### Gospel [MK 3:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/3:1)

Jesus entered the synagogue.  
There was a man there who had a withered hand.  
They watched Jesus closely  
to see if he would cure him on the sabbath  
so that they might accuse him.  
He said to the man with the withered hand,  
“Come up here before us.”  
Then he said to the Pharisees,  
“Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath rather than to do evil,  
to save life rather than to destroy it?”  
But they remained silent.  
Looking around at them with anger  
and grieved at their hardness of heart,  
Jesus said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.”  
He stretched it out and his hand was restored.  
The Pharisees went out and immediately took counsel  
with the Herodians against him to put him to death.

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/18:6)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/56:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 3:7-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/3:7)

Jesus withdrew toward the sea with his disciples.  
A large number of people followed from Galilee and from Judea.  
Hearing what he was doing,   
a large number of people came to him also from Jerusalem,   
from Idumea, from beyond the Jordan,   
and from the neighborhood of Tyre and Sidon.  
He told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd,   
so that they would not crush him.  
He had cured many and, as a result, those who had diseases  
were pressing upon him to touch him.  
And whenever unclean spirits saw him they would fall down before him   
and shout, “You are the Son of God.”  
He warned them sternly not to make him known.

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/24:3)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/57:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 3:13-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/3:13)

Jesus went up the mountain and summoned those whom he wanted   
and they came to him.  
He appointed Twelve, whom he also named Apostles,  
that they might be with him  
and he might send them forth to preach   
and to have authority to drive out demons:  
He appointed the Twelve:  
Simon, whom he named Peter;   
James, son of Zebedee,   
and John the brother of James, whom he named Boanerges,   
that is, sons of thunder;  
Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew,  
Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus;   
Thaddeus, Simon the Cananean,  
and Judas Iscariot who betrayed him.

**Day 56**

# January 25, 2014

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

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 22:3-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/22:3)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/9:1)

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, AAnanias.”  
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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/117:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 16:15-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/16:15)

Jesus appeared to the Eleven and said to them:  
“Go into the whole world  
and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.  
Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved;  
whoever does not believe will be condemned.  
These signs will accompany those who believe:  
in my name they will drive out demons,  
they will speak new languages.  
They will pick up serpents with their hands,  
and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them.  
They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

**Day 57**

# January 26, 2014

### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 67

#### Reading 1 [IS 8:23-9:3](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/8:23)

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.

#### Reading 2  [1 COR 1:10-13, 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/1:10)

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that all of you agree in what you say,  
and that there be no divisions among you,  
but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose.  
For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers and sisters,  
by Chloe’s people, that there are rivalries among you.  
I mean that each of you is saying,  
“I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,”   
or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.”  
Is Christ divided?  
Was Paul crucified for you?  
Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?  
For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel,  
and not with the wisdom of human eloquence,  
so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning.

#### Responsorial Psalm  [PS 27:1, 4, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/27:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 4:12-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/4:12)

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested,  
he withdrew to Galilee.  
He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea,  
in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali,   
that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet  
might be fulfilled:  
Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan,Galilee of the Gentiles,the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light,on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by deathlight has arisen.  
From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say,  
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”  
  
As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers,  
Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew,  
casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen.  
He said to them,  
“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”  
At once they left their nets and followed him.  
He walked along from there and saw two other brothers,  
James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John.  
They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets.  
He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father  
and followed him.  
He went around all of Galilee,  
teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom,  
and curing every disease and illness among the people.

#### Or [MT 4:12-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/4:12)

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested,  
he withdrew to Galilee.  
He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea,  
in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali,  
that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet  
might be fulfilled:  
Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan,Galilee of the Gentiles,the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light,on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by deathlight has arisen.  
From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say,  
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

**Day 58**

# January 27, 2014

### Monday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 317

#### Reading 1 [2 SM 5:1-7, 10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/5:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/89:20)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 3:22-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/3:22)

The scribes who had come from Jerusalem said of Jesus,   
“He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and  
“By the prince of demons he drives out demons.”  
  
Summoning them, he began to speak to them in parables,   
“How can Satan drive out Satan?  
If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.  
And if a house is divided against itself,   
that house will not be able to stand.  
And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided,   
he cannot stand;   
that is the end of him.  
But no one can enter a strong man’s house to plunder his property   
unless he first ties up the strong man.  
Then he can plunder his house.   
Amen, I say to you, all sins and all blasphemies   
that people utter will be forgiven them.  
But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit   
will never have forgiveness,   
but is guilty of an everlasting sin.”  
For they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

**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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/6:2)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/24:7)

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!**

#### Gospel [MK 3:31-35](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/3:31)

The mother of Jesus and his brothers arrived at the house.  
Standing outside, they sent word to Jesus and called him.  
A crowd seated around him told him,  
“Your mother and your brothers and your sisters  
are outside asking for you.”  
But he said to them in reply,  
“Who are my mother and my brothers?”  
And looking around at those seated in the circle he said,  
“Here are my mother and my brothers.  
For whoever does the will of God  
is my brother and sister and mother.”

**Day 60**

# January 29, 2014

### Wednesday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 319

#### Reading 1 [2 SM 7:4-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/7:4)

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.

#### Reading 2 [1 COR 1:10-13, 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/1:10)

I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that all of you agree in what you say,  
and that there be no divisions among you,  
but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose.  
For it has been reported to me about you, my brothers and sisters,  
by Chloe’s people, that there are rivalries among you.  
I mean that each of you is saying,  
“I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,”   
or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to Christ.”  
Is Christ divided?  
Was Paul crucified for you?  
Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?  
For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel,  
and not with the wisdom of human eloquence,  
so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/89:4)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 4:1-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/4:1)

On another occasion, Jesus began to teach by the sea.  
A very large crowd gathered around him   
so that he got into a boat on the sea and sat down.  
And the whole crowd was beside the sea on land.  
And he taught them at length in parables,   
and in the course of his instruction he said to them,   
“Hear this! A sower went out to sow.  
And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path,   
and the birds came and ate it up.  
Other seed fell on rocky ground where it had little soil.  
It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep.  
And when the sun rose, it was scorched and it withered for lack of roots.   
Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it   
and it produced no grain.  
And some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit.  
It came up and grew and yielded thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold.”  
He added, “Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear.”  
  
And when he was alone,   
those present along with the Twelve   
questioned him about the parables.  
He answered them,   
“The mystery of the Kingdom of God has been granted to you.  
But to those outside everything comes in parables, so that  
they may look and see but not perceive,and hear and listen but not understand,in order that they may not be converted and be forgiven.”  
  
Jesus said to them, “Do you not understand this parable?  
Then how will you understand any of the parables?  
The sower sows the word.  
These are the ones on the path where the word is sown.  
As soon as they hear, Satan comes at once   
and takes away the word sown in them.  
And these are the ones sown on rocky ground who,   
when they hear the word, receive it at once with joy.  
But they have no roots; they last only for a time.  
Then when tribulation or persecution comes because of the word,   
they quickly fall away.  
Those sown among thorns are another sort.  
They are the people who hear the word,   
but worldly anxiety, the lure of riches,   
and the craving for other things intrude and choke the word,   
and it bears no fruit.  
But those sown on rich soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it  
and bear fruit thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”

**Day 61**

# January 30, 2014

### Thursday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 320

#### Reading 1 [2 SM 7:18-19, 24-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/7:18)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/132:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 4:21-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/4:21)

Jesus said to his disciples,  
“Is a lamp brought in to be placed under a bushel basket  
or under a bed,  
and not to be placed on a lampstand?  
For there is nothing hidden except to be made visible;   
nothing is secret except to come to light.  
Anyone who has ears to hear ought to hear.”  
He also told them, “Take care what you hear.  
The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you,   
and still more will be given to you.  
To the one who has, more will be given;   
from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.”

**Day 62**

# January 31, 2014

### Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest Lectionary: 321

#### Reading 1 [2 SM 11:1-4A, 5-10A, 13-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/bible/2samuel/11:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:3)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 4:26-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/4:26)

Jesus said to the crowds:  
“This is how it is with the Kingdom of God;  
it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land  
and would sleep and rise night and day  
and the seed would sprout and grow,  
he knows not how.  
Of its own accord the land yields fruit,  
first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.  
And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once,  
for the harvest has come.”  
  
He said,  
“To what shall we compare the Kingdom of God,  
or what parable can we use for it?  
It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground,  
is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.  
But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants  
and puts forth large branches,  
so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade.”  
With many such parables  
he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it.  
Without parables he did not speak to them,  
but to his own disciples he explained everything in private.

**Day 63**

# February 1, 2014

### Saturday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 322

#### Reading 1 [2 SM 12:1-7A, 10-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/12:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:12)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 4:35-41](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/4:35)

On that day, as evening drew on, Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Let us cross to the other side.”  
Leaving the crowd, they took Jesus with them in the boat just as he was.  
And other boats were with him.  
A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat,  
so that it was already filling up.  
Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion.  
They woke him and said to him,  
“Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”  
He woke up,  
rebuked the wind,   
and said to the sea, “Quiet! Be still!”  
The wind ceased and there was great calm.  
Then he asked them, “Why are you terrified?  
Do you not yet have faith?”  
They were filled with great awe and said to one another,  
“Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?”

**Day 64**

# February 2, 2014

### Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Lectionary: 524

#### Reading 1 [MAL 3:1-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/malachi/3:1)

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.

#### Reading 2  [HEB 2:14-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hebrews/2:14)

Since the children share in blood and flesh,  
Jesus likewise shared in them,  
that through death he might destroy the one  
who has the power of death, that is, the Devil,  
and free those who through fear of death  
had been subject to slavery all their life.  
Surely he did not help angels  
but rather the descendants of Abraham;  
therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters  
in every way,  
that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God  
to expiate the sins of the people.  
Because he himself was tested through what he suffered,  
he is able to help those who are being tested.

#### Responsorial Psalm  [PS 24:7, 8, 9, 10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/24:7)

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!**

#### Gospel [LK 2:22-40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/2:22)

When the days were completed for their purification  
according to the law of Moses,  
Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem  
to present him to the Lord,  
just as it is written in the law of the Lord,  
Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord,  
and to offer the sacrifice of  
a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons,  
in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.   
  
Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon.  
This man was righteous and devout,  
awaiting the consolation of Israel,  
and the Holy Spirit was upon him.  
It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit  
that he should not see death  
before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.   
He came in the Spirit into the temple;  
and when the parents brought in the child Jesus  
to perform the custom of the law in regard to him,  
he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:  
  
“Now, Master, you may let your servant go   
in peace, according to your word,  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples:  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and glory for your people Israel.”  
  
The child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him;  
and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother,  
“Behold, this child is destined  
for the fall and rise of many in Israel,  
and to be a sign that will be contradicted  
—and you yourself a sword will pierce—  
so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”  
There was also a prophetess, Anna,  
the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher.  
She was advanced in years,  
having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage,  
and then as a widow until she was eighty-four.  
She never left the temple,  
but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer.  
And coming forward at that very time,  
she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child  
to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.  
  
When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions  
of the law of the Lord,  
they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.  
The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;  
and the favor of God was upon him.

#### Or [LK 2:22-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/2:22)

When the days were completed for their purification  
according to the law of Moses,  
Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem  
to present him to the Lord,  
just as it is written in the law of the Lord,  
Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord,  
and to offer the sacrifice of  
a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons,  
in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.   
  
Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon.  
This man was righteous and devout,  
awaiting the consolation of Israel,  
and the Holy Spirit was upon him.  
It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit  
that he should not see death  
before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.   
He came in the Spirit into the temple;  
and when the parents brought in the child Jesus  
to perform the custom of the law in regard to him,  
he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:  
  
“Now, Master, you may let your servant go   
in peace, according to your word,  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples:  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and glory for your people Israel.”

**Day 65**

# February 3, 2014

### Monday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 323

#### Reading 1 [2 SM 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/15:13)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/3:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 5:1-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/5:1)

Jesus and his disciples came to the other side of the sea,  
to the territory of the Gerasenes.  
When he got out of the boat,  
at once a man from the tombs who had an unclean spirit met him.  
The man had been dwelling among the tombs,  
and no one could restrain him any longer, even with a chain.  
In fact, he had frequently been bound with shackles and chains,  
but the chains had been pulled apart by him and the shackles smashed,  
and no one was strong enough to subdue him.  
Night and day among the tombs and on the hillsides  
he was always crying out and bruising himself with stones.  
Catching sight of Jesus from a distance,  
he ran up and prostrated himself before him,  
crying out in a loud voice,  
“What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?  
I adjure you by God, do not torment me!”  
(He had been saying to him, “Unclean spirit, come out of the man!”)  
He asked him, “What is your name?”  
He replied, “Legion is my name. There are many of us.”  
And he pleaded earnestly with him  
not to drive them away from that territory.  
  
Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside.  
And they pleaded with him,  
“Send us into the swine. Let us enter them.”  
And he let them, and the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine.  
The herd of about two thousand rushed down a steep bank into the sea,  
where they were drowned.  
The swineherds ran away and reported the incident in the town  
and throughout the countryside.  
And people came out to see what had happened.  
As they approached Jesus,  
they caught sight of the man who had been possessed by Legion,  
sitting there clothed and in his right mind.  
And they were seized with fear.  
Those who witnessed the incident explained to them what had happened  
to the possessed man and to the swine.  
Then they began to beg him to leave their district.  
As he was getting into the boat,  
the man who had been possessed pleaded to remain with him.  
But Jesus would not permit him but told him instead,  
“Go home to your family and announce to them  
all that the Lord in his pity has done for you.”  
Then the man went off and began to proclaim in the Decapolis  
what Jesus had done for him; and all were amazed.

**Day 66**

# 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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/18:9)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/86:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 5:21-43](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/5:21)

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat  
to the other side,   
a large crowd gathered around him, and he stayed close to the sea.  
One of the synagogue officials, named Jairus, came forward.  
Seeing him he fell at his feet and pleaded earnestly with him, saying,  
“My daughter is at the point of death.  
Please, come lay your hands on her  
that she may get well and live.”  
He went off with him  
and a large crowd followed him.  
  
There was a woman afflicted with hemorrhages for twelve years.  
She had suffered greatly at the hands of many doctors  
and had spent all that she had.  
Yet she was not helped but only grew worse.  
She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd  
and touched his cloak.  
She said, “If I but touch his clothes, I shall be cured.”  
Immediately her flow of blood dried up.  
She felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.  
Jesus, aware at once that power had gone out from him,  
turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who has touched my clothes?”  
But his disciples said to him,  
“You see how the crowd is pressing upon you,  
and yet you ask, Who touched me?”  
And he looked around to see who had done it.  
The woman, realizing what had happened to her,  
approached in fear and trembling.  
She fell down before Jesus and told him the whole truth.  
He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has saved you.  
Go in peace and be cured of your affliction.”  
  
While he was still speaking,  
people from the synagogue official’s house arrived and said,  
“Your daughter has died; why trouble the teacher any longer?”   
Disregarding the message that was reported,  
Jesus said to the synagogue official,  
“Do not be afraid; just have faith.”  
He did not allow anyone to accompany him inside  
except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James.  
When they arrived at the house of the synagogue official,  
he caught sight of a commotion,  
people weeping and wailing loudly.  
So he went in and said to them,  
“Why this commotion and weeping?  
The child is not dead but asleep.”  
And they ridiculed him.  
Then he put them all out.  
He took along the child’s father and mother  
and those who were with him  
and entered the room where the child was.  
He took the child by the hand and said to her, “Talitha koum,”   
which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise!”  
The girl, a child of twelve, arose immediately and walked around.  
At that they were utterly astounded.  
He gave strict orders that no one should know this  
and said that she should be given something to eat.

**Day 67**

# February 5, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr Lectionary: 325

#### Reading 1 [2 SM 24:2, 9-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/24:2)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/32:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 6:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/6:1)

Jesus departed from there and came to his native place,   
accompanied by his disciples.   
When the sabbath came he began to teach in the synagogue,  
and many who heard him were astonished.   
They said, “Where did this man get all this?   
What kind of wisdom has been given him?   
What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands!   
Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary,  
and the brother of James and Joseph and Judas and Simon?   
And are not his sisters here with us?”   
And they took offense at him.   
Jesus said to them,  
“A prophet is not without honor except in his native place  
and among his own kin and in his own house.”   
So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there,  
apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them.  
He was amazed at their lack of faith.

**Day 68**

# February 6, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs Lectionary: 326

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 2:1-4, 10-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/2:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1chronicles/29:10)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 6:7-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/6:7)

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two  
and gave them authority over unclean spirits.  
He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick  
–no food, no sack, no money in their belts.  
They were, however, to wear sandals but not a second tunic.  
He said to them,  
“Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave from there.  
Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you,  
leave there and shake the dust off your feet  
in testimony against them.”  
So they went off and preached repentance.  
The Twelve drove out many demons,  
and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

**Day 69**

# February 7, 2014

### Friday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 327

#### Reading 1 [SIR 47:2-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/sirach/47:2)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/18:31)

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!**

#### Gospel [MK 6:14-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/6:14)

King Herod heard about Jesus, for his fame had become widespread,  
and people were saying,  
“John the Baptist has been raised from the dead;  
that is why mighty powers are at work in him.”  
Others were saying, “He is Elijah”;  
still others, “He is a prophet like any of the prophets.”  
But when Herod learned of it, he said,  
“It is John whom I beheaded. He has been raised up.”  
  
Herod was the one who had John arrested and bound in prison  
on account of Herodias,   
the wife of his brother Philip, whom he had married.  
John had said to Herod,  
“It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.”  
Herodias harbored a grudge against him  
and wanted to kill him but was unable to do so.  
Herod feared John, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man,  
and kept him in custody.  
When he heard him speak he was very much perplexed,  
yet he liked to listen to him.  
Herodias had an opportunity one day when Herod, on his birthday,  
gave a banquet for his courtiers, his military officers,  
and the leading men of Galilee.  
His own daughter came in and performed a dance  
that delighted Herod and his guests.  
The king said to the girl,  
“Ask of me whatever you wish and I will grant it to you.”   
He even swore many things to her,  
“I will grant you whatever you ask of me,  
even to half of my kingdom.”  
She went out and said to her mother,  
“What shall I ask for?”  
Her mother replied, “The head of John the Baptist.”  
The girl hurried back to the king’s presence and made her request,  
“I want you to give me at once on a platter  
the head of John the Baptist.”  
The king was deeply distressed,  
but because of his oaths and the guests  
he did not wish to break his word to her.  
So he promptly dispatched an executioner  
with orders to bring back his head.  
He went off and beheaded him in the prison.  
He brought in the head on a platter  
and gave it to the girl.  
The girl in turn gave it to her mother.  
When his disciples heard about it,  
they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

**Day 70**

# February 8, 2014

### Saturday of the Fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 328

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 3:4-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/3:4)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:9)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 6:30-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/6:30)

The Apostles gathered together with Jesus  
and reported all they had done and taught.  
He said to them,  
“Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.”   
People were coming and going in great numbers,  
and they had no opportunity even to eat.  
So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place.  
People saw them leaving and many came to know about it.  
They hastened there on foot from all the towns  
and arrived at the place before them.  
  
When Jesus disembarked and saw the vast crowd,  
his heart was moved with pity for them,  
for they were like sheep without a shepherd;  
and he began to teach them many things.

**Day 71**

# February 9, 2014

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 73

#### Reading 1 [IS 58:7-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/58:7)

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.

#### Reading 2  [1 COR 2:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/2:1)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters,  
proclaiming the mystery of God,  
I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom.  
For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you  
except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.  
I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling,  
and my message and my proclamation  
were not with persuasive words of wisdom,  
but with a demonstration of Spirit and power,  
so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom  
but on the power of God.

#### Responsorial Psalm  [PS 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/112:4)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:13-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:13)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“You are the salt of the earth.  
But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?  
It is no longer good for anything  
but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.  
You are the light of the world.  
A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.  
Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket;  
it is set on a lampstand,  
where it gives light to all in the house.  
Just so, your light must shine before others,  
that they may see your good deeds  
and glorify your heavenly Father.”

**Day 72**

# February 10, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin Lectionary: 329

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 8:1-7, 9-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/8:1)

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.”

#### Reading 2 [1 COR 3:16-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/3:16)

Brothers and sisters:  
Do you not know that you are the temple of God,  
and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?  
If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person;  
for the temple of God, which you are, is holy.  
  
Let no one deceive himself.  
If any one among you considers himself wise in this age,  
let him become a fool, so as to become wise.  
For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God,  
for it is written:  
God catches the wise in their own ruses,   
and again:  
The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise,that they are vain.  
  
So let no one boast about human beings, for everything belongs to you,   
Paul or Apollos or Cephas,  
or the world or life or death,  
or the present or the future:  
all belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God.

#### Responsorial Psalm  [PS 132:6-7, 8-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/132:6)

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!**

#### Gospel [MK 6:53-56](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/6:53)

After making the crossing to the other side of the sea,  
Jesus and his disciples came to land at Gennesaret  
and tied up there.  
As they were leaving the boat, people immediately recognized him.  
They scurried about the surrounding country   
and began to bring in the sick on mats  
to wherever they heard he was.  
Whatever villages or towns or countryside he entered,  
they laid the sick in the marketplaces  
and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak;  
and as many as touched it were healed.

**Day 73**

# February 11, 2014

### Tuesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time  Lectionary: 330

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 8:22-23, 27-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/8:22)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/84:3)

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!**

#### Gospel [MK 7:1-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/7:1)

When the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem  
gathered around Jesus,  
they observed that some of his disciples ate their meals  
with unclean, that is, unwashed, hands.  
(For the Pharisees and, in fact, all Jews,  
do not eat without carefully washing their hands,  
keeping the tradition of the elders.  
And on coming from the marketplace  
they do not eat without purifying themselves.  
And there are many other things that they have traditionally observed,  
the purification of cups and jugs and kettles and beds.)  
So the Pharisees and scribes questioned him,  
“Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders  
but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?”   
He responded,  
“Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites,  
as it is written:  
  
This people honors me with their lips,but their hearts are far from me;In vain do they worship me,teaching as doctrines human precepts.  
  
You disregard God’s commandment but cling to human tradition.”  
He went on to say,  
“How well you have set aside the commandment of God  
in order to uphold your tradition!  
For Moses said,  
Honor your father and your mother,  
and Whoever curses father or mother shall die.  
Yet you say,  
‘If someone says to father or mother,  
“Any support you might have had from me is qorban”’  
(meaning, dedicated to God),  
you allow him to do nothing more for his father or mother.  
You nullify the word of God  
in favor of your tradition that you have handed on.  
And you do many such things.”

**Day 74**

# February 12, 2014

### Wednesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 331

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 10:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/10:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/37:5)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 7:14-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/7:14)

Jesus summoned the crowd again and said to them,  
“Hear me, all of you, and understand.  
Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person;  
but the things that come out from within are what defile.”   
  
When he got home away from the crowd  
his disciples questioned him about the parable.  
He said to them,  
“Are even you likewise without understanding?  
Do you not realize that everything  
that goes into a person from outside cannot defile,  
since it enters not the heart but the stomach  
and passes out into the latrine?”  
(Thus he declared all foods clean.)  
“But what comes out of the man, that is what defiles him.  
From within the man, from his heart,  
come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder,  
adultery, greed, malice, deceit,  
licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly.  
All these evils come from within and they defile.”

**Day 75**

# February 13, 2014

### Thursday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 332

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 11:4-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/11:4)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/106:3)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 7:24-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/7:24)

Jesus went to the district of Tyre.  
He entered a house and wanted no one to know about it,  
but he could not escape notice.  
Soon a woman whose daughter had an unclean spirit heard about him.  
She came and fell at his feet.  
The woman was a Greek, a Syrophoenician by birth,  
and she begged him to drive the demon out of her daughter.  
He said to her, “Let the children be fed first.  
For it is not right to take the food of the children  
and throw it to the dogs.”  
She replied and said to him,  
“Lord, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s scraps.”  
Then he said to her, “For saying this, you may go.  
The demon has gone out of your daughter.”  
When the woman went home, she found the child lying in bed  
and the demon gone.

**Day 76**

# February 14, 2014

### Memorial of Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop Lectionary: 333

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 11:29-32; 12:19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/11:29)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/81:10)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 7:31-37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/7:31)

Jesus left the district of Tyre  
and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee,  
into the district of the Decapolis.   
And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment  
and begged him to lay his hand on him.  
He took him off by himself away from the crowd.   
He put his finger into the man’s ears  
and, spitting, touched his tongue;  
then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him,  
“Ephphatha!” (that is, “Be opened!”)  
And immediately the man’s ears were opened,  
his speech impediment was removed,  
and he spoke plainly.   
He ordered them not to tell anyone.   
But the more he ordered them not to,  
the more they proclaimed it.   
They were exceedingly astonished and they said,  
“He has done all things well.   
He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

**Day 77**

# February 15, 2014

### Saturday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 334

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 12:26-32; 13:33-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/12:26)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/106:6)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 8:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/8:1)

In those days when there again was a great crowd without anything to eat,  
Jesus summoned the disciples and said,  
“My heart is moved with pity for the crowd,  
because they have been with me now for three days  
and have nothing to eat.  
If I send them away hungry to their homes,  
they will collapse on the way,  
and some of them have come a great distance.”  
His disciples answered him, “Where can anyone get enough bread  
to satisfy them here in this deserted place?”  
Still he asked them, “How many loaves do you have?”  
They replied, “Seven.”  
He ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground.  
Then, taking the seven loaves he gave thanks, broke them,  
and gave them to his disciples to distribute,  
and they distributed them to the crowd.  
They also had a few fish.  
He said the blessing over them  
and ordered them distributed also.  
They ate and were satisfied.  
They picked up the fragments left over–seven baskets.  
There were about four thousand people.  
  
He dismissed the crowd and got into the boat with his disciples  
and came to the region of Dalmanutha.

**Day 78**

# February 16, 2014

### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 76

#### Reading 1 [SIR 15:15-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/sirach/15:15)

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.

#### Reading 2  [1 COR 2:6-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/2:6)

Brothers and sisters:  
We speak a wisdom to those who are mature,  
not a wisdom of this age,  
nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away.  
Rather, we speak God’s wisdom, mysterious, hidden,  
which God predetermined before the ages for our glory,  
and which none of the rulers of this age knew;  
for, if they had known it,  
they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.  
But as it is written:  
What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard,and what has not entered the human heart,what God has prepared for those who love him,  
this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.  
  
For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:1)

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!**

#### Gospel [MT 5:17-37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:17)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets.  
I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.  
Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away,  
not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter  
will pass from the law,  
until all things have taken place.  
Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments  
and teaches others to do so  
will be called least in the kingdom of heaven.  
But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments  
will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven.  
I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses  
that of the scribes and Pharisees,  
you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.  
  
“You have heard that it was said to your ancestors,  
You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.  
But I say to you,  
whoever is angry with his brother  
will be liable to judgment;  
and whoever says to his brother, ‘Raqa,’  
will be answerable to the Sanhedrin;  
and whoever says, ‘You fool,’  
will be liable to fiery Gehenna.  
Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar,  
and there recall that your brother  
has anything against you,  
leave your gift there at the altar,  
go first and be reconciled with your brother,  
and then come and offer your gift.  
Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court.  
Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge,  
and the judge will hand you over to the guard,  
and you will be thrown into prison.  
Amen, I say to you,  
you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.  
  
“You have heard that it was said,   
You shall not commit adultery.  
But I say to you,  
everyone who looks at a woman with lust  
has already committed adultery with her in his heart.  
If your right eye causes you to sin,  
tear it out and throw it away.  
It is better for you to lose one of your members  
than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna.  
And if your right hand causes you to sin,  
cut it off and throw it away.  
It is better for you to lose one of your members  
than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.  
  
“It was also said,  
Whoever divorces his wife must give her a bill of divorce.  
But I say to you,  
whoever divorces his wife -  unless the marriage is unlawful -   
causes her to commit adultery,  
and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.  
  
“Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors,  
Do not take a false oath,but make good to the Lord all that you vow.  
But I say to you, do not swear at all;  
not by heaven, for it is God’s throne;  
nor by the earth, for it is his footstool;  
nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.  
Do not swear by your head,  
for you cannot make a single hair white or black.  
Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,' and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’  
Anything more is from the evil one.”

#### Or [MT 5:20-22A, 27-28, 33-34A, 37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:20)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses  
that of the scribes and Pharisees,   
you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.  
  
“You have heard that it was said to your ancestors,  
You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.  
But I say to you,  
whoever is angry with his brother  
will be liable to judgment.  
  
“You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery.  
But I say to you,  
everyone who looks at a woman with lust  
has already committed adultery with her in his heart.  
  
“Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors,  
Do not take a false oath,but make good to the Lord all that you vow.  
But I say to you, do not swear at all.  
Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,’and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’  
Anything more is from the evil one.”

**Day 79**

# February 17, 2014

### Monday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 335

#### Reading 1 [JAS 1:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/1:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:67)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 8:11-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/8:11)

The Pharisees came forward and began to argue with Jesus,  
seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him.  
He sighed from the depth of his spirit and said,  
“Why does this generation seek a sign?  
Amen, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation.”  
Then he left them, got into the boat again,  
and went off to the other shore.

**Day 80**

# February 18, 2014

### Tuesday of the sixth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 336

#### Reading 1 [JAS 1:12-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/1:12)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/94:12)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 8:14-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/8:14)

The disciples had forgotten to bring bread,  
and they had only one loaf with them in the boat.  
Jesus enjoined them, “Watch out,  
guard against the leaven of the Pharisees  
and the leaven of Herod.”   
They concluded among themselves that  
it was because they had no bread.  
When he became aware of this he said to them,  
“Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread?  
Do you not yet understand or comprehend?  
Are your hearts hardened?  
Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear?  
And do you not remember,  
when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand,  
how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?”  
They answered him, “Twelve.”  
“When I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand,  
how many full baskets of fragments did you pick up?”  
They answered him, “Seven.”  
He said to them, “Do you still not understand?”

**Day 81**

# February 19, 2014

### Wednesday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 337

#### Reading 1 [JAS 1:19-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/1:19)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/15:2)

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?**

#### Gospel [MK 8:22-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/8:22)

When Jesus and his disciples arrived at Bethsaida,  
people brought to him a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him.  
He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village.  
Putting spittle on his eyes he laid his hands on the man and asked,  
“Do you see anything?”  
Looking up the man replied, “I see people looking like trees and walking.”  
Then he laid hands on the man’s eyes a second time and he saw clearly;  
his sight was restored and he could see everything distinctly.  
Then he sent him home and said, “Do not even go into the village.”

**Day 82**

# February 20, 2014

### Thursday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 338

#### Reading 1 [JAS 2:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/2:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/34:2)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 8:27-33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/8:27)

Jesus and his disciples set out  
for the villages of Caesarea Philippi.  
Along the way he asked his disciples,  
“Who do people say that I am?”  
They said in reply,  
“John the Baptist, others Elijah,  
still others one of the prophets.”  
And he asked them,  
“But who do you say that I am?”  
Peter said to him in reply,  
“You are the Christ.”  
Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.  
  
He began to teach them  
that the Son of Man must suffer greatly  
and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes,  
and be killed, and rise after three days.  
He spoke this openly.  
Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.  
At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples,  
rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan.  
You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

**Day 83**

# February 21, 2014

### Friday of the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 339

#### Reading 1 [JAS 2:14-24, 26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/2:14)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/112:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 8:34-9:1](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/8:34)

Jesus summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them,  
“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself,  
take up his cross, and follow me.  
For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,  
but whoever loses his life for my sake  
and that of the Gospel will save it.  
What profit is there for one to gain the whole world  
and forfeit his life?  
What could one give in exchange for his life?  
Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words  
in this faithless and sinful generation,  
the Son of Man will be ashamed of  
when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”  
  
He also said to them,  
“Amen, I say to you,  
there are some standing here who will not taste death  
until they see that the Kingdom of God has come in power.”

**Day 84**

# February 22, 2014

### Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle Lectionary: 535

#### Reading 1 [1 PT 5:1-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1peter/5:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 16:13-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/16:13)

When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi  
he asked his disciples,  
“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”  
They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah,  
still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”  
He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”  
Simon Peter said in reply,   
“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”  
Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah.  
For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.  
And so I say to you, you are Peter,  
and upon this rock I will build my Church,  
and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.  
I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven.  
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;  
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

**Day 85**

# February 23, 2014

### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 79

#### Reading 1 [LV 19:1-2, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/leviticus/19:1)

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.”

#### Reading 2  [1 COR 3:16-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/3:16)

Brothers and sisters:  
Do you not know that you are the temple of God,  
and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?  
If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person;  
for the temple of God, which you are, is holy.  
  
Let no one deceive himself.  
If any one among you considers himself wise in this age,  
let him become a fool, so as to become wise.  
For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God,  
for it is written:  
God catches the wise in their own ruses,   
and again:  
The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise,that they are vain.  
  
So let no one boast about human beings, for everything belongs to you,   
Paul or Apollos or Cephas,  
or the world or life or death,  
or the present or the future:  
all belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/103:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:38-48](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:38)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“You have heard that it was said,  
An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.  
But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil.  
When someone strikes you on your right cheek,  
turn the other one as well.  
If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic,  
hand over your cloak as well.  
Should anyone press you into service for one mile,  
go for two miles.   
Give to the one who asks of you,  
and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.  
  
“You have heard that it was said,  
You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.  
But I say to you, love your enemies  
and pray for those who persecute you,  
that you may be children of your heavenly Father,  
for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good,  
and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.  
For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have?  
Do not the tax collectors do the same?  
And if you greet your brothers only,  
what is unusual about that?  
Do not the pagans do the same?  
So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

**Day 86**

# February 24, 2014

### Monday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 341

#### Reading 1 [JAS 3:13-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/3:13)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/19:8)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 9:14-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/9:14)

As Jesus came down from the mountain with Peter, James, John  
and approached the other disciples,  
they saw a large crowd around them and scribes arguing with them.  
Immediately on seeing him,  
the whole crowd was utterly amazed.  
They ran up to him and greeted him.   
He asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?”  
Someone from the crowd answered him,  
“Teacher, I have brought to you my son possessed by a mute spirit.  
Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down;  
he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid.  
I asked your disciples to drive it out, but they were unable to do so.”  
He said to them in reply,  
“O faithless generation, how long will I be with you?  
How long will I endure you? Bring him to me.”   
They brought the boy to him.  
And when he saw him,  
the spirit immediately threw the boy into convulsions.  
As he fell to the ground, he began to roll around   
and foam at the mouth.   
Then he questioned his father,  
“How long has this been happening to him?”   
He replied, “Since childhood.  
It has often thrown him into fire and into water to kill him.  
But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”  
Jesus said to him,  
“‘If you can!’ Everything is possible to one who has faith.”  
Then the boy’s father cried out, “I do believe, help my unbelief!”  
Jesus, on seeing a crowd rapidly gathering,  
rebuked the unclean spirit and said to it,  
“Mute and deaf spirit, I command you:  
come out of him and never enter him again!”  
Shouting and throwing the boy into convulsions, it came out.  
He became like a corpse, which caused many to say, “He is dead!”  
But Jesus took him by the hand, raised him, and he stood up.  
When he entered the house, his disciples asked him in private,  
“Why could we not drive the spirit out?”  
He said to them, “This kind can only come out through prayer.”

**Day 87**

# February 25, 2014

### Tuesday of the Seventh week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 342

#### Reading 1[JAS 4:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/4:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/55:7)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 9:30-37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/9:30)

Jesus and his disciples left from there and began a journey through Galilee,  
but he did not wish anyone to know about it.   
He was teaching his disciples and telling them,  
“The Son of Man is to be handed over to men   
and they will kill him,  
and three days after his death the Son of Man will rise.”   
But they did not understand the saying,  
and they were afraid to question him.  
  
They came to Capernaum and, once inside the house,  
he began to ask them,  
“What were you arguing about on the way?”   
But they remained silent.  
For they had been discussing among themselves on the way  
who was the greatest.   
Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them,  
“If anyone wishes to be first,   
he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.”   
Taking a child, he placed it in their midst,   
and putting his arms around it, he said to them,  
“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me;  
and whoever receives me,  
receives not me but the One who sent me.”

**Day 88**

# February 26, 2014

### Wednesday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 343

#### Reading 1 [JAS 4:13-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/4:13)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/49:2)

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!**

#### Gospel [MK 9:38-40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/9:38)

John said to Jesus,  
“Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name,  
and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us.”  
Jesus replied, “Do not prevent him.  
There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name  
who can at the same time speak ill of me.  
For whoever is not against us is for us.”

**Day 89**

# February 27, 2014

### Thursday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 344

#### Reading 1 [JAS 5:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/5:1)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/49:14)

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!**

#### Gospel [MK 9:41-50](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/9:41)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink  
because you belong to Christ,  
amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.  
  
“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin,   
it would be better for him if a great millstone  
were put around his neck  
and he were thrown into the sea.  
If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off.  
It is better for you to enter into life maimed   
than with two hands to go into Gehenna,  
into the unquenchable fire.  
And if your foot causes you to sin, cut if off.  
It is better for you to enter into life crippled   
than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna.  
And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out.  
Better for you to enter into the Kingdom of God with one eye  
than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna,  
where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.  
  
“Everyone will be salted with fire.  
Salt is good, but if salt becomes insipid,  
with what will you restore its flavor?  
Keep salt in yourselves and you will have peace with one another.”

**Day 90**

# February 28, 2014

# Friday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 345

#### Reading 1 [JAS 5:9-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/5:9)

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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/103:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [MK 10:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/10:1)

Jesus came into the district of Judea and across the Jordan.  
Again crowds gathered around him and, as was his custom,  
he again taught them.  
The Pharisees approached him and asked,  
“Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?”  
They were testing him.  
He said to them in reply, “What did Moses command you?”  
They replied,  
“Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce  
and dismiss her.”  
But Jesus told them,  
“Because of the hardness of your hearts  
he wrote you this commandment.  
But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.For this reason a man shall leave his father and motherand be joined to his wife,and the two shall become one flesh.So they are no longer two but one flesh.  
Therefore what God has joined together,  
no human being must separate.”  
In the house the disciples again questioned Jesus about this.  
He said to them,  
“Whoever divorces his wife and marries another  
commits adultery against her;  
and if she divorces her husband and marries another,  
she commits adultery.”

**Day 91**

# March 1, 2014

### Saturday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 346

#### Reading 1 [JAS 5:13-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/james/5:13)

Beloved:  
Is anyone among you suffering?  
He should pray.  
Is anyone in good spirits?  
He should sing a song of praise.   
Is anyone among you sick?  
He should summon the presbyters of the Church,  
and they should pray over him  
and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.  
The prayer of faith will save the sick person,  
and the Lord will raise him up.  
If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.  
  
Therefore, confess your sins to one another  
and pray for one another, that you may be healed.  
The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful.  
Elijah was a man like us;  
yet he prayed earnestly that it might not rain,  
and for three years and six months it did not rain upon the land.  
Then Elijah prayed again, and the sky gave rain  
and the earth produced its fruit.  
  
My brothers and sisters,  
if anyone among you should stray from the truth  
and someone bring him back,  
he should know that whoever brings back a sinner  
from the error of his way will save his soul from death   
and will cover a multitude of sins.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 141:1-2, 3 AND 8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/141:1)

R. (2a) **Let my prayer come like incense before you.**  
O LORD, to you I call; hasten to me;  
hearken to my voice when I call upon you.  
Let my prayer come like incense before you;  
the lifting up of my hands, like the evening sacrifice.  
R. **Let my prayer come like incense before you.**  
O LORD, set a watch before my mouth,  
a guard at the door of my lips.  
For toward you, O God, my LORD, my eyes are turned;  
in you I take refuge; strip me not of life.  
R. **Let my prayer come like incense before you.**

#### Gospel [MK 10:13-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/10:13)

People were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them,  
but the disciples rebuked them.  
When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them,  
“Let the children come to me; do not prevent them,  
for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.  
Amen, I say to you,  
whoever does not accept the Kingdom of God like a child  
will not enter it.”  
Then he embraced the children and blessed them,  
placing his hands on them.

**Day 92**

# March 2, 2014

### Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 82

#### Reading 1 [IS 49:14-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/49:14)

Zion said, “The LORD has forsaken me;  
my LORD has forgotten me.”  
Can a mother forget her infant,  
be without tenderness for the child of her womb?  
Even should she forget,  
I will never forget you.

#### Readng 2  [1 COR 4:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/4:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
Thus should one regard us: as servants of Christ  
and stewards of the mysteries of God.  
Now it is of course required of stewards  
that they be found trustworthy.  
It does not concern me in the least  
that I be judged by you or any human tribunal;  
I do not even pass judgment on myself;  
I am not conscious of anything against me,  
but I do not thereby stand acquitted;  
the one who judges me is the Lord.  
Therefore do not make any judgment before the appointed time,  
until the Lord comes,  
for he will bring to light what is hidden in darkness  
and will manifest the motives of our hearts,  
and then everyone will receive praise from God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 62:2-3, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/62:2)

R/ (6a) **Rest in God alone, my soul.**  
Only in God is my soul at rest;  
from him comes my salvation.  
He only is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold; I shall not be disturbed at all.  
R/ **Rest in God alone, my soul.**  
Only in God be at rest, my soul,  
for from him comes my hope.  
He only is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold; I shall not be disturbed.  
R/ **Rest in God alone, my soul.**  
With God is my safety and my glory,  
he is the rock of my strength; my refuge is in God.  
Trust in him at all times, O my people!  
Pour out your hearts before him.  
R/ **Rest in God alone, my soul.**

#### Gospel [MT 6:24-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/6:24)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“No one can serve two masters.  
He will either hate one and love the other,  
or be devoted to one and despise the other.  
You cannot serve God and mammon.  
  
“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life,  
what you will eat or drink,  
or about your body, what you will wear.  
Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?  
Look at the birds in the sky;  
they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns,  
yet your heavenly Father feeds them.  
Are not you more important than they?  
Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span?  
Why are you anxious about clothes?  
Learn from the way the wild flowers grow.  
They do not work or spin.  
But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor  
was clothed like one of them.  
If God so clothes the grass of the field,  
which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow,  
will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith?  
So do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’  
or ‘What are we to drink?’or ‘What are we to wear?’  
All these things the pagans seek.  
Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.  
But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be given you besides.  
Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself.  
Sufficient for a day is its own evil.”

**Day 93**

# March 3, 2014

### Monday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 347

#### Reading 1 [1 PT 1:3-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1peter/1:3)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,  
to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,  
kept in heaven for you  
who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith,  
to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time.  
In this you rejoice, although now for a little while  
you may have to suffer through various trials,  
so that the genuineness of your faith,  
more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire,  
may prove to be for praise, glory, and honor  
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.  
Although you have not seen him you love him;  
even though you do not see him now yet you believe in him,  
you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,  
as you attain the goal of faith, the salvation of your souls.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 AND 10C](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/111:1)

R. (5) **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart  
in the company and assembly of the just.  
Great are the works of the LORD,  
exquisite in all their delights.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
He has given food to those who fear him;  
he will forever be mindful of his covenant.  
He has made known to his people the power of his works,  
giving them the inheritance of the nations.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
He has sent deliverance to his people;  
he has ratified his covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is his name.  
His praise endures forever.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MK 10:17-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/10:17)

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up,  
knelt down before him, and asked him,  
“Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”  
Jesus answered him, “Why do you call me good?  
No one is good but God alone.  
You know the commandments: You shall not kill;you shall not commit adultery;you shall not steal;you shall not bear false witness;you shall not defraud;honor your father and your mother.”  
He replied and said to him,  
“Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth.”   
Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him,  
“You are lacking in one thing.  
Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor  
and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”  
At that statement, his face fell,  
and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.  
  
Jesus looked around and said to his disciples,  
“How hard it is for those who have wealth  
to enter the Kingdom of God!”  
The disciples were amazed at his words.  
So Jesus again said to them in reply,  
“Children, how hard it is to enter the Kingdom of God!  
It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle  
than for one who is rich to enter the Kingdom of God.”  
They were exceedingly astonished and said among themselves,  
“Then who can be saved?”  
Jesus looked at them and said,  
“For men it is impossible, but not for God.  
All things are possible for God.”

**Day 94**

# March 4, 2014

### Tuesday of the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 348

#### Reading 1 [1 PT 1:10-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1peter/1:10)

Beloved:  
Concerning the salvation of your souls  
the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours  
searched and investigated it  
investigating the time and circumstances  
that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated  
when it testified in advance  
to the sufferings destined for Christ  
and the glories to follow them.  
It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you  
with regard to the things that have now been announced to you  
by those who preached the Good News to you  
through the Holy Spirit sent from heaven,  
things into which angels longed to look.  
  
Therefore, gird up the loins of your mind, live soberly,  
and set your hopes completely on the grace to be brought to you  
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.  
Like obedient children,  
do not act in compliance with the desires of your former ignorance  
but, as he who called you is holy,  
be holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct,  
for it is written, Be holy because I am holy.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

R. (2a) **The Lord has made known his salvation.**  
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. **The Lord has made known his salvation.**  
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. **The Lord has made known his salvation.**  
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. **The Lord has made known his salvation.**

#### Gospel [MK 10:28-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/10:28)

Peter began to say to Jesus,  
“We have given up everything and followed you.”  
Jesus said, “Amen, I say to you,  
there is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters  
or mother or father or children or lands  
for my sake and for the sake of the Gospel  
who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age:  
houses and brothers and sisters  
and mothers and children and lands,  
with persecutions, and eternal life in the age to come.  
But many that are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

**Day 95**

# March 5, 2014

### Ash Wednesday Lectionary: 219

If the blessing and distribution of ashes take place outside Mass, it is appropriate that the Liturgy of the Word precede it, using texts assigned to the Mass of Ash Wednesday.

#### Reading 1 [JL 2:12-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/joel/2:12)

Even now, says the LORD,  
return to me with your whole heart,  
with fasting, and weeping, and mourning;  
Rend your hearts, not your garments,  
and return to the LORD, your God.  
For gracious and merciful is he,  
slow to anger, rich in kindness,  
and relenting in punishment.  
Perhaps he will again relent  
and leave behind him a blessing,  
Offerings and libations  
for the LORD, your God.  
  
Blow the trumpet in Zion!  
proclaim a fast,  
call an assembly;  
Gather the people,  
notify the congregation;  
Assemble the elders,  
gather the children  
and the infants at the breast;  
Let the bridegroom quit his room  
and the bride her chamber.  
Between the porch and the altar  
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep,  
And say, “Spare, O LORD, your people,  
and make not your heritage a reproach,  
with the nations ruling over them!  
Why should they say among the peoples,  
‘Where is their God?’”  
  
Then the LORD was stirred to concern for his land  
and took pity on his people.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:3-4, 5-6AB, 12-13, 14 AND 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:3)

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.**  
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.**Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**  
Give me back the joy of your salvation,  
and a willing spirit sustain in me.  
O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
R. **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

#### Gospel [MT 6:1-6, 16-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/6:1)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Take care not to perform righteous deeds  
in order that people may see them;  
otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father.  
When you give alms,  
do not blow a trumpet before you,  
as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets  
to win the praise of others.  
Amen, I say to you,  
they have received their reward.  
But when you give alms,  
do not let your left hand know what your right is doing,  
so that your almsgiving may be secret.  
And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.  
  
“When you pray,  
do not be like the hypocrites,  
who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners  
so that others may see them.  
Amen, I say to you,  
they have received their reward.  
But when you pray, go to your inner room,  
close the door, and pray to your Father in secret.  
And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.  
  
“When you fast,  
do not look gloomy like the hypocrites.  
They neglect their appearance,  
so that they may appear to others to be fasting.  
Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward.  
But when you fast,  
anoint your head and wash your face,  
so that you may not appear to be fasting,  
except to your Father who is hidden.  
And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.”

**Day 96**

# March 6, 2014

### Thursday after Ash Wednesday Lectionary: 220

#### Reading 1 [DT 30:15-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/30:15)

Moses said to the people:  
“Today I have set before you  
life and prosperity, death and doom.  
If you obey the commandments of the LORD, your God,  
which I enjoin on you today,  
loving him, and walking in his ways,  
and keeping his commandments, statutes and decrees,  
you will live and grow numerous,  
and the LORD, your God,  
will bless you in the land you are entering to occupy.  
If, however, you turn away your hearts and will not listen,  
but are led astray and adore and serve other gods,  
I tell you now that you will certainly perish;  
you will not have a long life  
on the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and occupy.  
I call heaven and earth today to witness against you:  
I have set before you life and death,  
the blessing and the curse.  
Choose life, then,  
that you and your descendants may live, by loving the LORD, your God,  
heeding his voice, and holding fast to him.  
For that will mean life for you,  
a long life for you to live on the land that the LORD swore  
he would give to your fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/1:1)

R. (40:5a) **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**  
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. **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**  
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. **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**  
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. **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 9:22-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/9:22)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected  
by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes,  
and be killed and on the third day be raised.”  
  
Then he said to all,  
“If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself  
and take up his cross daily and follow me.  
For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,  
but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.  
What profit is there for one to gain the whole world  
yet lose or forfeit himself?”

**Day 97**

# March 7, 2014

### Friday after Ash Wednesday Lectionary: 221

#### Reading 1 [IS 58:1-9A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/58:1)

Thus says the Lord GOD:  
Cry out full-throated and unsparingly,  
lift up your voice like a trumpet blast;   
Tell my people their wickedness,  
and the house of Jacob their sins.   
They seek me day after day,  
and desire to know my ways,  
Like a nation that has done what is just  
and not abandoned the law of their God;  
They ask me to declare what is due them,  
pleased to gain access to God.  
“Why do we fast, and you do not see it?  
afflict ourselves, and you take no note of it?”  
  
Lo, on your fast day you carry out your own pursuits,  
and drive all your laborers.  
Yes, your fast ends in quarreling and fighting,  
striking with wicked claw.  
Would that today you might fast  
so as to make your voice heard on high!  
Is this the manner of fasting I wish,  
of keeping a day of penance:  
That a man bow his head like a reed  
and lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Do you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?  
This, rather, is the fasting that I wish:  
releasing those bound unjustly,  
untying the thongs of the yoke;  
Setting free the oppressed,  
breaking every yoke;  
Sharing your bread with the hungry,  
sheltering the oppressed and the homeless;  
Clothing the naked when you see them,  
and not turning 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!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:3-4, 5-6AB, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:3)

R. (19b) **A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.**  
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. **A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.**  
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. **A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.**  
For you are not pleased with sacrifices;  
should I offer a burnt offering, you would not accept it.  
My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.  
R. **A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.**

#### Gospel [MT 9:14-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/9:14)

The disciples of John approached Jesus and said,  
“Why do we and the Pharisees fast much,  
but your disciples do not fast?”  
Jesus answered them, “Can the wedding guests mourn  
as long as the bridegroom is with them?  
The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them,  
and then they will fast.”

**Day 98**

# March 8, 2014

### Saturday after Ash Wednesday Lectionary: 222

#### Reading 1 [IS 58:9B-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/58:9)

Thus says the LORD:  
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;  
Then the LORD will guide you always  
and give you plenty even on the parched land.  
He will renew your strength,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring whose water never fails.  
The ancient ruins shall be rebuilt for your sake,  
and the foundations from ages past you shall raise up;  
“Repairer of the breach,” they shall call you,  
“Restorer of ruined homesteads.”  
  
If you hold back your foot on the sabbath  
from following your own pursuits on my holy day;  
If you call the sabbath a delight,  
and the LORD’s holy day honorable;  
If you honor it by not following your ways,  
seeking your own interests, or speaking with malice—  
Then you shall delight in the LORD,  
and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;  
I will nourish you with the heritage of Jacob, your father,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/86:1)

R. (11ab) **Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.**  
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.**Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.**  
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. **Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.**  
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.**Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth.**

#### Gospel [LK 5:27-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/5:27)

Jesus saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at the customs post.  
He said to him, “Follow me.”  
And leaving everything behind, he got up and followed him.  
Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house,  
and a large crowd of tax collectors  
and others were at table with them.  
The Pharisees and their scribes complained to his disciples, saying,  
“Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”  
Jesus said to them in reply,  
“Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do.  
I have not come to call the righteous to repentance but sinners.”

**Day 99**

# March 9, 2014

### First Sunday of Lent Lectionary: 22

#### Reading 1 [GN 2:7-9; 3:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/genesis/2:7)

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground   
and blew into his nostrils the breath of life,   
and so man became a living being.  
  
Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east,   
and placed there the man whom he had formed.  
Out of the ground the LORD God made various trees grow   
that were delightful to look at and good for food,   
with the tree of life in the middle of the garden   
and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.  
  
Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals   
that the LORD God had made.  
The serpent asked the woman,  
“Did God really tell you not to eat  
from any of the trees in the garden?”  
The woman answered the serpent:   
“We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden;   
it is only about the fruit of the tree   
in the middle of the garden that God said,   
‘You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.’”  
But the serpent said to the woman:  
“You certainly will not die!  
No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it  
your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods   
who know what is good and what is evil.”  
The woman saw that the tree was good for food,   
pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom.  
So she took some of its fruit and ate it;   
and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her,   
and he ate it.  
Then the eyes of both of them were opened,   
and they realized that they were naked;   
so they sewed fig leaves together  
and made loincloths for themselves.

#### Reading 2  [ROM 5:12-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/5:12)

Brothers and sisters:  
Through one man sin entered the world,  
and through sin, death,  
and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all sinned—  
for up to the time of the law, sin was in the world,   
though sin is not accounted when there is no law.  
But death reigned from Adam to Moses,   
even over those who did not sin   
after the pattern of the trespass of Adam,   
who is the type of the one who was to come.  
But the gift is not like the transgression.  
For if by the transgression of the one, the many died,   
how much more did the grace of God   
and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ   
overflow for the many.  
And the gift is not like the result of the one who sinned.  
For after one sin there was the judgment that brought condemnation;   
but the gift, after many transgressions, brought acquittal.  
For if, by the transgression of the one,  
death came to reign through that one,   
how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace  
and of the gift of justification   
come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.  
In conclusion, just as through one transgression   
condemnation came upon all,   
so, through one righteous act,  
acquittal and life came to all.  
For just as through the disobedience of the one man  
the many were made sinners,   
so, through the obedience of the one,   
the many will be made righteous.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:3)

R/ (cf. 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.**  
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/**Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**  
Give me back the joy of your salvation,  
and a willing spirit sustain in me.  
O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
R/ **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

#### Gospel [MT 4:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/4:1)

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert  
to be tempted by the devil.  
He fasted for forty days and forty nights,  
and afterwards he was hungry.  
The tempter approached and said to him,   
“If you are the Son of God,   
command that these stones become loaves of bread.”  
He said in reply,  
“It is written:  
One does not live on bread alone,but on every word that comes forthfrom the mouth of God.”  
  
Then the devil took him to the holy city,   
and made him stand on the parapet of the temple,   
and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down.  
For it is written:  
He will command his angels concerning youand with their hands they will support you,lest you dash your foot against a stone.”  
Jesus answered him,  
“Again it is written,   
You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.”  
Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain,  
and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence,   
and he said to him, "All these I shall give to you,   
if you will prostrate yourself and worship me.”  
At this, Jesus said to him,  
“Get away, Satan!  
It is written:  
The Lord, your God, shall you worshipand him alone shall you serve.”  
  
Then the devil left him and, behold,  
angels came and ministered to him.

**Day 100**

# March 10, 2014

### Monday of the First Week of Lent Lectionary: 224

#### Reading 1 [LV 19:1-2, 11-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/leviticus/19:1)

The LORD said to Moses,  
“Speak to the whole assembly of the children of Israel and tell them:  
Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy.  
  
“You shall not steal.  
You shall not lie or speak falsely to one another.  
You shall not swear falsely by my name,  
thus profaning the name of your God.  
I am the LORD.  
  
“You shall not defraud or rob your neighbor.  
You shall not withhold overnight the wages of your day laborer.  
You shall not curse the deaf,  
or put a stumbling block in front of the blind,  
but you shall fear your God.  
I am the LORD.  
  
“You shall not act dishonestly in rendering judgment.  
Show neither partiality to the weak nor deference to the mighty,  
but judge your fellow men justly.  
You shall not go about spreading slander among your kin;  
nor shall you stand by idly when your neighbor’s life is at stake.   
I am the LORD.  
  
“You shall not bear hatred for your brother in your heart.   
Though you may have to reprove him,  
do not incur sin because of him.   
Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against your fellow countrymen.  
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
I am the LORD.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 19:8, 9, 10, 15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/19:8)

R. (John 6:63b) **Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.**  
The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul.  
The decree of the LORD is trustworthy,  
giving wisdom to the simple.  
R. **Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.**  
The precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart.  
The command of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eye.  
R. **Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.**  
The fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;  
The ordinances of the LORD are true,  
all of them just.  
R.**Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.**  
Let the words of my mouth and the thought of my heart  
find favor before you,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.  
R. **Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.**

#### Gospel [MT 25:31-46](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/25:31)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“When the Son of Man comes in his glory,  
and all the angels with him,  
he will sit upon his glorious throne,  
and all the nations will be assembled before him.   
And he will separate them one from another,  
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.  
He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.  
Then the king will say to those on his right,  
‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.  
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.  
For I was hungry and you gave me food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,  
a stranger and you welcomed me,  
naked and you clothed me,  
ill and you cared for me,  
in prison and you visited me.’  
Then the righteous will answer him and say,  
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,  
or thirsty and give you drink?  
When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,  
or naked and clothe you?   
When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’  
And the king will say to them in reply,  
‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did  
for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’  
Then he will say to those on his left,  
‘Depart from me, you accursed,  
into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.  
For I was hungry and you gave me no food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
a stranger and you gave me no welcome,  
naked and you gave me no clothing,  
ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’  
Then they will answer and say,  
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty  
or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,  
and not minister to your needs?’  
He will answer them, ‘Amen, I say to you,  
what you did not do for one of these least ones,  
you did not do for me.’  
And these will go off to eternal punishment,  
but the righteous to eternal life.”

**Day 101**

# March 11, 2014

### Tuesday of the First Week of Lent Lectionary: 225

#### Reading 1 [IS 55:10-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/55:10)

Thus says the LORD:  
Just as from the heavens  
the rain and snow come down  
And do not return there  
till they have watered the earth,  
making it fertile and fruitful,  
Giving seed to the one who sows  
and bread to the one who eats,  
So shall my word be  
that goes forth from my mouth;  
It shall not return to me void,  
but shall do my will,  
achieving the end for which I sent it.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/34:4)

R. (18b) **From all their distress God rescues the just.**  
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. **From all their distress God rescues the just.**  
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. **From all their distress God rescues the just.**  
The LORD has eyes for the just,  
and ears for their cry.  
The LORD confronts the evildoers,  
to destroy remembrance of them from the earth.  
R. **From all their distress God rescues the just.**  
When the just cry out, the LORD hears them,  
and from all their distress he rescues them.  
The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;  
and those who are crushed in spirit he saves.  
R. **From all their distress God rescues the just.**

#### Gospel [MT 6:7-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/6:7)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“In praying, do not babble like the pagans,  
who think that they will be heard because of their many words.  
Do not be like them.  
Your Father knows what you need before you ask him.  
  
“This is how you are to pray:  
  
Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy Kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
  
“If you forgive men their transgressions,  
your heavenly Father will forgive you.  
But if you do not forgive men,  
neither will your Father forgive your transgressions.”

**Day 102**

# March 12, 2014

# Wednesday of the First Week in Lent Lectionary: 226

#### Reading 1 [JON 3:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jonah/3:1)

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time:  
“Set out for the great city of Nineveh,  
and announce to it the message that I will tell you.”  
So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh,  
according to the LORD’s bidding.  
Now Nineveh was an enormously large city;  
it took three days to go through it.  
Jonah began his journey through the city,  
and had gone but a single day’s walk announcing,  
“Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed,”  
when the people of Nineveh believed God;  
they proclaimed a fast  
and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth.  
  
When the news reached the king of Nineveh,  
he rose from his throne, laid aside his robe,  
covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in the ashes.  
Then he had this proclaimed throughout Nineveh,  
by decree of the king and his nobles:  
“Neither man nor beast, neither cattle nor sheep,  
shall taste anything;  
they shall not eat, nor shall they drink water.   
Man and beast shall be covered with sackcloth and call loudly to God;  
every man shall turn from his evil way  
and from the violence he has in hand.  
Who knows, God may relent and forgive, and withhold his blazing wrath,  
so that we shall not perish.”  
When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way,  
he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them;  
he did not carry it out.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:3)

R. (19b) **A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.**  
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. **A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.**  
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.**A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.**  
For you are not pleased with sacrifices;  
should I offer a burnt offering, you would not accept it.  
My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.  
R. **A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:29-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:29)

While still more people gathered in the crowd, Jesus said to them,  
“This generation is an evil generation;  
it seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it,  
except the sign of Jonah.   
Just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites,  
so will the Son of Man be to this generation.  
At the judgment   
the queen of the south will rise with the men of this generation   
and she will condemn them,  
because she came from the ends of the earth  
to hear the wisdom of Solomon,  
and there is something greater than Solomon here.   
At the judgment the men of Nineveh will arise with this generation  
and condemn it,  
because at the preaching of Jonah they repented,  
and there is something greater than Jonah here.”

**Day 103**

# March 13, 2014

### Thursday of the First Week in Lent Lectionary: 227

#### Reading 1 [EST C:12, 14-16, 23-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/esther/4:17)

Queen Esther, seized with mortal anguish,  
had recourse to the LORD.  
She lay prostrate upon the ground, together with her handmaids,   
from morning until evening, and said:  
“God of Abraham, God of Isaac, and God of Jacob, blessed are you.   
Help me, who am alone and have no help but you,  
for I am taking my life in my hand.  
As a child I used to hear from the books of my forefathers  
that you, O LORD, always free those who are pleasing to you.  
Now help me, who am alone and have no one but you,  
O LORD, my God.  
  
“And now, come to help me, an orphan.  
Put in my mouth persuasive words in the presence of the lion  
and turn his heart to hatred for our enemy,  
so that he and those who are in league with him may perish.  
Save us from the hand of our enemies;  
turn our mourning into gladness  
and our sorrows into wholeness.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 138:1-2AB, 2CDE-3, 7C8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/138:1)

R. (3a) **Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**  
I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,  
for you have heard the words of my mouth;  
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;  
I will worship at your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name.  
R. **Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**  
Because of your kindness and your truth;  
for you have made great above all things  
your name and your promise.  
When I called, you answered me;  
you built up strength within me.  
R. **Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**  
Your right hand saves me.  
The LORD will complete what he has done for me;  
your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;  
forsake not the work of your hands.  
R.**Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**

#### Gospel [MT 7:7-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/7:7)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Ask and it will be given to you;  
seek and you will find;  
knock and the door will be opened to you.  
For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds;  
and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.   
Which one of you would hand his son a stone  
when he asked for a loaf of bread,  
or a snake when he asked for a fish?  
If you then, who are wicked,  
know how to give good gifts to your children,  
how much more will your heavenly Father give good things  
to those who ask him.  
  
“Do to others whatever you would have them do to you.   
This is the law and the prophets.”

**Day 104**

# March 14, 2014

### Friday of the First Week of Lent Lectionary: 228

#### Reading 1 [EZ 18:21-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/18:21)

Thus says the Lord GOD:  
If the wicked man turns away from all the sins he committed,   
if he keeps all my statutes and does what is right and just,  
he shall surely live, he shall not die.   
None of the crimes he committed shall be remembered against him;  
he shall live because of the virtue he has practiced.   
Do I indeed derive any pleasure from the death of the wicked?  
says the Lord GOD.   
Do I not rather rejoice when he turns from his evil way  
that he may live?  
  
And if the virtuous man turns from the path of virtue to do evil,  
the same kind of abominable things that the wicked man does,  
can he do this and still live?  
None of his virtuous deeds shall be remembered,  
because he has broken faith and committed sin;  
because of this, he shall die.   
You say, “The LORD’s way is not fair!”   
Hear now, house of Israel:  
Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair?  
When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies,  
it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die.  
But if the wicked, turning from the wickedness he has committed,  
does what is right and just,  
he shall preserve his life;  
since he has turned away from all the sins that he committed,   
he shall surely live, he shall not die.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7A, 7BC-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/130:1)

R. (3) **If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, who can stand?**  
Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;  
LORD, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
to my voice in supplication.  
R.**If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, who can stand?**  
If you, O LORD, mark iniquities,  
LORD, who can stand?  
But with you is forgiveness,  
that you may be revered.   
R. **If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, who can stand?**  
I trust in the LORD;  
my soul trusts in his word.  
My soul waits for the LORD  
more than sentinels wait for the dawn.  
Let Israel wait for the LORD.  
R. **If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, who can stand?**  
For with the LORD is kindness  
and with him is plenteous redemption;  
And he will redeem Israel  
from all their iniquities.  
R. **If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, who can stand?**

#### Gospel [MT 5:20-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:20)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“I tell you,   
unless your righteousness surpasses that  
of the scribes and Pharisees,  
you will not enter into the Kingdom of heaven.  
  
“You have heard that it was said to your ancestors,  
You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.  
But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother  
will be liable to judgment,  
and whoever says to his brother, Raqa,   
will be answerable to the Sanhedrin,  
and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ will be liable to fiery Gehenna.  
Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar,  
and there recall that your brother  
has anything against you,  
leave your gift there at the altar,  
go first and be reconciled with your brother,  
and then come and offer your gift.  
Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court.  
Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge,  
and the judge will hand you over to the guard,  
and you will be thrown into prison.  
Amen, I say to you,  
you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.”

**Day 105**

# March 15, 2014

### Saturday of the First Week of Lent Lectionary: 229

#### Reading 1 [DT 26:16-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/26:16)

Moses spoke to the people, saying:  
“This day the LORD, your God,  
commands you to observe these statutes and decrees.  
Be careful, then,  
to observe them with all your heart and with all your soul.  
Today you are making this agreement with the LORD:  
he is to be your God and you are to walk in his ways  
and observe his statutes, commandments and decrees,  
and to hearken to his voice.  
And today the LORD is making this agreement with you:  
you are to be a people peculiarly his own, as he promised you;  
and provided you keep all his commandments,  
he will then raise you high in praise and renown and glory  
above all other nations he has made,  
and you will be a people sacred to the LORD, your God,  
as he promised.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:1)

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!**  
I will give you thanks with an upright heart,  
when I have learned your just ordinances.  
I will keep your statutes;  
do not utterly forsake me.  
R. **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**

#### Gospel [MT 5:43-48](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:43)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“You have heard that it was said,  
You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.  
But I say to you, love your enemies,  
and pray for those who persecute you,  
that you may be children of your heavenly Father,  
for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good,  
and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.  
For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have?  
Do not the tax collectors do the same?  
And if you greet your brothers and sisters only,  
what is unusual about that?  
Do not the pagans do the same?  
So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

**Day 106**

# March 16, 2014

### Second Sunday of Lent Lectionary: 25

#### Reading 1 [GN 12:1-4A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/genesis/12:1)

The LORD said to Abram:   
“Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk  
and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.  
  
“I will make of you a great nation,  
and I will bless you;  
I will make your name great,  
so that you will be a blessing.  
I will bless those who bless you  
and curse those who curse you.  
All the communities of the earth  
shall find blessing in you.”  
  
Abram went as the LORD directed him.

#### Reading 2  [2 TIM 1:8B-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2timothy/1:8)

Beloved:  
Bear your share of hardship for the gospel  
with the strength that comes from God.  
  
He saved us and called us to a holy life,  
not according to our works  
but according to his own design  
and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began,  
but now made manifest   
through the appearance of our savior Christ Jesus,  
who destroyed death and brought life and immortality  
to light through the gospel.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:4)

R/ (22) **Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**  
Upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
R/**Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**  
See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,  
upon those who hope for his kindness,  
To deliver them from death  
and preserve them in spite of famine.  
R/ **Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**  
Our soul waits for the LORD,  
who is our help and our shield.  
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us  
who have put our hope in you.  
R/ **Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

#### Gospel [MT 17:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/17:1)

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother,   
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.  
And he was transfigured before them;   
his face shone like the sun   
and his clothes became white as light.  
And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them,  
conversing with him.  
Then Peter said to Jesus in reply,   
“Lord, it is good that we are here.  
If you wish, I will make three tents here,   
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”  
While he was still speaking, behold,  
a bright cloud cast a shadow over them,   
then from the cloud came a voice that said,   
“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;  
listen to him.”  
When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate  
and were very much afraid.  
But Jesus came and touched them, saying,  
“Rise, and do not be afraid.”  
And when the disciples raised their eyes,   
they saw no one else but Jesus alone.  
  
As they were coming down from the mountain,  
Jesus charged them,  
“Do not tell the vision to anyone   
until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

**Day 107**

# March 17, 2014

### Monday of the Second Week in Lent Lectionary: 230

#### Reading 1 [DN 9:4B-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/daniel/9:4)

“Lord, great and awesome God,  
you who keep your merciful covenant toward those who love you  
and observe your commandments!  
We have sinned, been wicked and done evil;  
we have rebelled and departed from your commandments and your laws.  
We have not obeyed your servants the prophets,  
who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes,  
our fathers, and all the people of the land.  
Justice, O Lord, is on your side;  
we are shamefaced even to this day:  
we, the men of Judah, the residents of Jerusalem,  
and all Israel, near and far,  
in all the countries to which you have scattered them  
because of their treachery toward you.  
O LORD, we are shamefaced, like our kings, our princes, and our fathers,  
for having sinned against you.  
But yours, O Lord, our God, are compassion and forgiveness!  
Yet we rebelled against you  
and paid no heed to your command, O LORD, our God,  
to live by the law you gave us through your servants the prophets.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 79:8, 9, 11 AND 13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/79:8)

R. (see 103:10a) **Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins.**  
Remember not against us the iniquities of the past;  
may your compassion quickly come to us,  
for we are brought very low.  
R. **Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins.**  
Help us, O God our savior,  
because of the glory of your name;  
Deliver us and pardon our sins  
for your name’s sake.  
R. **Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins.**  
Let the prisoners’ sighing come before you;  
with your great power free those doomed to death.  
Then we, your people and the sheep of your pasture,  
will give thanks to you forever;  
through all generations we will declare your praise.  
R. **Lord, do not deal with us according to our sins.**

#### Gospel [LK 6:36-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/6:36)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.  
  
“Stop judging and you will not be judged.  
Stop condemning and you will not be condemned.  
Forgive and you will be forgiven.  
Give and gifts will be given to you;  
a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing,  
will be poured into your lap.  
For the measure with which you measure  
will in return be measured out to you.”

**Day 108**

# March 18, 2014

### Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent Lectionary: 231

#### Reading 1 [IS 1:10, 16-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/1:10)

Hear the word of the LORD,  
princes of Sodom!  
Listen to the instruction of our God,  
people of Gomorrah!  
  
Wash yourselves clean!  
Put away your misdeeds from before my eyes;  
cease doing evil; learn to do good.  
Make justice your aim: redress the wronged,  
hear the orphan’s plea, defend the widow.  
  
Come now, let us set things right,  
says the LORD:  
Though your sins be like scarlet,  
they may become white as snow;  
Though they be crimson red,  
they may become white as wool.  
If you are willing, and obey,  
you shall eat the good things of the land;  
But if you refuse and resist,  
the sword shall consume you:  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 50:8-9, 16BC-17, 21 AND 23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/50:8)

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.**

#### Gospel [MT 23:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/23:1)

Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, saying,  
“The scribes and the Pharisees  
have taken their seat on the chair of Moses.  
Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you,  
but do not follow their example.  
For they preach but they do not practice.  
They tie up heavy burdens hard to carry  
and lay them on people’s shoulders,  
but they will not lift a finger to move them.  
All their works are performed to be seen.  
They widen their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels.  
They love places of honor at banquets, seats of honor in synagogues,  
greetings in marketplaces, and the salutation ‘Rabbi.’  
As for you, do not be called ‘Rabbi.’  
You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers.  
Call no one on earth your father;  
you have but one Father in heaven.  
Do not be called ‘Master’;  
you have but one master, the Christ.  
The greatest among you must be your servant.  
Whoever exalts himself will be humbled;  
but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

**Day 109**

# March 19, 2014

### Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lectionary: 543

#### Reading 1 [2 SM 7:4-5A, 12-14A, 16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2samuel/7:4)

The LORD spoke to Nathan and said:  
“Go, tell my servant David,  
‘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.  
Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me;  
your throne shall stand firm forever.’”

#### Reading 2 [ROM 4:13, 16-18, 22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/4:13)

Brothers and sisters:  
It was not through the law  
that the promise was made to Abraham and his descendants  
that he would inherit the world,  
but through the righteousness that comes from faith.  
For this reason, it depends on faith,  
so that it may be a gift,  
and the promise may be guaranteed to all his descendants,  
not to those who only adhere to the law  
but to those who follow the faith of Abraham,  
who is the father of all of us, as it is written,  
I have made you father of many nations.  
He is our father in the sight of God,  
in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead  
and calls into being what does not exist.  
He believed, hoping against hope,  
that he would become the father of many nations,  
according to what was said, Thus shall your descendants be.  
That is why it was credited to him as righteousness.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 AND 29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/89:2)

R.    (37)  **The son of David will live for ever.**  
The promises 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.   **The son of David will live for ever.**  
“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.    **The son of David will live for ever.**  
“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.   **The son of David will live for ever.**

#### Gospel [MT 1:16, 18-21, 24A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/1:16)

Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary.  
Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ.  
  
Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about.  
When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph,  
but before they lived together,  
she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.  
Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man,  
yet unwilling to expose her to shame,  
decided to divorce her quietly.  
Such was his intention when, behold,  
the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,  
“Joseph, son of David,  
do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.  
For it is through the Holy Spirit  
that this child has been conceived in her.  
She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,  
because he will save his people from their sins.”  
When Joseph awoke,  
he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him  
and took his wife into his home.

**Day 110**

# March 20, 2014

### Thursday of the Second Week of Lent Lectionary: 233

#### Reading 1 [JER 17:5-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/17:5)

Thus says the LORD:  
Cursed is the man who trusts in human beings,  
who seeks his strength in flesh,  
whose heart turns away from the LORD.  
He is like a barren bush in the desert  
that enjoys no change of season,  
But stands in a lava waste,  
a salt and empty earth.  
Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,  
whose hope is the LORD.  
He is like a tree planted beside the waters  
that stretches out its roots to the stream:  
It fears not the heat when it comes,  
its leaves stay green;  
In the year of drought it shows no distress,  
but still bears fruit.  
More tortuous than all else is the human heart,  
beyond remedy; who can understand it?  
I, the LORD, alone probe the mind  
and test the heart,  
To reward everyone according to his ways,  
according to the merit of his deeds.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/1:1)

R. (40:5a) **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**  
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. **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**  
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. **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**  
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. **Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 16:19-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/16:19)

Jesus said to the Pharisees:  
“There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen  
and dined sumptuously each day.  
And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,  
who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps  
that fell from the rich man’s table.  
Dogs even used to come and lick his sores.  
When the poor man died,  
he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.  
The rich man also died and was buried,  
and from the netherworld, where he was in torment,  
he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off  
and Lazarus at his side.  
And he cried out, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me.  
Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue,  
for I am suffering torment in these flames.’  
Abraham replied, ‘My child,  
remember that you received what was good during your lifetime  
while Lazarus likewise received what was bad;  
but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.  
Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established  
to prevent anyone from crossing  
who might wish to go from our side to yours  
or from your side to ours.’  
He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, send him  
to my father’s house,  
for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them,  
lest they too come to this place of torment.’  
But Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets.  
Let them listen to them.’  
He said, ‘Oh no, father Abraham,  
but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’  
Then Abraham said,  
‘If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets,  
neither will they be persuaded  
if someone should rise from the dead.’“

**Day 111**

# March 21, 2014

### Friday of the Second Week of Lent Lectionary: 234

#### Reading 1 [GN 37:3-4, 12-13A, 17B-28A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/genesis/37:3)

Israel loved Joseph best of all his sons,  
for he was the child of his old age;  
and he had made him a long tunic.  
When his brothers saw that their father loved him best of all his sons,  
they hated him so much that they would not even greet him.  
  
One day, when his brothers had gone  
to pasture their father’s flocks at Shechem,  
Israel said to Joseph,   
“Your brothers, you know, are tending our flocks at Shechem.  
Get ready; I will send you to them.”  
  
So Joseph went after his brothers and caught up with them in Dothan.  
They noticed him from a distance,  
and before he came up to them, they plotted to kill him.  
They said to one another: “Here comes that master dreamer!  
Come on, let us kill him and throw him into one of the cisterns here;  
we could say that a wild beast devoured him.  
We shall then see what comes of his dreams.”  
  
When Reuben heard this,  
he tried to save him from their hands, saying,  
“We must not take his life.  
Instead of shedding blood,” he continued,  
“just throw him into that cistern there in the desert;  
but do not kill him outright.”  
His purpose was to rescue him from their hands  
and return him to his father.   
So when Joseph came up to them,  
they stripped him of the long tunic he had on;  
then they took him and threw him into the cistern,  
which was empty and dry.  
  
They then sat down to their meal.  
Looking up, they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead,  
their camels laden with gum, balm and resin  
to be taken down to Egypt.  
Judah said to his brothers:  
“What is to be gained by killing our brother and concealing his blood?   
Rather, let us sell him to these Ishmaelites,  
instead of doing away with him ourselves.  
After all, he is our brother, our own flesh.”  
His brothers agreed.  
They sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/105:16)

R. (5a) **Remember the marvels the Lord has done.**  
When the LORD called down a famine on the land  
and ruined the crop that sustained them,  
He sent a man before them,  
Joseph, sold as a slave.  
R. **Remember the marvels the Lord has done.**  
They had weighed him down with fetters,  
and he was bound with chains,  
Till his prediction came to pass  
and the word of the LORD proved him true.  
R. **Remember the marvels the Lord has done.**  
The king sent and released him,  
the ruler of the peoples set him free.  
He made him lord of his house  
and ruler of all his possessions.  
R. **Remember the marvels the Lord has done.**

#### Gospel [MT 21:33-43, 45-46](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/21:33)

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people:   
“Hear another parable.  
There was a landowner who planted a vineyard,  
put a hedge around it,  
dug a wine press in it, and built a tower.  
Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey.  
When vintage time drew near,  
he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce.  
But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat,  
another they killed, and a third they stoned.  
Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones,  
but they treated them in the same way.  
Finally, he sent his son to them,  
thinking, ‘They will respect my son.’  
But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another,  
‘This is the heir.  
Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.’  
They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.  
What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?”  
They answered him,  
“He will put those wretched men to a wretched death  
and lease his vineyard to other tenants  
who will give him the produce at the proper times.”  
Jesus said to them, “Did you never read in the Scriptures:  
  
The stone that the builders rejectedhas become the cornerstone;by the Lord has this been done,and it is wonderful in our eyes?  
  
Therefore, I say to you,  
the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you  
and given to a people that will produce its fruit.”  
When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables,  
they knew that he was speaking about them.  
And although they were attempting to arrest him,  
they feared the crowds, for they regarded him as a prophet.

**Day 112**

# March 22, 2014

### Saturday of the Second Week of Lent Lectionary: 235

#### Reading 1 [MI 7:14-15, 18-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/micah/7:14)

Shepherd your people with your staff,  
the flock of your inheritance,  
That dwells apart in a woodland,  
in the midst of Carmel.  
Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead,  
as in the days of old;  
As in the days when you came from the land of Egypt,  
show us wonderful signs.  
  
Who is there like you, the God who removes guilt  
and pardons sin for the remnant of his inheritance;  
Who does not persist in anger forever,  
but delights rather in clemency,  
And will again have compassion on us,  
treading underfoot our guilt?  
You will cast into the depths of the sea all our sins;  
You will show faithfulness to Jacob,  
and grace to Abraham,  
As you have sworn to our fathers  
from days of old.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/103:1)

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.**  
He will not always chide,  
nor does he keep his wrath forever.  
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.**  
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.**

#### Gospel [LK 15:1-3, 11-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/15:1)

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus,  
but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying,  
“This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”  
So to them Jesus addressed this parable.  
“A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father,  
‘Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.’  
So the father divided the property between them.  
After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings  
and set off to a distant country  
where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation.  
When he had freely spent everything,  
a severe famine struck that country,  
and he found himself in dire need.  
So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens  
who sent him to his farm to tend the swine.  
And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed,  
but nobody gave him any.  
Coming to his senses he thought,  
‘How many of my father’s hired workers  
have more than enough food to eat,  
but here am I, dying from hunger.  
I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him,  
“Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.  
I no longer deserve to be called your son;  
treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers.”’  
So he got up and went back to his father.  
While he was still a long way off,  
his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion.  
He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him.  
His son said to him,  
‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you;  
I no longer deserve to be called your son.’  
But his father ordered his servants,  
‘Quickly, bring the finest robe and put it on him;  
put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.  
Take the fattened calf and slaughter it.  
Then let us celebrate with a feast,  
because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again;  
he was lost, and has been found.’  
Then the celebration began.  
Now the older son had been out in the field  
and, on his way back, as he neared the house,  
he heard the sound of music and dancing.  
He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean.  
The servant said to him,  
‘Your brother has returned  
and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf  
because he has him back safe and sound.’  
He became angry,  
and when he refused to enter the house,  
his father came out and pleaded with him.  
He said to his father in reply,  
‘Look, all these years I served you  
and not once did I disobey your orders;  
yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends.  
But when your son returns  
who swallowed up your property with prostitutes,  
for him you slaughter the fattened calf.’  
He said to him,  
‘My son, you are here with me always;  
everything I have is yours.  
But now we must celebrate and rejoice,  
because your brother was dead and has come to life again;  
he was lost and has been found.’“

**Day 113**

# March 23, 2014

### Third Sunday of Lent Lectionary: 28

#### Reading 1 [EX 17:3-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/exodus/17:3)

In those days, in their thirst for water,  
the people grumbled against Moses,  
saying, “Why did you ever make us leave Egypt?  
Was it just to have us die here of thirst   
with our children and our livestock?”  
So Moses cried out to the LORD,   
“What shall I do with this people?  
a little more and they will stone me!”  
The LORD answered Moses,  
“Go over there in front of the people,   
along with some of the elders of Israel,   
holding in your hand, as you go,   
the staff with which you struck the river.  
I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb.  
Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it   
for the people to drink.”  
This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel.  
The place was called Massah and Meribah,   
because the Israelites quarreled there  
and tested the LORD, saying,  
“Is the LORD in our midst or not?”

#### Reading 2 [ROM 5:1-2, 5-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/5:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
Since we have been justified by faith,   
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,   
through whom we have gained access by faith   
to this grace in which we stand,   
and we boast in hope of the glory of God.  
  
And hope does not disappoint,   
because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts   
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.  
For Christ, while we were still helpless,   
died at the appointed time for the ungodly.  
Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,   
though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die.  
But God proves his love for us  
in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/95:1)

R/ (8) **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.  
R/ **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.  
R/ **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Oh, that today you would hear his voice:  
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Massah in the desert,  
Where your fathers tempted me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works.”  
R/**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

#### Gospel [JN 4:5-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/4:5)

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar,   
near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.  
Jacob’s well was there.  
Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well.  
It was about noon.  
  
A woman of Samaria came to draw water.  
Jesus said to her,  
“Give me a drink.”  
His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.  
The Samaritan woman said to him,  
“How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?”  
—For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.—  
Jesus answered and said to her,  
“If you knew the gift of God  
and who is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink, ‘  
you would have asked him   
and he would have given you living water.”  
The woman said to him,   
“Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep;   
where then can you get this living water?  
Are you greater than our father Jacob,   
who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself   
with his children and his flocks?”  
Jesus answered and said to her,   
“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again;   
but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst;   
the water I shall give will become in him  
a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”  
The woman said to him,  
“Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty   
or have to keep coming here to draw water.”  
  
Jesus said to her,  
“Go call your husband and come back.”  
The woman answered and said to him,  
“I do not have a husband.”  
Jesus answered her,  
“You are right in saying, ‘I do not have a husband.’  
For you have had five husbands,   
and the one you have now is not your husband.  
What you have said is true.”  
The woman said to him,  
“Sir, I can see that you are a prophet.  
Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain;   
but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem.”  
Jesus said to her,  
“Believe me, woman, the hour is coming  
when you will worship the Father  
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.  
You people worship what you do not understand;   
we worship what we understand,   
because salvation is from the Jews.  
But the hour is coming, and is now here,   
when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth;   
and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him.  
God is Spirit, and those who worship him  
must worship in Spirit and truth.”  
The woman said to him,  
“I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ;   
when he comes, he will tell us everything.”  
Jesus said to her,  
“I am he, the one speaking with you.”  
  
At that moment his disciples returned,   
and were amazed that he was talking with a woman,   
but still no one said, “What are you looking for?”   
or “Why are you talking with her?”  
The woman left her water jar   
and went into the town and said to the people,   
“Come see a man who told me everything I have done.  
Could he possibly be the Christ?”  
They went out of the town and came to him.  
Meanwhile, the disciples urged him, “Rabbi, eat.”  
But he said to them,  
“I have food to eat of which you do not know.”  
So the disciples said to one another,   
“Could someone have brought him something to eat?”  
Jesus said to them,  
“My food is to do the will of the one who sent me  
and to finish his work.  
Do you not say, ‘In four months the harvest will be here’?  
I tell you, look up and see the fields ripe for the harvest.  
The reaper is already receiving payment   
and gathering crops for eternal life,   
so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together.  
For here the saying is verified that ‘One sows and another reaps.’  
I sent you to reap what you have not worked for;   
others have done the work,   
and you are sharing the fruits of their work.”   
  
Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him  
because of the word of the woman who testified,   
“He told me everything I have done.”  
When the Samaritans came to him,  
they invited him to stay with them;   
and he stayed there two days.  
Many more began to believe in him because of his word,   
and they said to the woman,   
“We no longer believe because of your word;   
for we have heard for ourselves,   
and we know that this is truly the savior of the world.”

**Day 114**

# March 24, 2014

### Monday of the Third Week of Lent Lectionary: 237

#### Reading 1 [2 KGS 5:1-15AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2kings/5:1)

Naaman, the army commander of the king of Aram,  
was highly esteemed and respected by his master,  
for through him the LORD had brought victory to Aram.  
But valiant as he was, the man was a leper.  
Now the Arameans had captured in a raid on the land of Israel  
a little girl, who became the servant of Naaman’s wife.  
“If only my master would present himself to the prophet in Samaria,”  
she said to her mistress, “he would cure him of his leprosy.”  
Naaman went and told his lord  
just what the slave girl from the land of Israel had said.  
“Go,” said the king of Aram.  
“I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.”  
So Naaman set out, taking along ten silver talents,  
six thousand gold pieces, and ten festal garments.  
To the king of Israel he brought the letter, which read:  
“With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you,  
that you may cure him of his leprosy.”  
  
When he read the letter,  
the king of Israel tore his garments and exclaimed:  
“Am I a god with power over life and death,  
that this man should send someone to me to be cured of leprosy?  
Take note! You can see he is only looking for a quarrel with me!”  
When Elisha, the man of God,  
heard that the king of Israel had torn his garments,  
he sent word to the king:  
“Why have you torn your garments?  
Let him come to me and find out  
that there is a prophet in Israel.”  
  
Naaman came with his horses and chariots  
and stopped at the door of Elisha’s house.  
The prophet sent him the message:  
“Go and wash seven times in the Jordan,  
and your flesh will heal, and you will be clean.”  
But Naaman went away angry, saying,  
“I thought that he would surely come out and stand there  
to invoke the LORD his God,  
and would move his hand over the spot,  
and thus cure the leprosy.  
Are not the rivers of Damascus, the Abana and the Pharpar,  
better than all the waters of Israel?   
Could I not wash in them and be cleansed?”  
With this, he turned about in anger and left.  
  
But his servants came up and reasoned with him.  
“My father,” they said,  
“if the prophet had told you to do something extraordinary,  
would you not have done it?  
All the more now, since he said to you,  
‘Wash and be clean,’ should you do as he said.”  
So Naaman went down and plunged into the Jordan seven times  
at the word of the man of God.  
His flesh became again like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.  
  
He returned with his whole retinue to the man of God.  
On his arrival he stood before him and said,  
“Now I know that there is no God in all the earth,  
except in Israel.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/42:2)

R. (see 42:3) **Athirst is my soul for the living God.  
When shall I go and behold the face of God?**  
As the hind longs for the running waters,  
so my soul longs for you, O God.  
R. **Athirst is my soul for the living God.  
When shall I go and behold the face of God?**  
Athirst is my soul for God, the living God.  
When shall I go and behold the face of God?  
R. **Athirst is my soul for the living God.  
When shall I go and behold the face of God?**  
Send forth your light and your fidelity;  
they shall lead me on  
And bring me to your holy mountain,  
to your dwelling-place.  
R.**Athirst is my soul for the living God.  
When shall I go and behold the face of God?**  
Then will I go in to the altar of God,  
the God of my gladness and joy;  
Then will I give you thanks upon the harp,  
O God, my God!  
R. **Athirst is my soul for the living God.  
When shall I go and behold the face of God?**

#### Gospel [LK 4:24-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/4:24)

Jesus said to the people in the synagogue at Nazareth:  
“Amen, I say to you,  
no prophet is accepted in his own native place.  
Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel  
in the days of Elijah  
when the sky was closed for three and a half years  
and a severe famine spread over the entire land.  
It was to none of these that Elijah was sent,  
but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon.  
Again, there were many lepers in Israel  
during the time of Elisha the prophet;  
yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.”  
When the people in the synagogue heard this,  
they were all filled with fury.  
They rose up, drove him out of the town,  
and led him to the brow of the hill  
on which their town had been built,   
to hurl him down headlong.  
But he passed through the midst of them and went away.

**Day 115**

# March 25, 2014

### Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Lectionary: 545

#### Reading 1 [IS 7:10-14; 8:10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/7:10)

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying:  
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 people,  
must you also weary my God?  
Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign:  
the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son,  
and shall name him Emmanuel,  
which means “God is with us!”

#### Reading 2 [HEB 10:4-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hebrews/10:4)

Brothers and sisters:  
It is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats   
take away sins.  
For this reason, when Christ came into the world, he said:  
  
“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,  
but a body you prepared for me;  
in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight.  
Then I said, ‘As is written of me in the scroll,  
behold, I come to do your will, O God.’”  
  
First he says, “Sacrifices and offerings,  
holocausts and sin offerings,  
you neither desired nor delighted in.”  
These are offered according to the law.  
Then he says, “Behold, I come to do your will.”  
He takes away the first to establish the second.  
By this “will,” we have been consecrated  
through the offering of the Body of Jesus Christ once for all.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 40:7-8A, 8B-9, 10, 11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/40:7)

R. (8a and 9a)**Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**  
Sacrifice or oblation 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 I am, 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 I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**  
Your justice I kept not hid within my heart;  
your faithfulness and your salvation I have spoken of;  
I have made no secret of your kindness and your truth  
in the vast assembly.  
R.**Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

#### Gospel [LK 1:26-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/1:26)

The angel Gabriel was sent from God  
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,  
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,  
of the house of David,  
and the virgin’s name was Mary.  
And coming to her, he said,  
“Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.”  
But she was greatly troubled at what was said  
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.  
Then the angel said to her,  
“Do not be afraid, Mary,  
for you have found favor with God.  
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus.  
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,  
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,  
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,  
and of his Kingdom there will be no end.”  
But Mary said to the angel,  
“How can this be,  
since I have no relations with a man?”  
And the angel said to her in reply,  
“The Holy Spirit will come upon you,  
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.  
Therefore the child to be born  
will be called holy, the Son of God.  
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,  
has also conceived a son in her old age,  
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;  
for nothing will be impossible for God.”  
Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.  
May it be done to me according to your word.”  
Then the angel departed from her.

**Day 116**

# March 26, 2014

### Wednesday of the Third Week of Lent Lectionary: 239

#### Reading 1 [DT 4:1, 5-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/4:1)

Moses spoke to the people and said:  
“Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees  
which I am teaching you to observe,  
that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land   
which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you.   
Therefore, I teach you the statutes and decrees  
as the LORD, my God, has commanded me,  
that you may observe them in the land you are entering to occupy.  
Observe them carefully,  
for thus will you give evidence  
of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations,  
who will hear of all these statutes and say,  
‘This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people.’  
For what great nation is there  
that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us  
whenever we call upon him?  
Or what great nation has statutes and decrees  
that are as just as this whole law  
which I am setting before you today?  
  
“However, take care and be earnestly on your guard  
not to forget the things which your own eyes have seen,  
nor let them slip from your memory as long as you live,  
but teach them to your children and to your children’s children.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/147:12)

R. (12a) **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**  
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.**  
He sends forth his command to the earth;  
swiftly runs his word!  
He spreads snow like wool;  
frost he strews like ashes.  
R. **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**  
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.  
R. **Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:17-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:17)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets.  
I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.  
Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away,  
not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter  
will pass from the law,  
until all things have taken place.  
Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments  
and teaches others to do so  
will be called least in the Kingdom of heaven.  
But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments  
will be called greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.”

**Day 117**

# March 27, 2014

### Thursday of the Third Week of Lent Lectionary: 240

#### Reading 1 [JER 7:23-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/7:23)

Thus says the LORD:   
This is what I commanded my people:  
Listen to my voice;  
then I will be your God and you shall be my people.  
Walk in all the ways that I command you,  
so that you may prosper.  
  
But they obeyed not, nor did they pay heed.  
They walked in the hardness of their evil hearts  
and turned their backs, not their faces, to me.  
From the day that your fathers left the land of Egypt even to this day,  
I have sent you untiringly all my servants the prophets.  
Yet they have not obeyed me nor paid heed;  
they have stiffened their necks and done worse than their fathers.  
When you speak all these words to them,  
they will not listen to you either;  
when you call to them, they will not answer you.  
Say to them:  
This is the nation that does not listen  
to the voice of the LORD, its God,  
or take correction.  
Faithfulness has disappeared;  
the word itself is banished from their speech.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/95:1)

R. (8) **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.  
R. **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.  
R. **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Oh, that today you would hear his voice:  
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Massah in the desert,  
Where your fathers tempted me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works.”  
R. **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:14-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:14)

Jesus was driving out a demon that was mute,  
and when the demon had gone out,  
the mute man spoke and the crowds were amazed.  
Some of them said, “By the power of Beelzebul, the prince of demons,  
he drives out demons.”  
Others, to test him, asked him for a sign from heaven.  
But he knew their thoughts and said to them,  
“Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste  
and house will fall against house.  
And if Satan is divided against himself,   
how will his kingdom stand?  
For you say that it is by Beelzebul that I drive out demons.  
If I, then, drive out demons by Beelzebul,  
by whom do your own people drive them out?  
Therefore they will be your judges.  
But if it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons,  
then the Kingdom of God has come upon you.  
When a strong man fully armed guards his palace,  
his possessions are safe.  
But when one stronger than he attacks and overcomes him,  
he takes away the armor on which he relied  
and distributes the spoils.  
Whoever is not with me is against me,  
and whoever does not gather with me scatters.”

**Day 118**

# March 28, 2014

### Friday of the Third Week of Lent Lectionary: 241

#### Reading 1 [HOS 14:2-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hosea/14:2)

Thus says the LORD:  
Return, O Israel, to the LORD, your God;  
you have collapsed through your guilt.  
Take with you words,  
and return to the LORD;  
Say to him, “Forgive all iniquity,  
and receive what is good, that we may render  
as offerings the bullocks from our stalls.  
Assyria will not save us,  
nor shall we have horses to mount;  
We shall say no more, ‘Our god,’  
to the work of our hands;  
for in you the orphan finds compassion.”  
  
I will heal their defection, says the LORD,  
I will love them freely;  
for my wrath is turned away from them.  
I will be like the dew for Israel:  
he shall blossom like the lily;  
He shall strike root like the Lebanon cedar,  
and put forth his shoots.  
His splendor shall be like the olive tree  
and his fragrance like the Lebanon cedar.  
Again they shall dwell in his shade  
and raise grain;  
They shall blossom like the vine,  
and his fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon.  
  
Ephraim! What more has he to do with idols?  
I have humbled him, but I will prosper him.  
“I am like a verdant cypress tree”–   
Because of me you bear fruit!  
  
Let him who is wise understand these things;  
let him who is prudent know them.  
Straight are the paths of the LORD,  
in them the just walk,  
but sinners stumble in them.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 81:6C-8A, 8BC-9, 10-11AB, 14 AND 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/81:6)

R. (see 11 and 9a)**I am the Lord your God: hear my voice.**  
An unfamiliar speech I hear:  
“I relieved his shoulder of the burden;  
his hands were freed from the basket.  
In distress you called, and I rescued you.”  
R. **I am the Lord your God: hear my voice.**  
“Unseen, I answered you in thunder;  
I tested you at the waters of Meribah.  
Hear, my people, and I will admonish you;  
O Israel, will you not hear me?”  
R.**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.**  
“If only my people would hear me,  
and Israel walk in my ways,  
I would feed them with the best of wheat,  
and with honey from the rock I would fill them.”  
R.**I am the Lord your God: hear my voice.**

#### Gospel [MK 12:28-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/12:28)

One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him,  
“Which is the first of all the commandments?”  
Jesus replied, “The first is this:  
Hear, O Israel!The Lord our God is Lord alone!You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,with all your soul,with all your mind,and with all your strength.  
The second is this:  
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
There is no other commandment greater than these.”  
The scribe said to him, “Well said, teacher.  
You are right in saying,  
He is One and there is no other than he.  
And to love him with all your heart,with all your understanding,with all your strength,and to love your neighbor as yourself  
is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”  
And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding,  
he said to him,  
“You are not far from the Kingdom of God.”  
And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

**Day 119**

# March 29, 2014

### Saturday of the Third Week of Lent Lectionary: 242

#### Reading 1 [HOS 6:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hosea/6:1)

“Come, let us return to the LORD,  
it is he who has rent, but he will heal us;  
he has struck us, but he will bind our wounds.  
He will revive us after two days;  
on the third day he will raise us up,  
to live in his presence.  
Let us know, let us strive to know the LORD;  
as certain as the dawn is his coming,  
and his judgment shines forth like the light of day!  
He will come to us like the rain,  
like spring rain that waters the earth.”  
  
What can I do with you, Ephraim?  
What can I do with you, Judah?  
Your piety is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that early passes away.  
For this reason I smote them through the prophets,  
I slew them by the words of my mouth;  
For it is love that I desire, not sacrifice,  
and knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:3)

R. (see Hosea 6:6) **It is mercy I desire, and not sacrifice.**  
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. **It is mercy I desire, and not sacrifice.**  
For you are not pleased with sacrifices;  
should I offer a burnt offering, you would not accept it.  
My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.  
R. **It is mercy I desire, and not sacrifice.**  
Be bountiful, O LORD, to Zion in your kindness  
by rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem;  
Then shall you be pleased with due sacrifices,  
burnt offerings and holocausts.  
R. **It is mercy I desire, and not sacrifice.**

#### Gospel [LK 18:9-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/18:9)

Jesus addressed this parable  
to those who were convinced of their own righteousness  
and despised everyone else.  
“Two people went up to the temple area to pray;  
one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector.  
The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself,  
‘O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity —   
greedy, dishonest, adulterous — or even like this tax collector.  
I fast twice a week,  
and I pay tithes on my whole income.’  
But the tax collector stood off at a distance  
and would not even raise his eyes to heaven  
but beat his breast and prayed,  
‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner.’  
I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former;  
for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,  
and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

**Day 120**

# March 30, 2014

### Fourth Sunday of Lent Lectionary: 31

#### Reading 1 [1 SM 16:1B, 6-7, 10-13A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1samuel/16:1)

The LORD said to Samuel:  
“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.”  
  
As Jesse and his sons came to the sacrifice,   
Samuel 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 man sees the appearance   
but the LORD looks into the heart.”  
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 the one!”  
Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand,   
anointed David in the presence of his brothers;   
and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David.

#### Reading 2  [EPH 5:8-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/5:8)

Brothers and sisters:  
You were once darkness,   
but now you are light in the Lord.  
Live as children of light,   
for light produces every kind of goodness   
and righteousness and truth.  
Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.  
Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness;   
rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention   
the things done by them in secret;   
but everything exposed by the light becomes visible,   
for everything that becomes visible is light.  
Therefore, it says:  
“Awake, O sleeper,  
and arise from the dead,  
and Christ will give you light.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

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.**  
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/ **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.**

#### Gospel [JN 9:1-41](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/9:1)

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth.  
His disciples asked him,  
“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents,   
that he was born blind?”  
Jesus answered,  
“Neither he nor his parents sinned;   
it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.  
We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day.  
Night is coming when no one can work.  
While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”  
When he had said this, he spat on the ground  
and made clay with the saliva,  
and smeared the clay on his eyes,  
and said to him,   
“Go wash in the Pool of Siloam” —which means Sent—.  
So he went and washed, and came back able to see.  
  
His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said,   
“Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?”  
Some said, “It is, “  
but others said, “No, he just looks like him.”  
He said, “I am.”  
So they said to him, “How were your eyes opened?”  
He replied,  
“The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes  
and told me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’  
So I went there and washed and was able to see.”  
And they said to him, “Where is he?”  
He said, “I don’t know.”  
  
They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees.  
Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath.  
So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.  
He said to them,  
“He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.”  
So some of the Pharisees said,  
“This man is not from God,  
because he does not keep the sabbath.”  
But others said,  
“How can a sinful man do such signs?”  
And there was a division among them.  
So they said to the blind man again,   
“What do you have to say about him,  
since he opened your eyes?”  
He said, “He is a prophet.”  
  
Now the Jews did not believe   
that he had been blind and gained his sight   
until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight.  
They asked them,  
“Is this your son, who you say was born blind?  
How does he now see?”  
His parents answered and said,   
“We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.  
We do not know how he sees now,  
nor do we know who opened his eyes.  
Ask him, he is of age;  
he can speak for himself.”  
His parents said this because they were afraid  
of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed   
that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ,  
he would be expelled from the synagogue.  
For this reason his parents said,  
“He is of age; question him.”  
  
So a second time they called the man who had been blind   
and said to him, “Give God the praise!  
We know that this man is a sinner.”  
He replied,  
“If he is a sinner, I do not know.  
One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see.”  
So they said to him,  
“What did he do to you?  
How did he open your eyes?”  
He answered them,  
“I told you already and you did not listen.  
Why do you want to hear it again?  
Do you want to become his disciples, too?”  
They ridiculed him and said,   
“You are that man’s disciple;  
we are disciples of Moses!  
We know that God spoke to Moses,   
but we do not know where this one is from.”  
The man answered and said to them,  
“This is what is so amazing,   
that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes.  
We know that God does not listen to sinners,   
but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him.  
It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind.  
If this man were not from God,  
he would not be able to do anything.”  
They answered and said to him,  
“You were born totally in sin,  
and are you trying to teach us?”  
Then they threw him out.  
  
When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out,  
he found him and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”  
He answered and said,   
“Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?”  
Jesus said to him,  
“You have seen him,  
the one speaking with you is he.”  
He said,  
“I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped him.  
Then Jesus said,  
“I came into this world for judgment,   
so that those who do not see might see,   
and those who do see might become blind.”  
  
Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this   
and said to him, “Surely we are not also blind, are we?”  
Jesus said to them,  
“If you were blind, you would have no sin;   
but now you are saying, ‘We see,’ so your sin remains.

**Day 121**

# March 31, 2014

### Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent Lectionary: 244

#### Reading 1 [IS 65:17-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/65:17)

Thus says the LORD:  
Lo, I am about to create new heavens  
and a new earth;  
The things of the past shall not be remembered  
or come to mind.  
Instead, there shall always be rejoicing and happiness  
in what I create;  
For I create Jerusalem to be a joy  
and its people to be a delight;  
I will rejoice in Jerusalem  
and exult in my people.  
No longer shall the sound of weeping be heard there,  
or the sound of crying;  
No longer shall there be in it  
an infant who lives but a few days,  
or an old man who does not round out his full lifetime;  
He dies a mere youth who reaches but a hundred years,  
and he who fails of a hundred shall be thought accursed.  
They shall live in the houses they build,  
and eat the fruit of the vineyards they plant.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 30:2 AND 4, 5-6, 11-12A AND 13B](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/30:2)

R. (2a) **I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**  
I will extol you, O LORD, for you drew me clear  
and did not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
O LORD, you brought me up from the nether world;  
you preserved me from among those going down into the pit.  
R. **I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**  
Sing praise to the LORD, you his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his holy name.  
For his anger lasts but a moment;  
a lifetime, his good will.  
At nightfall, weeping enters in,  
but with the dawn, rejoicing.  
R. **I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**  
“Hear, O LORD, and have pity on me;  
O LORD, be my helper.”  
You changed my mourning into dancing;  
O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks.  
R. **I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

#### Gospel [JN 4:43-54](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/4:43)

At that time Jesus left [Samaria] for Galilee.  
For Jesus himself testified  
that a prophet has no honor in his native place.  
When he came into Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him,  
since they had seen all he had done in Jerusalem at the feast;  
for they themselves had gone to the feast.  
  
Then he returned to Cana in Galilee,  
where he had made the water wine.  
Now there was a royal official whose son was ill in Capernaum.  
When he heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea,  
he went to him and asked him to come down  
and heal his son, who was near death.  
Jesus said to him,  
“Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe.”  
The royal official said to him,  
“Sir, come down before my child dies.”  
Jesus said to him, “You may go; your son will live.”  
The man believed what Jesus said to him and left.  
While the man was on his way back,  
his slaves met him and told him that his boy would live.  
He asked them when he began to recover.  
They told him,  
“The fever left him yesterday, about one in the afternoon.”  
The father realized that just at that time Jesus had said to him,  
“Your son will live,”  
and he and his whole household came to believe.  
Now this was the second sign Jesus did  
when he came to Galilee from Judea.

**Day 122**

# April 1, 2014

### Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent Lectionary: 245

#### Reading 1 [EZ 47:1-9, 12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/47:1)

The angel brought me, Ezekiel,  
back to the entrance of the temple of the LORD,  
and I saw water flowing out  
from beneath the threshold of the temple toward the east,  
for the façade of the temple was toward the east;  
the water flowed down from the right side of the temple,  
south of the altar.  
He led me outside by the north gate,  
and around to the outer gate facing the east,  
where I saw water trickling from the right side.  
Then when he had walked off to the east  
with a measuring cord in his hand,  
he measured off a thousand cubits  
and had me wade through the water,   
which was ankle-deep.  
He measured off another thousand  
and once more had me wade through the water,  
which was now knee-deep.  
Again he measured off a thousand and had me wade;  
the water was up to my waist.  
Once more he measured off a thousand,  
but there was now a river through which I could not wade;  
for the water had risen so high it had become a river  
that could not be crossed except by swimming.  
He asked me, “Have you seen this, son of man?”  
Then he brought me to the bank of the river, where he had me sit.  
Along the bank of the river I saw very many trees on both sides.  
He said to me,  
“This water flows into the eastern district down upon the Arabah,  
and empties into the sea, the salt waters, which it makes fresh.   
Wherever the river flows,  
every sort of living creature that can multiply shall live,  
and there shall be abundant fish,  
for wherever this water comes the sea shall be made fresh.  
Along both banks of the river, fruit trees of every kind shall grow;  
their leaves shall not fade, nor their fruit fail.  
Every month they shall bear fresh fruit,  
for they shall be watered by the flow from the sanctuary.  
Their fruit shall serve for food, and their leaves for medicine.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/46:2)

R. (8) **The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob.**  
God is our refuge and our strength,  
an ever-present help in distress.  
Therefore we fear not, though the earth be shaken  
and mountains plunge into the depths of the sea.  
R. **The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob.**  
There is a stream whose runlets gladden the city of God,  
the holy dwelling of the Most High.  
God is in its midst; it shall not be disturbed;  
God will help it at the break of dawn.  
R. **The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob.**  
The LORD of hosts is with us;  
our stronghold is the God of Jacob.  
Come! behold the deeds of the LORD,  
the astounding things he has wrought on earth.  
R. **The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob.**

#### Gospel [JN 5:1-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/5:1)

There was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.  
Now there is in Jerusalem at the Sheep Gate  
a pool called in Hebrew Bethesda, with five porticoes.  
In these lay a large number of ill, blind, lame, and crippled.  
One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years.  
When Jesus saw him lying there  
and knew that he had been ill for a long time, he said to him,  
“Do you want to be well?”  
The sick man answered him,  
“Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool  
when the water is stirred up;  
while I am on my way, someone else gets down there before me.”  
Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your mat, and walk.”  
Immediately the man became well, took up his mat, and walked.  
  
Now that day was a sabbath.  
So the Jews said to the man who was cured,  
“It is the sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to carry your mat.”   
He answered them, “The man who made me well told me,  
‘Take up your mat and walk.’“  
They asked him,  
“Who is the man who told you, ‘Take it up and walk’?”  
The man who was healed did not know who it was,  
for Jesus had slipped away, since there was a crowd there.  
After this Jesus found him in the temple area and said to him,  
“Look, you are well; do not sin any more,  
so that nothing worse may happen to you.”  
The man went and told the Jews  
that Jesus was the one who had made him well.  
Therefore, the Jews began to persecute Jesus  
because he did this on a sabbath.

**Day 123**

# April 2, 2014

### Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Lent Lectionary: 246

#### Reading 1 [IS 49:8-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/49:8)

Thus says the LORD:  
In a time of favor I answer you,  
on the day of salvation I help you;  
and I have kept you and given you as a covenant to the people,  
To restore the land  
and allot the desolate heritages,  
Saying to the prisoners: Come out!  
To those in darkness: Show yourselves!  
Along the ways they shall find pasture,  
on every bare height shall their pastures be.  
They shall not hunger or thirst,  
nor shall the scorching wind or the sun strike them;  
For he who pities them leads them  
and guides them beside springs of water.  
I will cut a road through all my mountains,  
and make my highways level.  
See, some shall come from afar,  
others from the north and the west,  
and some from the land of Syene.  
Sing out, O heavens, and rejoice, O earth,  
break forth into song, you mountains.  
For the LORD comforts his people  
and shows mercy to his afflicted.  
  
But Zion said, “The LORD has forsaken me;  
my Lord has forgotten me.”  
Can a mother forget her infant,  
be without tenderness for the child of her womb?  
Even should she forget,  
I will never forget you.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:8-9, 13CD-14, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:8)

R. (8a) **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**  
The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
The LORD is good to all  
and compassionate toward all his works.  
R. **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**  
The LORD is faithful in all his words  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD lifts up all who are falling  
and raises up all who are bowed down.  
R. **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**  
The LORD is just in all his ways  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,  
to all who call upon him in truth.  
R. **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**

#### Gospel  [JN 5:17-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/5:17)

Jesus answered the Jews:   
“My Father is at work until now, so I am at work.”  
For this reason they tried all the more to kill him,  
because he not only broke the sabbath  
but he also called God his own father, making himself equal to God.  
  
Jesus answered and said to them,  
“Amen, amen, I say to you, the Son cannot do anything on his own,  
but only what he sees the Father doing;  
for what he does, the Son will do also.  
For the Father loves the Son  
and shows him everything that he himself does,  
and he will show him greater works than these,  
so that you may be amazed.  
For just as the Father raises the dead and gives life,  
so also does the Son give life to whomever he wishes.  
Nor does the Father judge anyone,  
but he has given all judgment to the Son,  
so that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father.  
Whoever does not honor the Son  
does not honor the Father who sent him.  
Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word  
and believes in the one who sent me  
has eternal life and will not come to condemnation,  
but has passed from death to life.  
Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here  
when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,  
and those who hear will live.  
For just as the Father has life in himself,  
so also he gave to the Son the possession of life in himself.  
And he gave him power to exercise judgment,  
because he is the Son of Man.  
Do not be amazed at this,  
because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs  
will hear his voice and will come out,  
those who have done good deeds  
to the resurrection of life,  
but those who have done wicked deeds  
to the resurrection of condemnation.  
  
“I cannot do anything on my own;  
I judge as I hear, and my judgment is just,  
because I do not seek my own will  
but the will of the one who sent me.”

**Day 124**

# April 3, 2014

### Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent Lectionary: 247

#### Reading 1 [EX 32:7-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/exodus/32:7)

The LORD said to Moses,  
“Go down at once to your people  
whom you brought out of the land of Egypt,  
for they have become depraved.  
They have soon turned aside from the way I pointed out to them,  
making for themselves a molten calf and worshiping it,  
sacrificing to it and crying out,  
‘This is your God, O Israel,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt!’  
The LORD said to Moses,  
“I see how stiff-necked this people is.  
Let me alone, then,  
that my wrath may blaze up against them to consume them.  
Then I will make of you a great nation.”  
  
But Moses implored the LORD, his God, saying,  
“Why, O LORD, should your wrath blaze up against your own people,  
whom you brought out of the land of Egypt  
with such great power and with so strong a hand?  
Why should the Egyptians say,  
‘With evil intent he brought them out,  
that he might kill them in the mountains  
and exterminate them from the face of the earth’?  
Let your blazing wrath die down;  
relent in punishing your people.   
Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel,  
and how you swore to them by your own self, saying,  
‘I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky;  
and all this land that I promised,  
I will give your descendants as their perpetual heritage.’“  
So the LORD relented in the punishment  
he had threatened to inflict on his people.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 106:19-20, 21-22, 23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/106:19)

R. (4a) **Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**  
Our fathers 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.**  
Then he spoke of exterminating them,  
but Moses, his chosen one,  
Withstood him in the breach  
to turn back his destructive wrath.  
R. **Remember us, O Lord, as you favor your people.**

#### Gospel  [JN 5:31-47](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/5:31)

Jesus said to the Jews:   
“If I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is not true.  
But there is another who testifies on my behalf,  
and I know that the testimony he gives on my behalf is true.  
You sent emissaries to John, and he testified to the truth.  
I do not accept human testimony,  
but I say this so that you may be saved.  
He was a burning and shining lamp,  
and for a while you were content to rejoice in his light.  
But I have testimony greater than John’s.  
The works that the Father gave me to accomplish,  
these works that I perform testify on my behalf  
that the Father has sent me.  
Moreover, the Father who sent me has testified on my behalf.  
But you have never heard his voice nor seen his form,  
and you do not have his word remaining in you,  
because you do not believe in the one whom he has sent.  
You search the Scriptures,  
because you think you have eternal life through them;  
even they testify on my behalf.  
But you do not want to come to me to have life.  
  
“I do not accept human praise;  
moreover, I know that you do not have the love of God in you.   
I came in the name of my Father,  
but you do not accept me;  
yet if another comes in his own name,  
you will accept him.  
How can you believe, when you accept praise from one another  
and do not seek the praise that comes from the only God?  
Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father:  
the one who will accuse you is Moses,  
in whom you have placed your hope.  
For if you had believed Moses,  
you would have believed me,  
because he wrote about me.   
But if you do not believe his writings,  
how will you believe my words?”

**Day 125**

# April 4, 2014

### Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent Lectionary: 248

#### Reading 1 [WIS 2:1A, 12-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/wisdom/2:1)

The wicked said among themselves,   
thinking not aright:  
“Let us beset the just one, because he is obnoxious to us;  
he sets himself against our doings,  
Reproaches us for transgressions of the law  
and charges us with violations of our training.  
He professes to have knowledge of God  
and styles himself a child of the LORD.  
To us he is the censure of our thoughts;   
merely to see him is a hardship for us,  
Because his life is not like that of others,  
and different are his ways.  
He judges us debased;  
he holds aloof from our paths as from things impure.  
He calls blest the destiny of the just  
and boasts that God is his Father.  
Let us see whether his words be true;  
let us find out what will happen to him.  
For if the just one be the son of God, he will defend him  
and deliver him from the hand of his foes.  
With revilement and torture let us put him to the test  
that we may have proof of his gentleness  
and try his patience.  
Let us condemn him to a shameful death;  
for according to his own words, God will take care of him.”  
These were their thoughts, but they erred;  
for their wickedness blinded them,  
and they knew not the hidden counsels of God;  
neither did they count on a recompense of holiness  
nor discern the innocent souls’ reward.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 AND 23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/34:17)

R. (19a) **The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.**  
The LORD confronts the evildoers,  
to destroy remembrance of them from the earth.  
When the just cry out, the LORD hears them,  
and from all their distress he rescues them.  
R. **The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.**  
The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;  
and those who are crushed in spirit he saves.  
Many are the troubles of the just man,  
but out of them all the LORD delivers him.  
R. **The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.**  
He watches over all his bones;  
not one of them shall be broken.  
The LORD redeems the lives of his servants;  
no one incurs guilt who takes refuge in him.  
R.**The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.**

#### Gospel [JN 7:1-2, 10, 25-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/7:1)

Jesus moved about within Galilee;  
he did not wish to travel in Judea,  
because the Jews were trying to kill him.  
But the Jewish feast of Tabernacles was near.  
  
But when his brothers had gone up to the feast,  
he himself also went up, not openly but as it were in secret.  
  
Some of the inhabitants of Jerusalem said,  
“Is he not the one they are trying to kill?  
And look, he is speaking openly and they say nothing to him.  
Could the authorities have realized that he is the Christ?  
But we know where he is from.  
When the Christ comes, no one will know where he is from.”  
So Jesus cried out in the temple area as he was teaching and said,  
“You know me and also know where I am from.  
Yet I did not come on my own,  
but the one who sent me, whom you do not know, is true.  
I know him, because I am from him, and he sent me.”  
So they tried to arrest him,  
but no one laid a hand upon him,  
because his hour had not yet come.

**Day 126**

# April 5, 2014

### Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent Lectionary: 249

#### Reading 1 [JER 11:18-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/11:18)

I knew their plot because the LORD informed me;  
at that time you, O LORD, showed me their doings.  
  
Yet I, like a trusting lamb led to slaughter,  
had not realized that they were hatching plots against me:  
“Let us destroy the tree in its vigor;  
let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
so that his name will be spoken no more.”  
  
But, you, O LORD of hosts, O just Judge,  
searcher of mind and heart,  
Let me witness the vengeance you take on them,  
for to you I have entrusted my cause!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 7:2-3, 9BC-10, 11-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/7:2)

R. (2a) **O Lord, my God, in you I take refuge.**  
O LORD, my God, in you I take refuge;  
save me from all my pursuers and rescue me,  
Lest I become like the lion’s prey,  
to be torn to pieces, with no one to rescue me.  
R. **O Lord, my God, in you I take refuge.**  
Do me justice, O LORD, because I am just,  
and because of the innocence that is mine.  
Let the malice of the wicked come to an end,  
but sustain the just,  
O searcher of heart and soul, O just God.  
R. **O Lord, my God, in you I take refuge.**  
A shield before me is God,  
who saves the upright of heart;  
A just judge is God,  
a God who punishes day by day.  
R.**O Lord, my God, in you I take refuge.**

#### Gospel [JN 7:40-53](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/7:40)

Some in the crowd who heard these words of Jesus said,  
“This is truly the Prophet.”  
Others said, “This is the Christ.”  
But others said, “The Christ will not come from Galilee, will he?  
Does not Scripture say that the Christ will be of David’s family  
and come from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?”  
So a division occurred in the crowd because of him.  
Some of them even wanted to arrest him,  
but no one laid hands on him.  
  
So the guards went to the chief priests and Pharisees,  
who asked them, “Why did you not bring him?”  
The guards answered, “Never before has anyone spoken like this man.”  
So the Pharisees answered them, “Have you also been deceived?  
Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in him?  
But this crowd, which does not know the law, is accursed.”  
Nicodemus, one of their members who had come to him earlier, said to them,   
“Does our law condemn a man before it first hears him  
and finds out what he is doing?”  
They answered and said to him,  
“You are not from Galilee also, are you?  
Look and see that no prophet arises from Galilee.”  
  
Then each went to his own house

**Day 127**

# April 6, 2014

### Fifth Sunday of Lent Lectionary: 34

#### Reading 1 [EZ 37:12-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/37:12)

Thus says the Lord GOD:   
O my people, I will open your graves   
and have you rise from them,   
and bring you back to the land of Israel.  
Then you shall know that I am the LORD,   
when I open your graves and have you rise from them,   
O my people!  
I will put my spirit in you that you may live,   
and I will settle you upon your land;   
thus you shall know that I am the LORD.  
I have promised, and I will do it, says the LORD.

#### Reading 2  [ROM 8:8-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/8:8)

Brothers and sisters:  
Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.  
But you are not in the flesh;   
on the contrary, you are in the spirit,   
if only the Spirit of God dwells in you.  
Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.  
But if Christ is in you,   
although the body is dead because of sin,   
the spirit is alive because of righteousness.  
If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,   
the one who raised Christ from the dead   
will give life to your mortal bodies also,   
through his Spirit dwelling in you.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/130:1)

R/ (7) **With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**  
Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;  
LORD, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
to my voice in supplication.   
R/ **With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**  
If you, O LORD, mark iniquities,  
LORD, who can stand?  
But with you is forgiveness,  
that you may be revered.   
R/ **With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**  
I trust in the LORD;  
my soul trusts in his word.  
More than sentinels wait for the dawn,  
let Israel wait for the LORD.  
R/ **With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**  
For with the LORD is kindness  
and with him is plenteous redemption;  
And he will redeem Israel  
from all their iniquities.  
R/ **With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**

#### Gospel  [JN 11:1-45](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/11:1)

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany,   
the village of Mary and her sister Martha.  
Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil   
and dried his feet with her hair;   
it was her brother Lazarus who was ill.  
So the sisters sent word to him saying,   
“Master, the one you love is ill.”  
When Jesus heard this he said,  
“This illness is not to end in death,   
but is for the glory of God,   
that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”  
Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.  
So when he heard that he was ill,   
he remained for two days in the place where he was.  
Then after this he said to his disciples,   
“Let us go back to Judea.”  
The disciples said to him,   
“Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you,   
and you want to go back there?”  
Jesus answered,  
“Are there not twelve hours in a day?  
If one walks during the day, he does not stumble,   
because he sees the light of this world.  
But if one walks at night, he stumbles,   
because the light is not in him.”   
He said this, and then told them,  
“Our friend Lazarus is asleep,  
but I am going to awaken him.”  
So the disciples said to him,  
“Master, if he is asleep, he will be saved.”  
But Jesus was talking about his death,   
while they thought that he meant ordinary sleep.   
So then Jesus said to them clearly,  
“Lazarus has died.  
And I am glad for you that I was not there,  
that you may believe.   
Let us go to him.”  
So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples,   
“Let us also go to die with him.”  
  
When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus   
had already been in the tomb for four days.  
Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away.  
And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary   
to comfort them about their brother.  
When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,  
she went to meet him;  
but Mary sat at home.  
Martha said to Jesus,   
“Lord, if you had been here,  
my brother would not have died.  
But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,  
God will give you.”  
Jesus said to her,  
“Your brother will rise.”  
Martha said to him,  
“I know he will rise,  
in the resurrection on the last day.”  
Jesus told her,  
“I am the resurrection and the life;   
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,   
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.  
Do you believe this?”  
She said to him, “Yes, Lord.  
I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God,  
the one who is coming into the world.”  
  
When she had said this,   
she went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying,   
“The teacher is here and is asking for you.”  
As soon as she heard this,  
she rose quickly and went to him.  
For Jesus had not yet come into the village,   
but was still where Martha had met him.  
So when the Jews who were with her in the house comforting her   
saw Mary get up quickly and go out,  
they followed her,   
presuming that she was going to the tomb to weep there.  
When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him,   
she fell at his feet and said to him,   
“Lord, if you had been here,  
my brother would not have died.”  
When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping,   
he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,   
“Where have you laid him?”  
They said to him, “Sir, come and see.”  
And Jesus wept.  
So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.”  
But some of them said,   
“Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man   
have done something so that this man would not have died?”  
  
So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.  
It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.  
Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”  
Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him,   
“Lord, by now there will be a stench;   
he has been dead for four days.”  
Jesus said to her,  
“Did I not tell you that if you believe   
you will see the glory of God?”  
So they took away the stone.  
And Jesus raised his eyes and said,  
“Father, I thank you for hearing me.  
I know that you always hear me;   
but because of the crowd here I have said this,   
that they may believe that you sent me.”  
And when he had said this,  
He cried out in a loud voice,   
“Lazarus, come out!”  
The dead man came out,  
tied hand and foot with burial bands,   
and his face was wrapped in a cloth.  
So Jesus said to them,  
“Untie him and let him go.”  
  
Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary  
and seen what he had done began to believe in him.

**Day 128**

# April 7, 2014

### Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent Lectionary: 251

#### Reading 1 [DN 13:1-19, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62](http://www.usccb.org/bible/daniel/13:1)

In Babylon there lived a man named Joakim,  
who married a very beautiful and God-fearing woman, Susanna,  
the daughter of Hilkiah;  
her pious parents had trained their daughter  
according to the law of Moses.  
Joakim was very rich;  
he had a garden near his house,  
and the Jews had recourse to him often  
because he was the most respected of them all.  
  
That year, two elders of the people were appointed judges,  
of whom the Lord said, “Wickedness has come out of Babylon:  
from the elders who were to govern the people as judges.”  
These men, to whom all brought their cases,  
frequented the house of Joakim.  
When the people left at noon,  
Susanna used to enter her husband’s garden for a walk.  
When the old men saw her enter every day for her walk,  
they began to lust for her.  
They suppressed their consciences;  
they would not allow their eyes to look to heaven,  
and did not keep in mind just judgments.  
  
One day, while they were waiting for the right moment,  
she entered the garden as usual, with two maids only.  
She decided to bathe, for the weather was warm.  
Nobody else was there except the two elders,  
who had hidden themselves and were watching her.  
“Bring me oil and soap,” she said to the maids,  
“and shut the garden doors while I bathe.”  
  
As soon as the maids had left,  
the two old men got up and hurried to her.  
“Look,” they said, “the garden doors are shut, and no one can see us;  
give in to our desire, and lie with us.  
If you refuse, we will testify against you  
that you dismissed your maids because a young man was here with you.”  
  
“I am completely trapped,” Susanna groaned.  
“If I yield, it will be my death;  
if I refuse, I cannot escape your power.  
Yet it is better for me to fall into your power without guilt  
than to sin before the Lord.”  
Then Susanna shrieked, and the old men also shouted at her,  
as one of them ran to open the garden doors.  
When the people in the house heard the cries from the garden,  
they rushed in by the side gate to see what had happened to her.  
At the accusations by the old men,  
the servants felt very much ashamed,  
for never had any such thing been said about Susanna.  
  
When the people came to her husband Joakim the next day,  
the two wicked elders also came,  
fully determined to put Susanna to death.  
Before all the people they ordered:  
“Send for Susanna, the daughter of Hilkiah,  
the wife of Joakim.”  
When she was sent for,  
she came with her parents, children and all her relatives.  
All her relatives and the onlookers were weeping.  
  
In the midst of the people the two elders rose up  
and laid their hands on her head.  
Through tears she looked up to heaven,  
for she trusted in the Lord wholeheartedly.  
The elders made this accusation:  
“As we were walking in the garden alone,  
this woman entered with two girls  
and shut the doors of the garden, dismissing the girls.  
A young man, who was hidden there, came and lay with her.  
When we, in a corner of the garden, saw this crime,  
we ran toward them.  
We saw them lying together,  
but the man we could not hold, because he was stronger than we;  
he opened the doors and ran off.  
Then we seized her and asked who the young man was,  
but she refused to tell us.  
We testify to this.”  
The assembly believed them,  
since they were elders and judges of the people,  
and they condemned her to death.  
  
But Susanna cried aloud:  
“O eternal God, you know what is hidden  
and are aware of all things before they come to be:  
you know that they have testified falsely against me.   
Here I am about to die,  
though I have done none of the things  
with which these wicked men have charged me.”  
  
The Lord heard her prayer.  
As she was being led to execution,  
God stirred up the holy spirit of a young boy named Daniel,  
and he cried aloud:  
“I will have no part in the death of this woman.”  
All the people turned and asked him, “What is this you are saying?”  
He stood in their midst and continued,  
“Are you such fools, O children of Israel!   
To condemn a woman of Israel without examination  
and without clear evidence?  
Return to court, for they have testified falsely against her.”  
  
Then all the people returned in haste.  
To Daniel the elders said,  
“Come, sit with us and inform us,  
since God has given you the prestige of old age.”  
But he replied,  
“Separate these two far from each other that I may examine them.”  
  
After they were separated one from the other,  
he called one of them and said:  
“How you have grown evil with age!  
Now have your past sins come to term:  
passing unjust sentences, condemning the innocent,  
and freeing the guilty, although the Lord says,  
‘The innocent and the just you shall not put to death.’  
Now, then, if you were a witness,  
tell me under what tree you saw them together.”  
“Under a mastic tree,” he answered.  
Daniel replied, “Your fine lie has cost you your head,  
for the angel of God shall receive the sentence from him  
and split you in two.”  
Putting him to one side, he ordered the other one to be brought.  
Daniel said to him,  
“Offspring of Canaan, not of Judah, beauty has seduced you,  
lust has subverted your conscience.  
This is how you acted with the daughters of Israel,  
and in their fear they yielded to you;  
but a daughter of Judah did not tolerate your wickedness.  
Now, then, tell me under what tree you surprised them together.”  
“Under an oak,” he said.  
Daniel replied, “Your fine lie has cost you also your head,  
for the angel of God waits with a sword to cut you in two  
so as to make an end of you both.”  
  
The whole assembly cried aloud,  
blessing God who saves those who hope in him.  
They rose up against the two elders,  
for by their own words Daniel had convicted them of perjury.  
According to the law of Moses,  
they inflicted on them  
the penalty they had plotted to impose on their neighbor:  
they put them to death.  
Thus was innocent blood spared that day.

#### Or [DN 13:41C-62](http://www.usccb.org/bible/daniel/13:41)

The assembly condemned Susanna to death.  
  
But Susanna cried aloud:  
“O eternal God, you know what is hidden  
and are aware of all things before they come to be:  
you know that they have testified falsely against me.  
Here I am about to die,  
though I have done none of the things  
with which these wicked men have charged me.”  
  
The Lord heard her prayer.  
As she was being led to execution,  
God stirred up the holy spirit of a young boy named Daniel,  
and he cried aloud:  
“I will have no part in the death of this woman.”  
All the people turned and asked him,  
“What is this you are saying?”  
He stood in their midst and continued,  
“Are you such fools, O children of Israel!  
To condemn a woman of Israel without examination  
and without clear evidence?  
Return to court, for they have testified falsely against her.”  
  
Then all the people returned in haste.  
To Daniel the elders said,  
“Come, sit with us and inform us,  
since God has given you the prestige of old age.”  
But he replied,  
“Separate these two far from each other that I may examine them.”  
  
After they were separated one from the other,  
he called one of them and said:  
“How you have grown evil with age!  
Now have your past sins come to term:  
passing unjust sentences, condemning the innocent,  
and freeing the guilty, although the Lord says,  
‘The innocent and the just you shall not put to death.’   
Now, then, if you were a witness,  
tell me under what tree you saw them together.”  
“Under a mastic tree,” he answered.  
Daniel replied, “Your fine lie has cost you your head,  
for the angel of God shall receive the sentence from him  
and split you in two.”  
Putting him to one side, he ordered the other one to be brought.   
Daniel said to him, “Offspring of Canaan, not of Judah,  
beauty has seduced you, lust has subverted your conscience.  
This is how you acted with the daughters of Israel,  
and in their fear they yielded to you;  
but a daughter of Judah did not tolerate your wickedness.  
Now, then, tell me under what tree you surprised them together.”  
“Under an oak,” he said.  
Daniel replied, “Your fine lie has cost you also your head,”  
for the angel of God waits with a sword to cut you in two  
so as to make an end of you both.”  
  
The whole assembly cried aloud,  
blessing God who saves those who hope in him.  
They rose up against the two elders,  
for by their own words Daniel had convicted them of perjury.  
According to the law of Moses,  
they inflicted on them  
the penalty they had plotted to impose on their neighbor:  
they put them to death.  
Thus was innocent blood spared that day.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

R. (4ab)**Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**  
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. **Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**  
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. **Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**  
You spread the table before me  
in the sight of my foes;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
R. **Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**  
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. **Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side.**

#### Gospel [JN 8:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/8:1)

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.  
But early in the morning he arrived again in the temple area,   
and all the people started coming to him,   
and he sat down and taught them.  
Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman   
who had been caught in adultery   
and made her stand in the middle.  
They said to him,  
“Teacher, this woman was caught   
in the very act of committing adultery.  
Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women.  
So what do you say?”  
They said this to test him,  
so that they could have some charge to bring against him.  
Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger.  
But when they continued asking him,  
he straightened up and said to them,  
“Let the one among you who is without sin   
be the first to throw a stone at her.”  
Again he bent down and wrote on the ground.  
And in response, they went away one by one,  
beginning with the elders.  
So he was left alone with the woman before him.  
Then Jesus straightened up and said to her,  
“Woman, where are they?  
Has no one condemned you?”  
She replied, “No one, sir.”  
Then Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you.  
Go, and from now on do not sin any more.”

**Day 129**

# April 8, 2014

### Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent Lectionary: 252

#### Reading 1 [NM 21:4-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/numbers/21:4)

From Mount Hor the children of Israel set out on the Red Sea road,  
to bypass the land of Edom.  
But with their patience worn out by the journey,  
the people complained against God and Moses,  
“Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in this desert,  
where there is no food or water?  
We are disgusted with this wretched food!”  
  
In punishment the LORD sent among the people saraph serpents,  
which bit the people so that many of them died.  
Then the people came to Moses and said,  
“We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you.  
Pray the LORD to take the serpents away from us.”  
So Moses prayed for the people, and the LORD said to Moses,  
“Make a saraph and mount it on a pole,  
and whoever looks at it after being bitten will live.”  
Moses accordingly made a bronze serpent and mounted it on a pole,  
and whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent   
looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/102:2)

R. (2) **O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.**  
O LORD, hear my prayer,  
and let my cry come to you.  
Hide not your face from me  
in the day of my distress.  
Incline your ear to me;   
in the day when I call, answer me speedily.  
R. **O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.**  
The nations shall revere your name, O LORD,  
and all the kings of the earth your glory,  
When the LORD has rebuilt Zion  
and appeared in his glory;  
When he has regarded the prayer of the destitute,  
and not despised their prayer.  
R. **O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.**  
Let this be written for the generation to come,  
and let his future creatures praise the LORD:  
“The LORD looked down from his holy height,  
from heaven he beheld the earth,  
To hear the groaning of the prisoners,  
to release those doomed to die.”  
R. **O Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.**

#### Gospel [JN 8:21-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/8:21)

Jesus said to the Pharisees:  
“I am going away and you will look for me,  
but you will die in your sin.  
Where I am going you cannot come.”  
So the Jews said,  
“He is not going to kill himself, is he,  
because he said, ‘Where I am going you cannot come’?”  
He said to them, “You belong to what is below,  
I belong to what is above.  
You belong to this world,  
but I do not belong to this world.  
That is why I told you that you will die in your sins.  
For if you do not believe that I AM,  
you will die in your sins.”  
So they said to him, “Who are you?”  
Jesus said to them, “What I told you from the beginning.  
I have much to say about you in condemnation.  
But the one who sent me is true,  
and what I heard from him I tell the world.”  
They did not realize that he was speaking to them of the Father.  
So Jesus said to them,  
“When you lift up the Son of Man,  
then you will realize that I AM,  
and that I do nothing on my own,  
but I say only what the Father taught me.  
The one who sent me is with me.   
He has not left me alone,  
because I always do what is pleasing to him.”  
Because he spoke this way, many came to believe in him.

**Day 130**

# April 9, 2014

### Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent Lectionary: 253

#### Reading 1 [DN 3:14-20, 91-92, 95](http://www.usccb.org/bible/daniel/3:14)

King Nebuchadnezzar said:  
“Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego,  
that you will not serve my god,  
or worship the golden statue that I set up?  
Be ready now to fall down and worship the statue I had made,  
whenever you hear the sound of the trumpet,  
flute, lyre, harp, psaltery, bagpipe,  
and all the other musical instruments;  
otherwise, you shall be instantly cast into the white-hot furnace;  
and who is the God who can deliver you out of my hands?”  
Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered King Nebuchadnezzar,  
“There is no need for us to defend ourselves before you  
in this matter.  
If our God, whom we serve,  
can save us from the white-hot furnace  
and from your hands, O king, may he save us!  
But even if he will not, know, O king,  
that we will not serve your god  
or worship the golden statue that you set up.”  
  
King Nebuchadnezzar’s face became livid with utter rage  
against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.  
He ordered the furnace to be heated seven times more than usual  
and had some of the strongest men in his army  
bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego  
and cast them into the white-hot furnace.  
  
Nebuchadnezzar rose in haste and asked his nobles,  
“Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?”  
“Assuredly, O king,” they answered.  
“But,” he replied, “I see four men unfettered and unhurt,  
walking in the fire, and the fourth looks like a son of God.”   
Nebuchadnezzar exclaimed,  
“Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego,  
who sent his angel to deliver the servants who trusted in him;  
they disobeyed the royal command and yielded their bodies  
rather than serve or worship any god  
except their own God.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [DN 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56](http://www.usccb.org/bible/daniel/3:52)

R. (52b) **Glory and praise for ever!**  
“Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers,  
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever;  
And blessed is your holy and glorious name,  
praiseworthy and exalted above all for all ages.”  
R. **Glory and praise for ever!**  
“Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory,  
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.  
R. **Glory and praise for ever!**  
“Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom,  
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.”  
R. **Glory and praise for ever!**  
“Blessed are you who look into the depths  
from your throne upon the cherubim;  
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.”  
R.**Glory and praise for ever!**  
“Blessed are you in the firmament of heaven,  
praiseworthy and glorious forever.”  
R. **Glory and praise for ever!**

#### Gospel [JN 8:31-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/8:31)

Jesus said to those Jews who believed in him,  
“If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples,  
and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”  
They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham  
and have never been enslaved to anyone.   
How can you say, ‘You will become free’?”  
Jesus answered them, “Amen, amen, I say to you,  
everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin.  
A slave does not remain in a household forever,  
but a son always remains.   
So if the Son frees you, then you will truly be free.  
I know that you are descendants of Abraham.  
But you are trying to kill me,  
because my word has no room among you.   
I tell you what I have seen in the Father’s presence;  
then do what you have heard from the Father.”  
  
They answered and said to him, “Our father is Abraham.”   
Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children,  
you would be doing the works of Abraham.   
But now you are trying to kill me,  
a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God;  
Abraham did not do this.  
You are doing the works of your father!”  
So they said to him, “We were not born of fornication.   
We have one Father, God.”   
Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me,  
for I came from God and am here;  
I did not come on my own, but he sent me.”

**Day 131**

# April 10, 2014

### Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent Lectionary: 254

#### Reading 1 [GN 17:3-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/genesis/17:3)

When Abram prostrated himself, God spoke to him:  
“My covenant with you is this:  
you are to become the father of a host of nations.  
No longer shall you be called Abram;  
your name shall be Abraham,  
for I am making you the father of a host of nations.  
I will render you exceedingly fertile;  
I will make nations of you;  
kings shall stem from you.  
I will maintain my covenant with you  
and your descendants after you  
throughout the ages as an everlasting pact,  
to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.  
I will give to you  
and to your descendants after you  
the land in which you are now staying,  
the whole land of Canaan, as a permanent possession;  
and I will be their God.”  
  
God also said to Abraham:  
“On your part, you and your descendants after you  
must keep my covenant throughout the ages.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/105:4)

R. (8a) **The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**  
Look to the LORD in his strength;  
seek to serve him constantly.  
Recall the wondrous deeds that he has wrought,  
his portents, and the judgments he has uttered.  
R. **The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**  
You descendants of Abraham, his servants,  
sons of Jacob, his chosen ones!  
He, the LORD, is our God;  
throughout the earth his judgments prevail.  
R. **The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**  
He remembers forever his covenant  
which he made binding for a thousand generations –  
Which he entered into with Abraham  
and by his oath to Isaac.  
R. **The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**

#### Gospel [JN 8:51-59](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/8:51)

Jesus said to the Jews:  
“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
whoever keeps my word will never see death.”   
So the Jews said to him,  
“Now we are sure that you are possessed.  
Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say,  
‘Whoever keeps my word will never taste death.’  
Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died?   
Or the prophets, who died?  
Who do you make yourself out to be?”   
Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is worth nothing;  
but it is my Father who glorifies me,  
of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’  
You do not know him, but I know him.  
And if I should say that I do not know him,  
I would be like you a liar.  
But I do know him and I keep his word.   
Abraham your father rejoiced to see my day;  
he saw it and was glad.”   
So the Jews said to him,  
“You are not yet fifty years old and you have seen Abraham?”  
Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you,  
before Abraham came to be, I AM.”  
So they picked up stones to throw at him;  
but Jesus hid and went out of the temple area.

**Day 132**

# April 11, 2014

### Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent Lectionary: 255

#### Reading 1 [JER 20:10-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/20:10)

I hear the whisperings of many:  
“Terror on every side!  
Denounce! let us denounce him!”  
All those who were my friends  
are on the watch for any misstep of mine.  
“Perhaps he will be trapped; then we can prevail,  
and take our vengeance on him.”  
But the LORD is with me, like a mighty champion:  
my persecutors will stumble, they will not triumph.  
In their failure they will be put to utter shame,  
to lasting, unforgettable confusion.  
O LORD of hosts, you who test the just,  
who probe mind and heart,  
Let me witness the vengeance you take on them,  
for to you I have entrusted my cause.  
Sing to the LORD,  
praise the LORD,  
For he has rescued the life of the poor  
from the power of the wicked!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 18:2-3A, 3BC-4, 5-6, 7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/18:2)

R. (see 7) **In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.**  
I love you, O LORD, my strength,  
O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.  
R. **In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.**  
My God, my rock of refuge,  
my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold!  
Praised be the LORD, I exclaim,  
and I am safe from my enemies.  
R. **In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.**  
The breakers of death surged round about me,  
the destroying floods overwhelmed me;  
The cords of the nether world enmeshed me,  
the snares of death overtook me.  
R.**In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.**  
In my distress I called upon the LORD  
and cried out to my God;  
From his temple he heard my voice,  
and my cry to him reached his ears.   
R. **In my distress I called upon the Lord, and he heard my voice.**

#### Gospel [JN 10:31-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/10:31)

The Jews picked up rocks to stone Jesus.  
Jesus answered them, “I have shown you many good works from my Father.  
For which of these are you trying to stone me?”  
The Jews answered him,  
“We are not stoning you for a good work but for blasphemy.  
You, a man, are making yourself God.”  
Jesus answered them,  
“Is it not written in your law, ‘I said, ‘You are gods”‘?   
If it calls them gods to whom the word of God came,  
and Scripture cannot be set aside,  
can you say that the one  
whom the Father has consecrated and sent into the world  
blasphemes because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?   
If I do not perform my Father’s works, do not believe me;  
but if I perform them, even if you do not believe me,  
believe the works, so that you may realize and understand  
that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”  
Then they tried again to arrest him;  
but he escaped from their power.  
  
He went back across the Jordan  
to the place where John first baptized, and there he remained.   
Many came to him and said,  
“John performed no sign,  
but everything John said about this man was true.”  
And many there began to believe in him.

**Day 133**

# April 12, 2014

### Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent Lectionary: 256

#### Reading 1 [EZ 37:21-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/37:21)

Thus says the Lord GOD:  
I will take the children of Israel from among the nations  
to which they have come,  
and gather them from all sides to bring them back to their land.  
I will make them one nation upon the land,  
in the mountains of Israel,  
and there shall be one prince for them all.   
Never again shall they be two nations,  
and never again shall they be divided into two kingdoms.  
  
No longer shall they defile themselves with their idols,  
their abominations, and all their transgressions.   
I will deliver them from all their sins of apostasy,  
and cleanse them so that they may be my people  
and I may be their God.  
My servant David shall be prince over them,  
and there shall be one shepherd for them all;  
they shall live by my statutes and carefully observe my decrees.  
They shall live on the land that I gave to my servant Jacob,  
the land where their fathers lived;  
they shall live on it forever,  
they, and their children, and their children’s children,  
with my servant David their prince forever.  
I will make with them a covenant of peace;  
it shall be an everlasting covenant with them,  
and I will multiply them, and put my sanctuary among them forever.  
My dwelling shall be with them;  
I will be their God, and they shall be my people.  
Thus the nations shall know that it is I, the LORD,  
who make Israel holy,  
when my sanctuary shall be set up among them forever.

#### Responsorial Psalm [JER 31:10, 11-12ABCD, 13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/31:10)

R. (see 10d) **The Lord will guard us, as a shepherd guards his flock.**  
Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
proclaim it on distant isles, and say:  
He who scattered Israel, now gathers them together,  
he guards them as a shepherd his flock.  
R. **The Lord will guard us, as a shepherd guards his flock.**  
The LORD shall ransom Jacob,  
he shall redeem him from the hand of his conqueror.  
Shouting, they shall mount the heights of Zion,  
they shall come streaming to the LORD’s blessings:  
The grain, the wine, and the oil,  
the sheep and the oxen.  
R. **The Lord will guard us, as a shepherd guards his flock.**  
Then the virgins shall make merry and dance,  
and young men and old as well.  
I will turn their mourning into joy,  
I will console and gladden them after their sorrows.  
R. **The Lord will guard us, as a shepherd guards his flock.**

#### Gospel [JN 11:45-56](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/11:45)

Many of the Jews who had come to Mary  
and seen what Jesus had done began to believe in him.  
But some of them went to the Pharisees  
and told them what Jesus had done.   
So the chief priests and the Pharisees  
convened the Sanhedrin and said,  
“What are we going to do?   
This man is performing many signs.  
If we leave him alone, all will believe in him,  
and the Romans will come  
and take away both our land and our nation.”  
But one of them, Caiaphas,  
who was high priest that year, said to them,  
“You know nothing,  
nor do you consider that it is better for you  
that one man should die instead of the people,  
so that the whole nation may not perish.”  
He did not say this on his own,  
but since he was high priest for that year,  
he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation,  
and not only for the nation,  
but also to gather into one the dispersed children of God.  
So from that day on they planned to kill him.  
  
So Jesus no longer walked about in public among the Jews,  
but he left for the region near the desert,  
to a town called Ephraim,  
and there he remained with his disciples.  
  
Now the Passover of the Jews was near,  
and many went up from the country to Jerusalem  
before Passover to purify themselves.  
They looked for Jesus and said to one another  
as they were in the temple area, “What do you think?  
That he will not come to the feast?”

**Day 134**

# April 13, 2014

### Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Lectionary: 35 and 38

#### At The Procession With Palms – Gospel [MT 21:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/21:1)

When Jesus and the disciples drew near Jerusalem  
and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives,   
Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them,   
“Go into the village opposite you,   
and immediately you will find an ass tethered,  
and a colt with her.  
Untie them and bring them here to me.  
And if anyone should say anything to you, reply,   
‘The master has need of them.’  
Then he will send them at once.”  
This happened so that what had been spoken through the prophet   
might be fulfilled:  
Say to daughter Zion,“Behold, your king comes to you,meek and riding on an ass,and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.”  
The disciples went and did as Jesus had ordered them.  
They brought the ass and the colt and laid their cloaks over them,   
and he sat upon them.  
The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road,   
while others cut branches from the trees   
and strewed them on the road.  
The crowds preceding him and those following  
kept crying out and saying:  
“Hosanna to the Son of David;  
blessed is the he who comes in the name of the Lord;  
hosanna in the highest.”  
And when he entered Jerusalem   
the whole city was shaken and asked, “Who is this?”  
And the crowds replied,   
“This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee.”

#### At The Mass - Reading 1 [IS 50:4-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/50:4)

The Lord GOD has given me  
a well-trained tongue,  
that I might know how to speak to the weary  
a word that will rouse them.  
Morning after morning  
he opens my ear that I may hear;  
and I have not rebelled,  
have not turned back.  
I gave my back to those who beat me,  
my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;  
my face I did not shield  
from buffets and spitting.  
  
The Lord GOD is my help,  
therefore I am not disgraced;  
I have set my face like flint,  
knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

#### Reading 2  [PHIL 2:6-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/2:6)

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
something to be grasped.  
Rather, he emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
coming in human likeness;  
and found human in appearance,  
he humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
Because of this, God greatly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name  
which is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/22:8)

R/ (2a) **My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**  
All who see me scoff at me;  
they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads:  
“He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him,  
let him rescue him, if he loves him.”  
R/ **My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**  
Indeed, many dogs surround me,  
a pack of evildoers closes in upon me;  
They have pierced my hands and my feet;  
I can count all my bones.  
R/**My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**  
They divide my garments among them,  
and for my vesture they cast lots.  
But you, O LORD, be not far from me;  
O my help, hasten to aid me.  
R/ **My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**  
I will proclaim your name to my brethren;  
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you:  
“You who fear the LORD, praise him;  
all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him;  
revere him, all you descendants of Israel!”  
R/ **My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

#### Gospel [MT 26:14-27:66](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/26:14)

One of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot,   
went to the chief priests and said,   
“What are you willing to give me  
if I hand him over to you?”  
They paid him thirty pieces of silver,  
and from that time on he looked for an opportunity  
to hand him over.  
  
On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread,  
the disciples approached Jesus and said,  
“Where do you want us to prepare  
for you to eat the Passover?”  
He said,  
“Go into the city to a certain man and tell him,  
‘The teacher says, “My appointed time draws near;   
in your house I shall celebrate the Passover with my disciples.”’”  
The disciples then did as Jesus had ordered,  
and prepared the Passover.  
  
When it was evening,  
he reclined at table with the Twelve.  
And while they were eating, he said,   
“Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”  
Deeply distressed at this,  
they began to say to him one after another,  
“Surely it is not I, Lord?”  
He said in reply,  
“He who has dipped his hand into the dish with me  
is the one who will betray me.  
The Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him,  
but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed.  
It would be better for that man if he had never been born.”  
Then Judas, his betrayer, said in reply,  
“Surely it is not I, Rabbi?”  
He answered, “You have said so.”  
  
While they were eating,  
Jesus took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and giving it to his disciples said,  
“Take and eat; this is my body.”  
Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying,  
“Drink from it, all of you,   
for this is my blood of the covenant,   
which will be shed on behalf of many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
I tell you, from now on I shall not drink this fruit of the vine   
until the day when I drink it with you new  
in the kingdom of my Father.”  
Then, after singing a hymn,  
they went out to the Mount of Olives.  
  
Then Jesus said to them,   
“This night all of you will have your faith in me shaken,   
for it is written:  
I will strike the shepherd,and the sheep of the flock will be dispersed;  
but after I have been raised up,  
I shall go before you to Galilee.”  
Peter said to him in reply,   
“Though all may have their faith in you shaken,  
mine will never be.”  
Jesus said to him,  
“Amen, I say to you,  
this very night before the cock crows,  
you will deny me three times.”  
Peter said to him,   
“Even though I should have to die with you,  
I will not deny you.”  
And all the disciples spoke likewise.  
  
Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane,   
and he said to his disciples,   
“Sit here while I go over there and pray.”  
He took along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee,   
and began to feel sorrow and distress.  
Then he said to them,  
“My soul is sorrowful even to death.  
Remain here and keep watch with me.”  
He advanced a little and fell prostrate in prayer, saying,   
“My Father, if it is possible,  
let this cup pass from me;  
yet, not as I will, but as you will.”  
When he returned to his disciples he found them asleep.  
He said to Peter,   
“So you could not keep watch with me for one hour?  
Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test.  
The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”  
Withdrawing a second time, he prayed again,   
“My Father, if it is not possible that this cup pass   
without my drinking it, your will be done!”  
Then he returned once more and found them asleep,   
for they could not keep their eyes open.  
He left them and withdrew again and prayed a third time,   
saying the same thing again.  
Then he returned to his disciples and said to them,  
“Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?  
Behold, the hour is at hand   
when the Son of Man is to be handed over to sinners.  
Get up, let us go.  
Look, my betrayer is at hand.”  
  
While he was still speaking,  
Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived,  
accompanied by a large crowd, with swords and clubs,   
who had come from the chief priests and the elders  
of the people.  
His betrayer had arranged a sign with them, saying,   
“The man I shall kiss is the one; arrest him.”  
Immediately he went over to Jesus and said,   
“Hail, Rabbi!” and he kissed him.  
Jesus answered him,  
“Friend, do what you have come for.”  
Then stepping forward they laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.  
And behold, one of those who accompanied Jesus   
put his hand to his sword, drew it,   
and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his ear.  
Then Jesus said to him,  
“Put your sword back into its sheath,   
for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.  
Do you think that I cannot call upon my Father   
and he will not provide me at this moment   
with more than twelve legions of angels?  
But then how would the Scriptures be fulfilled   
which say that it must come to pass in this way?”  
At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,   
“Have you come out as against a robber,   
with swords and clubs to seize me?  
Day after day I sat teaching in the temple area,   
yet you did not arrest me.  
But all this has come to pass   
that the writings of the prophets may be fulfilled.”  
Then all the disciples left him and fled.  
  
Those who had arrested Jesus led him away   
to Caiaphas the high priest,  
where the scribes and the elders were assembled.  
Peter was following him at a distance   
as far as the high priest’s courtyard,   
and going inside he sat down with the servants  
to see the outcome.  
The chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin  
kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus   
in order to put him to death,  
but they found none,  
though many false witnesses came forward.  
Finally two came forward who stated,   
“This man said, ‘I can destroy the temple of God   
and within three days rebuild it.’”  
The high priest rose and addressed him,  
“Have you no answer?  
What are these men testifying against you?”  
But Jesus was silent.  
Then the high priest said to him,   
“I order you to tell us under oath before the living God   
whether you are the Christ, the Son of God.”  
Jesus said to him in reply,  
“You have said so.  
But I tell you:  
From now on you will see ‘the Son of Man  
seated at the right hand of the Power’  
and ‘coming on the clouds of heaven.’”  
Then the high priest tore his robes and said,  
“He has blasphemed!  
What further need have we of witnesses?  
You have now heard the blasphemy;  
what is your opinion?”  
They said in reply,  
“He deserves to die!”  
Then they spat in his face and struck him,  
while some slapped him, saying,   
“Prophesy for us, Christ: who is it that struck you?”  
Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard.  
One of the maids came over to him and said,   
“You too were with Jesus the Galilean.”  
But he denied it in front of everyone, saying,   
“I do not know what you are talking about!”  
As he went out to the gate, another girl saw him  
and said to those who were there,   
“This man was with Jesus the Nazorean.”  
Again he denied it with an oath,  
“I do not know the man!”  
A little later the bystanders came over and said to Peter,   
“Surely you too are one of them;  
even your speech gives you away.”  
At that he began to curse and to swear,  
“I do not know the man.”  
And immediately a cock crowed.  
Then Peter remembered the word that Jesus had spoken:   
“Before the cock crows you will deny me three times.”  
He went out and began to weep bitterly.  
  
When it was morning,  
all the chief priests and the elders of the people  
took counsel against Jesus to put him to death.  
They bound him, led him away,  
and handed him over to Pilate, the governor.  
  
Then Judas, his betrayer, seeing that Jesus had been condemned,  
deeply regretted what he had done.  
He returned the thirty pieces of silver  
to the chief priests and elders, saying,   
“I have sinned in betraying innocent blood.”  
They said,  
“What is that to us?  
Look to it yourself.”  
Flinging the money into the temple,   
he departed and went off and hanged himself.  
The chief priests gathered up the money, but said,  
“It is not lawful to deposit this in the temple treasury,  
for it is the price of blood.”  
After consultation, they used it to buy the potter’s field  
as a burial place for foreigners.  
That is why that field even today is called the Field of Blood.  
Then was fulfilled what had been said through Jeremiah  
the prophet,  
And they took the thirty pieces of silver,the value of a man with a price on his head,a price set by some of the Israelites,and they paid it out for the potter’s fieldjust as the Lord had commanded me.  
  
Now Jesus stood before the governor, and he questioned him,   
“Are you the king of the Jews?”  
Jesus said, “You say so.”  
And when he was accused by the chief priests and elders,  
he made no answer.  
Then Pilate said to him,   
“Do you not hear how many things they are testifying against you?”  
But he did not answer him one word,  
so that the governor was greatly amazed.  
  
Now on the occasion of the feast  
the governor was accustomed to release to the crowd   
one prisoner whom they wished.  
And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas.  
So when they had assembled, Pilate said to them,   
“Which one do you want me to release to you,   
Barabbas, or Jesus called Christ?”  
For he knew that it was out of envy  
that they had handed him over.  
While he was still seated on the bench,  
his wife sent him a message,   
“Have nothing to do with that righteous man.  
I suffered much in a dream today because of him.”  
The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds   
to ask for Barabbas but to destroy Jesus.  
The governor said to them in reply,   
“Which of the two do you want me to release to you?”  
They answered, “Barabbas!”  
Pilate said to them,  
“Then what shall I do with Jesus called Christ?”  
They all said,  
“Let him be crucified!”  
But he said,  
“Why? What evil has he done?”  
They only shouted the louder,  
“Let him be crucified!”  
When Pilate saw that he was not succeeding at all,   
but that a riot was breaking out instead,   
he took water and washed his hands in the sight of the crowd,  
saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood.  
Look to it yourselves.”  
And the whole people said in reply,   
“His blood be upon us and upon our children.”  
Then he released Barabbas to them,   
but after he had Jesus scourged,  
he handed him over to be crucified.  
  
Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus inside the praetorium   
and gathered the whole cohort around him.  
They stripped off his clothes   
and threw a scarlet military cloak about him.  
Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head,   
and a reed in his right hand.  
And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying,  
“Hail, King of the Jews!”  
They spat upon him and took the reed   
and kept striking him on the head.  
And when they had mocked him,  
they stripped him of the cloak,   
dressed him in his own clothes,  
and led him off to crucify him.  
  
As they were going out, they met a Cyrenian named Simon;   
this man they pressed into service  
to carry his cross.  
  
And when they came to a place called Golgotha   
¬—which means Place of the Skull —,   
they gave Jesus wine to drink mixed with gall.  
But when he had tasted it, he refused to drink.  
After they had crucified him,  
they divided his garments by casting lots;   
then they sat down and kept watch over him there.  
And they placed over his head the written charge against him:   
This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.  
Two revolutionaries were crucified with him,  
one on his right and the other on his left.  
Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying,  
“You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days,  
save yourself, if you are the Son of God,   
and come down from the cross!”  
Likewise the chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him and said,  
“He saved others; he cannot save himself.  
So he is the king of Israel!  
Let him come down from the cross now,  
and we will believe in him.  
He trusted in God;  
let him deliver him now if he wants him.  
For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”  
The revolutionaries who were crucified with him  
also kept abusing him in the same way.  
  
From noon onward, darkness came over the whole land   
until three in the afternoon.  
And about three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,   
“Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?”  
which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”  
Some of the bystanders who heard it said,   
“This one is calling for Elijah.”  
Immediately one of them ran to get a sponge;   
he soaked it in wine, and putting it on a reed,   
gave it to him to drink.  
But the rest said,  
“Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him.”  
But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice,  
and gave up his spirit.  
  
Here all kneel and pause for a short time.  
  
And behold, the veil of the sanctuary  
was torn in two from top to bottom.  
The earth quaked, rocks were split, tombs were opened,   
and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised.  
And coming forth from their tombs after his resurrection,   
they entered the holy city and appeared to many.  
The centurion and the men with him who were keeping watch over Jesus  
feared greatly when they saw the earthquake   
and all that was happening, and they said,  
“Truly, this was the Son of God!”  
There were many women there, looking on from a distance,   
who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him.  
Among them were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph,  
and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.  
  
When it was evening,  
there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph,  
who was himself a disciple of Jesus.  
He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus;   
then Pilate ordered it to be handed over.  
Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it in clean linen   
and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock.  
Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb  
and departed.  
But Mary Magdalene and the other Mary  
remained sitting there, facing the tomb.  
  
The next day, the one following the day of preparation,   
the chief priests and the Pharisees   
gathered before Pilate and said,   
“Sir, we remember that this impostor while still alive said,  
‘After three days I will be raised up.’  
Give orders, then, that the grave be secured until the third day,  
lest his disciples come and steal him and say to the people,  
‘He has been raised from the dead.’  
This last imposture would be worse than the first.”  
Pilate said to them,  
“The guard is yours;  
go, secure it as best you can.”  
So they went and secured the tomb   
by fixing a seal to the stone and setting the guard.

#### Or [MT 27:11-54](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/27:11)

Jesus stood before the governor, Pontius Pilate, who questioned him,  
“Are you the king of the Jews?”  
Jesus said, “You say so.”  
And when he was accused by the chief priests and elders,  
he made no answer.  
Then Pilate said to him,   
“Do you not hear how many things they are testifying against you?”  
But he did not answer him one word,  
so that the governor was greatly amazed.  
  
Now on the occasion of the feast  
the governor was accustomed to release to the crowd   
one prisoner whom they wished.  
And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas.  
So when they had assembled, Pilate said to them,   
“Which one do you want me to release to you,   
Barabbas, or Jesus called Christ?”  
For he knew that it was out of envy  
that they had handed him over.  
While he was still seated on the bench,  
his wife sent him a message,   
“Have nothing to do with that righteous man.  
I suffered much in a dream today because of him.”  
The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds   
to ask for Barabbas but to destroy Jesus.  
The governor said to them in reply,   
“Which of the two do you want me to release to you?”  
They answered, “Barabbas!”  
Pilate said to them,  
“Then what shall I do with Jesus called Christ?”  
They all said,  
“Let him be crucified!”  
But he said,  
“Why? What evil has he done?”  
They only shouted the louder,  
“Let him be crucified!”  
When Pilate saw that he was not succeeding at all,   
but that a riot was breaking out instead,   
he took water and washed his hands in the sight of the crowd,  
saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood.  
Look to it yourselves.”  
And the whole people said in reply,   
“His blood be upon us and upon our children.”  
Then he released Barabbas to them,   
but after he had Jesus scourged,  
he handed him over to be crucified.  
  
Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus inside the praetorium   
and gathered the whole cohort around him.  
They stripped off his clothes   
and threw a scarlet military cloak about him.  
Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head,   
and a reed in his right hand.  
And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying,  
“Hail, King of the Jews!”  
They spat upon him and took the reed   
and kept striking him on the head.  
And when they had mocked him,  
they stripped him of the cloak,   
dressed him in his own clothes,  
and led him off to crucify him.  
  
As they were going out, they met a Cyrenian named Simon;   
this man they pressed into service  
to carry his cross.  
  
And when they came to a place called Golgotha   
— which means Place of the Skull —,   
they gave Jesus wine to drink mixed with gall.  
But when he had tasted it, he refused to drink.  
After they had crucified him,  
they divided his garments by casting lots;   
then they sat down and kept watch over him there.  
And they placed over his head the written charge against him:   
This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.  
Two revolutionaries were crucified with him,  
one on his right and the other on his left.  
Those passing by reviled him, shaking their heads and saying,  
“You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days,  
save yourself, if you are the Son of God,   
and come down from the cross!”  
Likewise the chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him and said,  
“He saved others; he cannot save himself.  
So he is the king of Israel!  
Let him come down from the cross now,  
and we will believe in him.  
He trusted in God;  
let him deliver him now if he wants him.  
For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”  
The revolutionaries who were crucified with him  
also kept abusing him in the same way.  
  
From noon onward, darkness came over the whole land   
until three in the afternoon.  
And about three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,   
“Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?”  
which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”  
Some of the bystanders who heard it said,   
“This one is calling for Elijah.”  
Immediately one of them ran to get a sponge;   
he soaked it in wine, and putting it on a reed,   
gave it to him to drink.  
But the rest said,  
‘Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to save him.”  
But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice,  
and gave up his spirit.  
  
Here all kneel and pause for a short time.  
  
And behold, the veil of the sanctuary  
was torn in two from top to bottom.  
The earth quaked, rocks were split, tombs were opened,   
and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised.  
And coming forth from their tombs after his resurrection,   
they entered the holy city and appeared to many.  
The centurion and the men with him who were keeping watch over Jesus  
feared greatly when they saw the earthquake   
and all that was happening, and they said,  
“Truly, this was the Son of God!”

**Day 135**

# April 14, 2014

### Monday of Holy Week Lectionary: 257

#### Reading 1 [IS 42:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/42:1)

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.  
  
Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spreads out the earth with its crops,  
Who gives breath to its people  
and spirit to those who walk on it:  
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 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/27:1)

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.**  
When evildoers come at me  
to devour my flesh,  
My foes and my enemies  
themselves stumble and fall.  
R. **The Lord is my light and my salvation.**  
Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart will not fear;  
Though war be waged upon me,  
even then will I trust.   
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.**

#### Gospel [JN 12:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/13:21)

Six days before the Passover, [Jesus](http://www.catholic.org/clife/jesus) went to Bethany, where [Lazarus](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=6939) was, whom he had raised from the dead. They gave a dinner for him there; Martha waited on them and [Lazarus](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=6939) was among those at table. Mary brought in a pound of very costly ointment, pure nard, and with it anointed the feet of Jesus, wiping them with her hair; the house was filled with the scent of the ointment. Then [Judas Iscariot](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=6513) -- one of his disciples, the [man](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=7463) who was to betray him-said, 'Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he was in charge of the common fund and used to help himself to the contents. So [Jesus](http://www.catholic.org/clife/jesus) said, 'Leave her alone; let her keep it for the day of my burial. You have the poor with you always, you [will](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=12332) not always have me.

'Meanwhile a large number of [Jews](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=6511) heard that he was there and came not only on account of [Jesus](http://www.catholic.org/clife/jesus) but also to see [Lazarus](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=6939) whom he had raised from the dead. Then the chief priests decided to kill [Lazarus](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=6939) as well, since it was on his account that many of the [Jews](http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/view.php?id=6511) were leaving them and believing in Jesus.

**Day 136**

# April 15, 2014

### Tuesday of Holy Week Lectionary: 258

#### Reading 1 [IS 49:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/49:1)

Hear me, O islands,  
listen, O distant peoples.  
The LORD called me from birth,  
from my mother’s womb he gave me my name.  
He made of me a sharp-edged sword  
and concealed me in the shadow of his arm.  
He made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me.  
You are my servant, he said to me,  
Israel, through whom I show my glory.  
  
Though I thought I had toiled in vain,  
and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength,  
Yet my reward is with the LORD,  
my recompense is with my God.  
For 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, he 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 71:1-2, 3-4A, 5AB-6AB, 15 AND 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/71:1)

R. (see 15ab) **I will sing of your salvation.**  
In you, O LORD, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice rescue me, and deliver me;  
incline your ear to me, and save me.  
R. **I will sing of your salvation.**  
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. **I will sing of your salvation.**  
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. **I will sing of your salvation.**  
My mouth shall declare your justice,  
day by day your salvation.  
O God, you have taught me from my youth,  
and till the present I proclaim your wondrous deeds.  
R. **I will sing of your salvation.**

#### Gospel [JN 13:21-33, 36-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/13:21)

Reclining at table with his disciples, Jesus was deeply troubled and testified,  
“Amen, amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”  
The disciples looked at one another, at a loss as to whom he meant.  
One of his disciples, the one whom Jesus loved,  
was reclining at Jesus’ side.  
So Simon Peter nodded to him to find out whom he meant.  
He leaned back against Jesus’ chest and said to him,  
“Master, who is it?”  
Jesus answered,  
“It is the one to whom I hand the morsel after I have dipped it.”  
So he dipped the morsel and took it and handed it to Judas,  
son of Simon the Iscariot.  
After Judas took the morsel, Satan entered him.  
So Jesus said to him, “What you are going to do, do quickly.”  
Now none of those reclining at table realized why he said this to him.  
Some thought that since Judas kept the money bag, Jesus had told him,  
“Buy what we need for the feast,”  
or to give something to the poor.  
So Judas took the morsel and left at once. And it was night.  
  
When he had left, Jesus said,  
“Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him.  
If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself,  
and he will glorify him at once.  
My children, I will be with you only a little while longer.  
You will look for me, and as I told the Jews,  
‘Where I go you cannot come,’ so now I say it to you.”  
  
Simon Peter said to him, “Master, where are you going?”  
Jesus answered him,  
“Where I am going, you cannot follow me now,  
though you will follow later.”  
Peter said to him,  
“Master, why can I not follow you now?   
I will lay down my life for you.”  
Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me?  
Amen, amen, I say to you, the cock will not crow  
before you deny me three times.”

**Day 137**

# April 16, 2014

### Wednesday of Holy Week Lectionary: 259

#### Reading 1 [IS 50:4-9A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/50:4)

The Lord GOD has given me   
a well-trained tongue,  
That I might know how to speak to the weary  
a word that will rouse them.  
Morning after morning  
he opens my ear that I may hear;  
And I have not rebelled,  
have not turned back.  
I gave my back to those who beat me,  
my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;  
My face I did not shield  
from buffets and spitting.  
  
The Lord GOD is my help,  
therefore I am not disgraced;  
I have set my face like flint,  
knowing that I shall not be put to shame.  
He is near who upholds my right;  
if anyone wishes to oppose me,  
let us appear together.  
Who disputes my right?  
Let him confront me.  
See, the Lord GOD is my help;  
who will prove me wrong?

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 AND 33-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/69:8)

R. (14c) **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
For your sake I bear insult,  
and shame covers my face.  
I have become an outcast to my brothers,  
a stranger to my mother’s sons,  
because zeal for your house consumes me,  
and the insults of those who blaspheme you fall upon me.  
R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
Insult has broken my heart, and I am weak,  
I looked for sympathy, but there was none;  
for consolers, not one could I find.  
Rather they put gall in my food,  
and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.  
R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
I will praise the name of God in song,  
and I will glorify him with thanksgiving:  
“See, you lowly ones, and be glad;  
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!  
For the LORD hears the poor,  
and his own who are in bonds he spurns not.”  
R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

#### Gospel [MT 26:14-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/26:14)

One of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot,   
went to the chief priests and said,  
“What are you willing to give me  
if I hand him over to you?”  
They paid him thirty pieces of silver,  
and from that time on he looked for an opportunity to hand him over.  
  
On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread,  
the disciples approached Jesus and said,  
“Where do you want us to prepare  
for you to eat the Passover?”  
He said,  
“Go into the city to a certain man and tell him,  
‘The teacher says, “My appointed time draws near;   
in your house I shall celebrate the Passover with my disciples.”‘“  
The disciples then did as Jesus had ordered,  
and prepared the Passover.  
  
When it was evening,  
he reclined at table with the Twelve.  
And while they were eating, he said,   
“Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”  
Deeply distressed at this,  
they began to say to him one after another,  
“Surely it is not I, Lord?”  
He said in reply,  
“He who has dipped his hand into the dish with me  
is the one who will betray me.  
The Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him,  
but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed.  
It would be better for that man if he had never been born.”  
Then Judas, his betrayer, said in reply,  
“Surely it is not I, Rabbi?”  
He answered, “You have said so.”

**Day 138**

# April 17, 2014 | Chrism Mass

### Holy Thursday Chrism Mass Lectionary: 260

#### Reading 1 [IS 61:1-3A, 6A,  8B-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/61:1)

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly,  
to heal the brokenhearted,  
To proclaim liberty to the captives  
and release to the prisoners,  
To announce a year of favor from the LORD  
and a day of vindication by our God,  
to comfort all who mourn;  
To place on those who mourn in Zion  
a diadem instead of ashes,  
To give them oil of gladness in place of mourning,  
a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit.  
  
You yourselves shall be named priests of the LORD,  
ministers of our God shall you be called.  
  
I will give them their recompense faithfully,  
a lasting covenant I will make with them.  
Their descendants shall be renowned among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
All who see them shall acknowledge them  
as a race the LORD has blessed.

#### Reading 2 [RV 1:5-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/1:5)

[Grace to you and peace] from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness,  
the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth.  
To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his Blood,   
who has made us into a Kingdom, priests for his God and Father,   
to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.  
  
Behold, he is coming amid the clouds,  
and every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him.  
All the peoples of the earth will lament him.  
Yes. Amen.  
  
“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God,   
“the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:21-22, 25 AND 27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/89:21)

R. (2) **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**  
“I have found David, my servant;  
with my holy oil I have anointed him.  
That my hand may always be with him;  
and that my arm may make him strong.”  
R. **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**  
“My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him;  
and through my name shall his horn be exalted.  
He shall say of me, ‘You are my father,  
my God, the Rock, my savior!’“  
R. **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 4:16-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/4:16)

Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had grown up,   
and went according to his custom  
into the synagogue on the sabbath day.  
He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah.  
He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:  
  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,because he has anointed meto bring glad tidings to the poor.He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captivesand recovery of sight to the blind,to let the oppressed go free,and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.  
  
Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down,  
and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him.  
He said to them,   
“Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”

# April 17, 2014 | Evening Mass Of The Lord's Supper

### Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Lectionary: 39

#### Reading 1 [EX 12:1-8, 11-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/exodus/12:1)

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,   
“This month shall stand at the head of your calendar;   
you shall reckon it the first month of the year.  
Tell the whole community of Israel:   
On the tenth of this month every one of your families  
must procure for itself a lamb, one apiece for each household.  
If a family is too small for a whole lamb,   
it shall join the nearest household in procuring one   
and shall share in the lamb   
in proportion to the number of persons who partake of it.  
The lamb must be a year-old male and without blemish.  
You may take it from either the sheep or the goats.  
You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month,   
and then, with the whole assembly of Israel present,   
it shall be slaughtered during the evening twilight.  
They shall take some of its blood   
and apply it to the two doorposts and the lintel   
of every house in which they partake of the lamb.  
That same night they shall eat its roasted flesh   
with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.  
  
“This is how you are to eat it:   
with your loins girt, sandals on your feet and your staff in hand,  
you shall eat like those who are in flight.  
It is the Passover of the LORD.  
For on this same night I will go through Egypt,   
striking down every firstborn of the land, both man and beast,  
and executing judgment on all the gods of Egypt—I, the LORD!  
But the blood will mark the houses where you are.  
Seeing the blood, I will pass over you;   
thus, when I strike the land of Egypt,   
no destructive blow will come upon you.  
  
“This day shall be a memorial feast for you,   
which all your generations shall celebrate   
with pilgrimage to the LORD, as a perpetual institution.”

#### Reading 2  [1 COR 11:23-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/11:23)

Brothers and sisters:  
I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,   
that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over,   
took bread, and, after he had given thanks,  
broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”  
In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,   
“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”  
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,   
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 116:12-13, 15-16BC, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/116:12)

R/. (cf. 1 Cor 10:16) **Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.**  
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/. **Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.**  
Precious in the eyes of the LORD  
is the death of his faithful ones.  
I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;  
you have loosed my bonds.  
R/.**Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.**  
To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.  
My vows to the LORD I will pay  
in the presence of all his people.  
R/. **Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.**

#### Gospel [JN 13:1-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/13:1)

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come  
to pass from this world to the Father.  
He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.  
The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over.  
So, during supper,   
fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power   
and that he had come from God and was returning to God,   
he rose from supper and took off his outer garments.  
He took a towel and tied it around his waist.  
Then he poured water into a basin   
and began to wash the disciples’ feet   
and dry them with the towel around his waist.  
He came to Simon Peter, who said to him,   
“Master, are you going to wash my feet?”  
Jesus answered and said to him,  
“What I am doing, you do not understand now,  
but you will understand later.”  
Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.”  
Jesus answered him,   
“Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me.”  
Simon Peter said to him,   
“Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well.”  
Jesus said to him,   
“Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed,  
for he is clean all over;   
so you are clean, but not all.”  
For he knew who would betray him;  
for this reason, he said, “Not all of you are clean.”  
  
So when he had washed their feet   
and put his garments back on and reclined at table again,   
he said to them, “Do you realize what I have done for you?  
You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘master,’ and rightly so, for indeed I am.  
If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet,   
you ought to wash one another’s feet.  
I have given you a model to follow,   
so that as I have done for you, you should also do.”

**Day 139**

# April 18, 2014

### Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) Lectionary: 40

#### Reading 1 [IS 52:13-53:12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/52:13)

See, my servant shall prosper,  
he shall be raised high and greatly exalted.  
Even as many were amazed at him—  
so marred was his look beyond human semblance  
and his appearance beyond that of the sons of man—  
so shall he startle many nations,  
because of him kings shall stand speechless;  
for those who have not been told shall see,  
those who have not heard shall ponder it.  
  
Who would believe what we have heard?  
To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
He grew up like a sapling before him,  
like a shoot from the parched earth;  
there was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him,  
nor appearance that would attract us to him.  
He was spurned and avoided by people,  
a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity,  
one of those from whom people hide their faces,  
spurned, and we held him in no esteem.  
  
Yet it was our infirmities that he bore,  
our sufferings that he endured,  
while we thought of him as stricken,  
as one smitten by God and afflicted.  
But he was pierced for our offenses,  
crushed for our sins;  
upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole,  
by his stripes we were healed.  
We had all gone astray like sheep,  
each following his own way;  
but the LORD laid upon him  
the guilt of us all.  
  
Though he was harshly treated, he submitted  
and opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb led to the slaughter  
or a sheep before the shearers,  
he was silent and opened not his mouth.  
Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away,  
and who would have thought any more of his destiny?  
When he was cut off from the land of the living,  
and smitten for the sin of his people,  
a grave was assigned him among the wicked  
and a burial place with evildoers,  
though he had done no wrong  
nor spoken any falsehood.  
But the LORD was pleased  
to crush him in infirmity.  
  
If he gives his life as an offering for sin,  
he shall see his descendants in a long life,  
and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him.  
  
Because of his affliction  
he shall see the light in fullness of days;  
through his suffering, my servant shall justify many,  
and their guilt he shall bear.  
Therefore I will give him his portion among the great,  
and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty,  
because he surrendered himself to death  
and was counted among the wicked;  
and he shall take away the sins of many,  
and win pardon for their offenses.

#### Reading 2 [HEB 4:14-16; 5:7-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hebrews/4:14)

Brothers and sisters:  
Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,   
Jesus, the Son of God,   
let us hold fast to our confession.  
For we do not have a high priest  
who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,   
but one who has similarly been tested in every way,  
yet without sin.  
So let us confidently approach the throne of grace   
to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.  
  
In the days when Christ was in the flesh,   
he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears   
to the one who was able to save him from death,   
and he was heard because of his reverence.  
Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered;   
and when he was made perfect,  
he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/31:2)

R/ (Lk 23:46) **Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**  
In you, O LORD, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice rescue me.  
Into your hands I commend my spirit;  
you will redeem me, O LORD, O faithful God.  
R/ **Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**  
For all my foes I am an object of reproach,  
a laughingstock to my neighbors, and a dread to my friends;  
they who see me abroad flee from me.  
I am forgotten like the unremembered dead;  
I am like a dish that is broken.  
R/ **Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**  
But my trust is in you, O LORD;  
I say, “You are my God.  
In your hands is my destiny; rescue me  
from the clutches of my enemies and my persecutors.”  
R/**Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**  
Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your kindness.  
Take courage and be stouthearted,  
all you who hope in the LORD.  
R/ **Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

#### Gospel [JN 18:1-19:42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/18:1)

Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley   
to where there was a garden,   
into which he and his disciples entered.  
Judas his betrayer also knew the place,   
because Jesus had often met there with his disciples.  
So Judas got a band of soldiers and guards   
from the chief priests and the Pharisees   
and went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.  
Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to him,   
went out and said to them, “Whom are you looking for?”  
They answered him, “Jesus the Nazorean.”  
He said to them, “I AM.”  
Judas his betrayer was also with them.  
When he said to them, “I AM, “   
they turned away and fell to the ground.  
So he again asked them,  
“Whom are you looking for?”  
They said, “Jesus the Nazorean.”  
Jesus answered,  
“I told you that I AM.  
So if you are looking for me, let these men go.”  
This was to fulfill what he had said,   
“I have not lost any of those you gave me.”  
Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it,   
struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear.  
The slave’s name was Malchus.  
Jesus said to Peter,  
“Put your sword into its scabbard.  
Shall I not drink the cup that the Father gave me?”  
  
So the band of soldiers, the tribune, and the Jewish guards seized Jesus,  
bound him, and brought him to Annas first.  
He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas,   
who was high priest that year.  
It was Caiaphas who had counseled the Jews   
that it was better that one man should die rather than the people.  
  
Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus.  
Now the other disciple was known to the high priest,   
and he entered the courtyard of the high priest with Jesus.  
But Peter stood at the gate outside.  
So the other disciple, the acquaintance of the high priest,   
went out and spoke to the gatekeeper and brought Peter in.  
Then the maid who was the gatekeeper said to Peter,   
“You are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?”  
He said, “I am not.”  
Now the slaves and the guards were standing around a charcoal fire  
that they had made, because it was cold,  
and were warming themselves.  
Peter was also standing there keeping warm.  
  
The high priest questioned Jesus   
about his disciples and about his doctrine.  
Jesus answered him,  
“I have spoken publicly to the world.  
I have always taught in a synagogue   
or in the temple area where all the Jews gather,   
and in secret I have said nothing. Why ask me?  
Ask those who heard me what I said to them.  
They know what I said.”  
When he had said this,   
one of the temple guards standing there struck Jesus and said,   
“Is this the way you answer the high priest?”  
Jesus answered him,  
“If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong;   
but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?”  
Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.  
  
Now Simon Peter was standing there keeping warm.  
And they said to him,  
“You are not one of his disciples, are you?”  
He denied it and said,  
“I am not.”  
One of the slaves of the high priest,   
a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said,   
“Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?”  
Again Peter denied it.  
And immediately the cock crowed.  
  
Then they brought Jesus from Caiaphas to the praetorium.  
It was morning.  
And they themselves did not enter the praetorium,   
in order not to be defiled so that they could eat the Passover.  
So Pilate came out to them and said,   
“What charge do you bring against this man?”  
They answered and said to him,  
“If he were not a criminal,   
we would not have handed him over to you.”  
At this, Pilate said to them,   
“Take him yourselves, and judge him according to your law.”  
The Jews answered him,   
“We do not have the right to execute anyone,”   
in order that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled  
that he said indicating the kind of death he would die.  
So Pilate went back into the praetorium   
and summoned Jesus and said to him,   
“Are you the King of the Jews?”  
Jesus answered,  
“Do you say this on your own   
or have others told you about me?”  
Pilate answered,  
“I am not a Jew, am I?  
Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me.  
What have you done?”  
Jesus answered,  
“My kingdom does not belong to this world.  
If my kingdom did belong to this world,   
my attendants would be fighting   
to keep me from being handed over to the Jews.  
But as it is, my kingdom is not here.”  
So Pilate said to him,  
“Then you are a king?”  
Jesus answered,  
“You say I am a king.  
For this I was born and for this I came into the world,   
to testify to the truth.  
Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”  
Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”  
  
When he had said this,  
he again went out to the Jews and said to them,  
“I find no guilt in him.  
But you have a custom that I release one prisoner to you at Passover.  
Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”  
They cried out again,  
“Not this one but Barabbas!”  
Now Barabbas was a revolutionary.  
  
Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged.  
And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head,   
and clothed him in a purple cloak,   
and they came to him and said,  
“Hail, King of the Jews!”  
And they struck him repeatedly.  
Once more Pilate went out and said to them,   
“Look, I am bringing him out to you,   
so that you may know that I find no guilt in him.”  
So Jesus came out,   
wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak.  
And he said to them, “Behold, the man!”  
When the chief priests and the guards saw him they cried out,   
“Crucify him, crucify him!”  
Pilate said to them,  
“Take him yourselves and crucify him.  
I find no guilt in him.”  
The Jews answered,   
“We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die,   
because he made himself the Son of God.”  
Now when Pilate heard this statement,  
he became even more afraid,   
and went back into the praetorium and said to Jesus,   
“Where are you from?”  
Jesus did not answer him.  
So Pilate said to him,  
“Do you not speak to me?  
Do you not know that I have power to release you   
and I have power to crucify you?”  
Jesus answered him,  
“You would have no power over me   
if it had not been given to you from above.  
For this reason the one who handed me over to you  
has the greater sin.”  
Consequently, Pilate tried to release him; but the Jews cried out,   
“If you release him, you are not a Friend of Caesar.  
Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”  
  
When Pilate heard these words he brought Jesus out   
and seated him on the judge’s bench   
in the place called Stone Pavement, in Hebrew, Gabbatha.  
It was preparation day for Passover, and it was about noon.  
And he said to the Jews,  
“Behold, your king!”  
They cried out,  
“Take him away, take him away! Crucify him!”  
Pilate said to them,  
“Shall I crucify your king?”  
The chief priests answered,  
“We have no king but Caesar.”  
Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.  
  
So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross himself,   
he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull,   
in Hebrew, Golgotha.  
There they crucified him, and with him two others,   
one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.  
Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross.  
It read,  
“Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews.”  
Now many of the Jews read this inscription,   
because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city;   
and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek.  
So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,   
“Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’  
but that he said, ‘I am the King of the Jews’.”  
Pilate answered,  
“What I have written, I have written.”  
  
When the soldiers had crucified Jesus,   
they took his clothes and divided them into four shares,   
a share for each soldier.  
They also took his tunic, but the tunic was seamless,   
woven in one piece from the top down.  
So they said to one another,   
“Let’s not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be, “   
in order that the passage of Scripture might be fulfilled that says:  
They divided my garments among them,and for my vesture they cast lots.  
This is what the soldiers did.  
Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother  
and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,  
and Mary of Magdala.  
When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved  
he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.”  
Then he said to the disciple,  
“Behold, your mother.”  
And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.  
  
After this, aware that everything was now finished,   
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,   
Jesus said, “I thirst.”  
There was a vessel filled with common wine.  
So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop   
and put it up to his mouth.  
When Jesus had taken the wine, he said,  
“It is finished.”  
And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.  
  
Here all kneel and pause for a short time.  
  
Now since it was preparation day,  
in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the sabbath,  
for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,   
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken   
and that they be taken down.  
So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first   
and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus.  
But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,   
they did not break his legs,   
but one soldier thrust his lance into his side,   
and immediately blood and water flowed out.  
An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true;   
he knows that he is speaking the truth,   
so that you also may come to believe.  
For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:  
Not a bone of it will be broken.  
And again another passage says:  
They will look upon him whom they have pierced.  
  
After this, Joseph of Arimathea,   
secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews,   
asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus.  
And Pilate permitted it.  
So he came and took his body.  
Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night,   
also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes   
weighing about one hundred pounds.  
They took the body of Jesus   
and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices,   
according to the Jewish burial custom.  
Now in the place where he had been crucified there was a garden,   
and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried.  
So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day;   
for the tomb was close by.

**Day 140**

# April 19, 2014

### Holy Saturday At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter Lectionary: 41

#### Reading 1 [GN 1:1-2:2](http://www.usccb.org/bible/genesis/1:1)

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth,   
the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss,   
while a mighty wind swept over the waters.  
  
Then God said,  
“Let there be light,” and there was light.  
God saw how good the light was.  
God then separated the light from the darkness.  
God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.”  
Thus evening came, and morning followed—the first day.  
  
Then God said,  
“Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters,   
to separate one body of water from the other.”  
And so it happened:  
God made the dome,   
and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it.  
God called the dome “the sky.”  
Evening came, and morning followed—the second day.  
  
Then God said,   
“Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin,   
so that the dry land may appear.”  
And so it happened:  
the water under the sky was gathered into its basin,   
and the dry land appeared.  
God called the dry land “the earth, “   
and the basin of the water he called “the sea.”  
God saw how good it was.  
Then God said,  
“Let the earth bring forth vegetation:   
every kind of plant that bears seed  
and every kind of fruit tree on earth   
that bears fruit with its seed in it.”  
And so it happened:   
the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed   
and every kind of fruit tree on earth   
that bears fruit with its seed in it.  
God saw how good it was.  
Evening came, and morning followed—the third day.  
  
Then God said:  
“Let there be lights in the dome of the sky,   
to separate day from night.  
Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years,   
and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky,   
to shed light upon the earth.”  
And so it happened:  
God made the two great lights,   
the greater one to govern the day,   
and the lesser one to govern the night;   
and he made the stars.   
God set them in the dome of the sky,   
to shed light upon the earth,  
to govern the day and the night,   
and to separate the light from the darkness.  
God saw how good it was.  
Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day.  
  
Then God said,   
“Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures,   
and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky.”  
And so it happened:  
God created the great sea monsters   
and all kinds of swimming creatures with which the water teems,   
and all kinds of winged birds.  
God saw how good it was, and God blessed them, saying,   
“Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas;   
and let the birds multiply on the earth.”  
Evening came, and morning followed—the fifth day.  
  
Then God said,   
“Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures:   
cattle, creeping things, and wild animals of all kinds.”  
And so it happened:  
God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of cattle,  
and all kinds of creeping things of the earth.  
God saw how good it was.  
Then God said:   
“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.  
Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,   
the birds of the air, and the cattle,   
and over all the wild animals   
and all the creatures that crawl on the ground.”  
God created man in his image;  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.  
God blessed them, saying:  
“Be fertile and multiply;  
fill the earth and subdue it.  
Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,   
and all the living things that move on the earth.”  
God also said:   
“See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth   
and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food;   
and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air,   
and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground,   
I give all the green plants for food.”  
And so it happened.  
God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.  
Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day.  
  
Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed.  
Since on the seventh day God was finished  
with the work he had been doing,   
he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had undertaken.

#### Or [GN 1:1, 26-31A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/genesis/1:1)

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth,  
God said: “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.  
Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,   
the birds of the air, and the cattle,   
and over all the wild animals   
and all the creatures that crawl on the ground.”  
God created man in his image;  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.  
God blessed them, saying:   
“Be fertile and multiply;  
fill the earth and subdue it.  
Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,   
and all the living things that move on the earth.”  
God also said:   
“See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth   
and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food;   
and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air,   
and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground,   
I give all the green plants for food.”  
And so it happened.  
God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good.

#### Reading 2 [GN 22:1-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/genesis/22:1)

God put Abraham to the test.  
He called to him, “Abraham!”  
“Here I am, “ he replied.  
Then God said:  
“Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love,   
and go to the land of Moriah.  
There you shall offer him up as a holocaust   
on a height that I will point out to you.”  
Early the next morning Abraham saddled his donkey,   
took with him his son Isaac and two of his servants as well,   
and with the wood that he had cut for the holocaust,   
set out for the place of which God had told him.  
  
On the third day Abraham got sight of the place from afar.  
Then he said to his servants:  
“Both of you stay here with the donkey,   
while the boy and I go on over yonder.  
We will worship and then come back to you.”  
Thereupon Abraham took the wood for the holocaust   
and laid it on his son Isaac’s shoulders,   
while he himself carried the fire and the knife.  
As the two walked on together, Isaac spoke to his father Abraham:   
“Father!” Isaac said.  
“Yes, son, “ he replied.  
Isaac continued, “Here are the fire and the wood,   
but where is the sheep for the holocaust?”  
“Son,” Abraham answered,   
“God himself will provide the sheep for the holocaust.”  
Then the two continued going forward.  
  
When they came to the place of which God had told him,   
Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it.  
Next he tied up his son Isaac,   
and put him on top of the wood on the altar.  
Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.  
But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven,  
“Abraham, Abraham!”  
“Here I am!” he answered.  
“Do not lay your hand on the boy,” said the messenger.  
“Do not do the least thing to him.  
I know now how devoted you are to God,   
since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.”  
As Abraham looked about,   
he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket.  
So he went and took the ram   
and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.  
Abraham named the site Yahweh-yireh;   
hence people now say, “On the mountain the LORD will see.”  
  
Again the LORD’s messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said:   
“I swear by myself, declares the LORD,   
that because you acted as you did   
in not withholding from me your beloved son,   
I will bless you abundantly  
and make your descendants as countless  
as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore;   
your descendants shall take possession   
of the gates of their enemies,   
and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—  
all this because you obeyed my command.”

#### Or [GN 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/genesis/22:1)

God put Abraham to the test.  
He called to him, “Abraham!”  
“Here I am, “ he replied.  
Then God said:  
“Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love,   
and go to the land of Moriah.  
There you shall offer him up as a holocaust   
on a height that I will point out to you.”   
  
When they came to the place of which God had told him,   
Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it.  
Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.  
But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven,  
“Abraham, Abraham!”  
“Here I am, “ he answered.  
“Do not lay your hand on the boy, “ said the messenger.  
“Do not do the least thing to him.  
I know now how devoted you are to God,   
since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.”  
As Abraham looked about,   
he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket.  
So he went and took the ram   
and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.  
  
Again the LORD’s messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said:   
“I swear by myself, declares the LORD,   
that because you acted as you did   
in not withholding from me your beloved son,   
I will bless you abundantly  
and make your descendants as countless  
as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore;   
your descendants shall take possession   
of the gates of their enemies,   
and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—  
all this because you obeyed my command.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/104:1)

R/ (30) **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!  
You are clothed with majesty and glory,  
robed in light as with a cloak.  
R/ **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
You fixed the earth upon its foundation,  
not to be moved forever;  
with the ocean, as with a garment, you covered it;  
above the mountains the waters stood.  
R/ **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
You send forth springs into the watercourses  
that wind among the mountains.  
Beside them the birds of heaven dwell;  
from among the branches they send forth their song.  
R/ **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
You water the mountains from your palace;  
the earth is replete with the fruit of your works.  
You raise grass for the cattle,  
and vegetation for man’s use,  
Producing bread from the earth.  
R/ **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
How manifold are your works, O LORD!  
In wisdom you have wrought them all—the earth is full of your creatures.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul! Alleluia.  
R/ **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

#### Or [PS 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 AND 22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:4)

R/ (5b) **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
Upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
R/ **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made;  
by the breath of his mouth all their host.  
He gathers the waters of the sea as in a flask;  
in cellars he confines the deep.  
R/ **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.  
From heaven the LORD looks down;  
he sees all mankind.  
R/ **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
Our soul waits for the LORD,  
who is our help and our shield.  
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us  
who have put our hope in you.  
R/ **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**

#### Gospel [MT 28:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/28:1)

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning,  
Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.  
And behold, there was a great earthquake;   
for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven,   
approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.  
His appearance was like lightning  
and his clothing was white as snow.  
The guards were shaken with fear of him  
and became like dead men.  
Then the angel said to the women in reply,  
“Do not be afraid!  
I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified.  
He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said.  
Come and see the place where he lay.  
Then go quickly and tell his disciples,  
‘He has been raised from the dead,   
and he is going before you to Galilee;  
there you will see him.’  
Behold, I have told you.”  
Then they went away quickly from the tomb,   
fearful yet overjoyed,  
and ran to announce this to his disciples.  
And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them.  
They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.  
Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid.  
Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee,  
and there they will see me.”

**Day 141**

# April 20, 2014

### The Resurrection of the Lord The Mass of Easter Sunday Lectionary: 42

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 10:34A, 37-43](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/10:34)

Peter proceeded to speak and said:  
“You know what has happened all over Judea,   
beginning in Galilee after the baptism  
that John preached,   
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth  
with the Holy Spirit and power.  
He went about doing good  
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,   
for God was with him.  
We are witnesses of all that he did  
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.  
They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.  
This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible,  
not to all the people, but to us,  
the witnesses chosen by God in advance,  
who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.  
He commissioned us to preach to the people  
and testify that he is the one appointed by God  
as judge of the living and the dead.  
To him all the prophets bear witness,  
that everyone who believes in him  
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/118:1)

R/ (24) **This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.  
Let the house of Israel say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”  
R/ **This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.**or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
“The right hand of the LORD has struck with power;  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted.  
I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.”  
R/**This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the LORD has this been done;  
it is wonderful in our eyes.  
R/**This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**

#### Reading 2 [COL 3:1-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/colossians/3:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,   
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.  
Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.  
For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.  
When Christ your life appears,  
then you too will appear with him in glory.

#### Or [1 COR 5:6B-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/5:6)

Brothers and sisters:  
Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough?  
Clear out the old yeast,  
so that you may become a fresh batch of dough,   
inasmuch as you are unleavened.  
For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed.  
Therefore, let us celebrate the feast,   
not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness,   
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

#### Sequence - Victimæ Paschali Laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim  
Offer your thankful praises!  
A Lamb the sheep redeems;  
Christ, who only is sinless,  
Reconciles sinners to the Father.  
Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous:  
The Prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.  
Speak, Mary, declaring  
What you saw, wayfaring.  
“The tomb of Christ, who is living,  
The glory of Jesus’ resurrection;  
bright angels attesting,  
The shroud and napkin resting.  
Yes, Christ my hope is arisen;  
to Galilee he goes before you.”  
Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining.  
Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!  
Amen. Alleluia.

#### Gospel [JN 20:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/20:1)

On the first day of the week,  
Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,  
while it was still dark,   
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.  
So she ran and went to Simon Peter   
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,   
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,   
and we don’t know where they put him.”  
So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.  
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter   
and arrived at the tomb first;   
he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in.  
When Simon Peter arrived after him,   
he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there,   
and the cloth that had covered his head,   
not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.  
Then the other disciple also went in,   
the one who had arrived at the tomb first,   
and he saw and believed.  
For they did not yet understand the Scripture   
that he had to rise from the dead.

**Day 142**

# April 21, 2014

### Monday in the Octave of Easter Lectionary: 261

#### Reading 1[ACTS 2:14, 22-33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/2:14)

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven,  
raised his voice, and proclaimed:  
“You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem.  
Let this be known to you, and listen to my words.  
  
“You who are children of Israel, hear these words.  
Jesus the Nazorean was a man commended to you by God  
with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs,  
which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know.  
This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God,  
you killed, using lawless men to crucify him.  
But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death,  
because it was impossible for him to be held by it.  
For David says of him:  
  
I saw the Lord ever before me,with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted;my flesh, too, will dwell in hope,because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world,nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption.You have made known to me the paths of life;you will fill me with joy in your presence.  
  
My brothers, one can confidently say to you  
about the patriarch David that he died and was buried,  
and his tomb is in our midst to this day.  
But since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him  
that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne,  
he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ,  
that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld  
nor did his flesh see corruption.  
God raised this Jesus;  
of this we are all witnesses.  
Exalted at the right hand of God,  
he poured forth the promise of the Holy Spirit   
that he received from the Father, as you both see and hear.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 16:1-2A AND 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/16:1)

R. (1) **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;  
I say to the LORD, “My Lord are you.”  
O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.  
R. **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
I bless the LORD who counsels me;  
even in the night my heart exhorts me.  
I set the LORD ever before me;  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.  
R. **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
Because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.  
R. **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
You will show me the path to life,  
fullness of joys in your presence,  
the delights at your right hand forever.  
R. **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MT 28:8-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/28:8)

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went away quickly from the tomb,  
fearful yet overjoyed,  
and ran to announce the news to his disciples.  
And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them.  
They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage.  
Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid.  
Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee,   
and there they will see me.”  
  
While they were going, some of the guard went into the city  
and told the chief priests all that had happened.  
The chief priests assembled with the elders and took counsel;  
then they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,  
telling them, “You are to say,  
‘His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.’  
And if this gets to the ears of the governor,  
we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.”  
The soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed.  
And this story has circulated among the Jews to the present day.

**Day 143**

# April 22, 2014

### Tuesday in the Octave of Easter Lectionary: 262

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 2:36-41](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/2:36)

On the day of Pentecost, Peter said to the Jewish people,  
“Let the whole house of Israel know for certain  
that God has made him both Lord and Christ,  
this Jesus whom you crucified.”  
  
Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart,  
and they asked Peter and the other Apostles,  
“What are we to do, my brothers?”  
Peter said to them,  
“Repent and be baptized, every one of you,  
in the name of Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of your sins;  
and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.  
For the promise is made to you and to your children  
and to all those far off,  
whomever the Lord our God will call.”  
He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them,  
“Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”   
Those who accepted his message were baptized,  
and about three thousand persons were added that day.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 AND 22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:4)

R. (5b) **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
R. **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,  
upon those who hope for his kindness,  
To deliver them from death  
and preserve them in spite of famine.  
R.**The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Our soul waits for the LORD,  
who is our help and our shield.  
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us  
who have put our hope in you.  
R. **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 20:11-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/20:11)

Mary Magdalene stayed outside the tomb weeping.  
And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb  
and saw two angels in white sitting there,  
one at the head and one at the feet  
where the Body of Jesus had been.  
And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?”  
She said to them, “They have taken my Lord,  
and I don’t know where they laid him.”  
When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there,  
but did not know it was Jesus.  
Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?  
Whom are you looking for?”  
She thought it was the gardener and said to him,  
“Sir, if you carried him away,  
tell me where you laid him,  
and I will take him.”  
Jesus said to her, “Mary!”  
She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni,”   
which means Teacher.  
Jesus said to her, “Stop holding on to me,  
for I have not yet ascended to the Father.  
But go to my brothers and tell them,  
‘I am going to my Father and your Father,  
to my God and your God.’”  
Mary went and announced to the disciples,  
“I have seen the Lord,”  
and then reported what he had told her.

**Day 144**

# April 23, 2014

### Wednesday in the Octave of Easter Lectionary: 263

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 3:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/3:1)

Peter and John were going up to the temple area  
for the three o’clock hour of prayer.  
And a man crippled from birth was carried  
and placed at the gate of the temple called “the Beautiful Gate” every day   
to beg for alms from the people who entered the temple.  
When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple,  
he asked for alms.  
But Peter looked intently at him, as did John,  
and said, “Look at us.”  
He paid attention to them, expecting to receive something from them.  
Peter said, “I have neither silver nor gold,  
but what I do have I give you:   
in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean, rise and walk.”  
Then Peter took him by the right hand and raised him up,  
and immediately his feet and ankles grew strong.  
He leaped up, stood, and walked around,  
and went into the temple with them,  
walking and jumping and praising God.  
When all the people saw him walking and praising God,  
they recognized him as the one  
who used to sit begging at the Beautiful Gate of the temple,  
and they were filled with amazement and astonishment  
at what had happened to him.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/105:1)

R. (3b) **Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Give thanks to the LORD, invoke his name;  
make known among the nations his deeds.  
Sing to him, sing his praise,  
proclaim all his wondrous deeds.  
R.**Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord.**   
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Glory in his holy name;  
rejoice, O hearts that seek the LORD!  
Look to the LORD in his strength;  
seek to serve him constantly.  
R. **Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
You descendants of Abraham, his servants,  
sons of Jacob, his chosen ones!  
He, the LORD, is our God;  
throughout the earth his judgments prevail.  
R. **Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
He remembers forever his covenant  
which he made binding for a thousand generations   
Which he entered into with Abraham  
and by his oath to Isaac.  
R. **Rejoice, O hearts that seek the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [LK 24:13-35](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/24:13)

That very day, the first day of the week,  
two of Jesus’ disciples were going  
to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus,  
and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.  
And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,  
Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,  
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.  
He asked them,   
“What are you discussing as you walk along?”  
They stopped, looking downcast.  
One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply,  
“Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem  
who does not know of the things  
that have taken place there in these days?”  
And he replied to them, “What sort of things?”  
They said to him,   
“The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene,  
who was a prophet mighty in deed and word  
before God and all the people,  
how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over  
to a sentence of death and crucified him.  
But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel;  
and besides all this,  
it is now the third day since this took place.  
Some women from our group, however, have astounded us:  
they were at the tomb early in the morning   
and did not find his Body;  
they came back and reported  
that they had indeed seen a vision of angels  
who announced that he was alive.  
Then some of those with us went to the tomb  
and found things just as the women had described,  
but him they did not see.”  
And he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are!  
How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!  
Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things  
and enter into his glory?”  
Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,  
he interpreted to them what referred to him  
in all the Scriptures.  
As they approached the village to which they were going,  
he gave the impression that he was going on farther.  
But they urged him, “Stay with us,  
for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.”  
So he went in to stay with them.  
And it happened that, while he was with them at table,  
he took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and gave it to them.  
With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,  
but he vanished from their sight.  
Then they said to each other,  
“Were not our hearts burning within us  
while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?”  
So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem  
where they found gathered together  
the Eleven and those with them who were saying,  
“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”  
Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way  
and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**Day 145**

# April 24, 2014

### Thursday in the Octave of Easter Lectionary: 264

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 3:11-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/3:11)

As the crippled man who had been cured clung to Peter and John,  
all the people hurried in amazement toward them  
in the portico called “Solomon’s Portico.”  
When Peter saw this, he addressed the people,  
“You children of Israel, why are you amazed at this,  
and why do you look so intently at us  
as if we had made him walk by our own power or piety?  
The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob,  
the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus  
whom you handed over and denied in Pilate’s presence,  
when he had decided to release him.  
You denied the Holy and Righteous One  
and asked that a murderer be released to you.  
The author of life you put to death,  
but God raised him from the dead; of this we are witnesses.  
And by faith in his name,  
this man, whom you see and know, his name has made strong,  
and the faith that comes through it  
has given him this perfect health,  
in the presence of all of you.  
Now I know, brothers and sisters,  
that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did;  
but God has thus brought to fulfillment  
what he had announced beforehand  
through the mouth of all the prophets,  
that his Christ would suffer.  
Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be wiped away,  
and that the Lord may grant you times of refreshment  
and send you the Christ already appointed for you, Jesus,  
whom heaven must receive until the times of universal restoration  
of which God spoke through the mouth  
of his holy prophets from of old.  
For Moses said:  
  
A prophet like me will the Lord, your God, raise up for youfrom among your own kin;to him you shall listen in all that he may say to you.Everyone who does not listen to that prophetwill be cut off from the people.  
  
“Moreover, all the prophets who spoke,  
from Samuel and those afterwards, also announced these days.  
You are the children of the prophets  
and of the covenant that God made with your ancestors  
when he said to Abraham,  
In your offspring all the families of the earth shall be blessed.  
For you first, God raised up his servant and sent him to bless you  
by turning each of you from your evil ways.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 8:2AB AND 5, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/8:2)

R. (2ab) **O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
O LORD, our Lord,  
how glorious is your name over all the earth!  
What is man that you should be mindful of him,  
or the son of man that you should care for him?  
R. **O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
You have made him little less than the angels,  
and crowned him with glory and honor.  
You have given him rule over the works of your hands,  
putting all things under his feet.  
R. **O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
All sheep and oxen,  
yes, and the beasts of the field,  
The birds of the air, the fishes of the sea,  
and whatever swims the paths of the seas.  
R. **O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [LK 24:35-48](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/24:35)

The disciples of Jesus recounted what had taken place along the way,  
and how they had come to recognize him in the breaking of bread.  
  
While they were still speaking about this,  
he stood in their midst and said to them,  
“Peace be with you.”  
But they were startled and terrified  
and thought that they were seeing a ghost.  
Then he said to them, “Why are you troubled?  
And why do questions arise in your hearts?  
Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself.  
Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones  
as you can see I have.”  
And as he said this,  
he showed them his hands and his feet.  
While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed,  
he asked them, “Have you anything here to eat?”  
They gave him a piece of baked fish;   
he took it and ate it in front of them.  
  
He said to them,  
“These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you,  
that everything written about me in the law of Moses  
and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled.”  
Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.  
And he said to them,  
“Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer  
and rise from the dead on the third day  
and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,  
would be preached in his name  
to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.  
You are witnesses of these things.”

**Day 146**

# April 25, 2014

### Friday in the Octave of Easter Lectionary: 265

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 4:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/4:1)

After the crippled man had been cured,  
while Peter and John were still speaking to the people,  
the priests, the captain of the temple guard,  
and the Sadducees confronted them,  
disturbed that they were teaching the people  
and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.  
They laid hands on Peter and John  
and put them in custody until the next day,  
since it was already evening.  
But many of those who heard the word came to believe  
and the number of men grew to about five thousand.  
  
On the next day, their leaders, elders, and scribes  
were assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest,  
Caiaphas, John, Alexander,  
and all who were of the high-priestly class.  
They brought them into their presence and questioned them,  
“By what power or by what name have you done this?”  
Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, answered them,  
“Leaders of the people and elders:  
If we are being examined today  
about a good deed done to a cripple,  
namely, by what means he was saved,  
then all of you and all the people of Israel should know  
that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean  
whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead;  
in his name this man stands before you healed.  
He is the stone rejected by you, the builders,  
which has become the cornerstone.  
There is no salvation through anyone else,  
nor is there any other name under heaven  
given to the human race by which we are to be saved.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 118:1-2 AND 4, 22-24, 25-27A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/118:1)

R. (22) **The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.  
Let the house of Israel say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”  
Let those who fear the LORD say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”  
R. **The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the LORD has this been done;  
it is wonderful in our eyes.  
This is the day the LORD has made;  
let us be glad and rejoice in it.  
R. **The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**  
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. **The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 21:1-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/21:1)

Jesus revealed himself again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias.  
He revealed himself in this way.  
Together were Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus,  
Nathanael from Cana in Galilee,  
Zebedee’s sons, and two others of his disciples.  
Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.”  
They said to him, “We also will come with you.”  
So they went out and got into the boat,  
but that night they caught nothing.  
When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore;  
but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.  
Jesus said to them, “Children, have you caught anything to eat?”  
They answered him, “No.”  
So he said to them, “Cast the net over the right side of the boat  
and you will find something.”  
So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in  
because of the number of fish.  
So the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord.”  
When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord,  
he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad,  
and jumped into the sea.  
The other disciples came in the boat,  
for they were not far from shore, only about a hundred yards,  
dragging the net with the fish.  
When they climbed out on shore,  
they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread.  
Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you just caught.”  
So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore  
full of one hundred fifty-three large fish.  
Even though there were so many, the net was not torn.  
Jesus said to them, “Come, have breakfast.”  
And none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?”  
because they realized it was the Lord.  
Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them,  
and in like manner the fish.  
This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples  
after being raised from the dead.

**Day 147**

# April 26, 2014

### Saturday in the Octave of Easter Lectionary: 266

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 4:13-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/4:13)

Observing the boldness of Peter and John  
and perceiving them to be uneducated, ordinary men,  
the leaders, elders, and scribes were amazed,  
and they recognized them as the companions of Jesus.  
Then when they saw the man who had been cured standing there with them,  
they could say nothing in reply.  
So they ordered them to leave the Sanhedrin,  
and conferred with one another, saying,  
“What are we to do with these men?  
Everyone living in Jerusalem knows that a remarkable sign  
was done through them, and we cannot deny it.  
But so that it may not be spread any further among the people,  
let us give them a stern warning  
never again to speak to anyone in this name.”  
  
So they called them back  
and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.  
Peter and John, however, said to them in reply,  
“Whether it is right in the sight of God  
for us to obey you rather than God, you be the judges.  
It is impossible for us not to speak about what we have seen and heard.”  
After threatening them further,  
they released them,  
finding no way to punish them,  
on account of the people who were all praising God  
for what had happened.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 118:1 AND 14-15AB, 16-18, 19-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/118:1)

R. (21a)**I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
The joyful shout of victory  
in the tents of the just.  
R. **I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
“The right hand of the LORD is exalted;  
the right hand of the LORD has struck with power.”  
I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.  
Though the LORD has indeed chastised me,  
yet he has not delivered me to death.  
R. **I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Open to me the gates of justice;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.  
This is the gate of the LORD;  
the just shall enter it.  
I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and have been my savior.  
R. **I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MK 16:9-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/16:9)

When Jesus had risen, early on the first day of the week,  
he appeared first to Mary Magdalene,  
out of whom he had driven seven demons.  
She went and told his companions who were mourning and weeping.  
When they heard that he was alive  
and had been seen by her, they did not believe.  
  
After this he appeared in another form  
to two of them walking along on their way to the country.  
They returned and told the others;  
but they did not believe them either.  
  
But later, as the Eleven were at table, he appeared to them  
and rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart  
because they had not believed those  
who saw him after he had been raised.  
He said to them, “Go into the whole world  
and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.”

**Day 148**

# April 27, 2014

### Second Sunday of Easter Sunday of Divine Mercy Lectionary: 43

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 2:42-47](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/2:42)

They devoted themselves   
to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life,   
to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.  
Awe came upon everyone,  
and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.  
All who believed were together and had all things in common;  
they would sell their property and possessions  
and divide them among all according to each one’s need.  
Every day they devoted themselves  
to meeting together in the temple area  
and to breaking bread in their homes.  
They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart,  
praising God and enjoying favor with all the people.  
And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/118:2)

R/ (1) **Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Let the house of Israel say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”  
Let the house of Aaron say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”  
Let those who fear the LORD say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”  
R/ **Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
I was hard pressed and was falling,  
but the LORD helped me.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
The joyful shout of victory  
in the tents of the just:   
R/ **Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
By the LORD has this been done;  
it is wonderful in our eyes.  
This is the day the LORD has made;  
let us be glad and rejoice in it.  
R/ **Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 20:19-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/20:19)

On the evening of that first day of the week,  
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,  
for fear of the Jews,  
Jesus came and stood in their midst  
and said to them, “Peace be with you.”  
When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.  
The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.  
Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you.  
As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”  
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,  
“Receive the Holy Spirit.  
Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,  
and whose sins you retain are retained.”  
  
Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve,  
was not with them when Jesus came.  
So the other disciples said to him, “We have seen the Lord.”  
But he said to them,  
“Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands  
and put my finger into the nailmarks  
and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”  
  
Now a week later his disciples were again inside  
and Thomas was with them.  
Jesus came, although the doors were locked,  
and stood in their midst and said, “Peace be with you.”  
Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands,  
and bring your hand and put it into my side,  
and do not be unbelieving, but believe.”  
Thomas answered and said to him, “My Lord and my God!”  
Jesus said to him, “Have you come to believe because you have seen me?  
Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”  
  
Now, Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples  
that are not written in this book.  
But these are written that you may come to believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,  
and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

**Day 149**

# April 28, 2014

### Monday of the Second Week of Easter Lectionary: 267

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 4:23-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/4:23)

After their release Peter and John went back to their own people  
and reported what the chief priests and elders had told them.  
And when they heard it,  
they raised their voices to God with one accord  
and said, “Sovereign Lord, maker of heaven and earth  
and the sea and all that is in them,  
you said by the Holy Spirit  
through the mouth of our father David, your servant:  
  
Why did the Gentiles rageand the peoples entertain folly?The kings of the earth took their standand the princes gathered togetheragainst the Lord and against his anointed.  
  
Indeed they gathered in this city  
against your holy servant Jesus whom you anointed,  
Herod and Pontius Pilate,  
together with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,  
to do what your hand and your will  
had long ago planned to take place.  
And now, Lord, take note of their threats,  
and enable your servants to speak your word  
with all boldness, as you stretch forth your hand to heal,  
and signs and wonders are done  
through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”  
As they prayed, the place where they were gathered shook,  
and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit  
and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 2:1-3, 4-7A, 7B-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/2:1)

R. (see 11d) **Blessed are all who take refuge in the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples utter folly?  
The kings of the earth rise up,  
and the princes conspire together  
against the LORD and against his anointed:  
“Let us break their fetters  
and cast their bonds from us!”  
R.**Blessed are all who take refuge in the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
He who is throned in heaven laughs;  
the LORD derides them.  
Then in anger he speaks to them;  
he terrifies them in his wrath:  
“I myself have set up my king  
on Zion, my holy mountain.”  
I will proclaim the decree of the LORD.  
R. **Blessed are all who take refuge in the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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.  
You shall rule them with an iron rod;  
you shall shatter them like an earthen dish.”  
R. **Blessed are all who take refuge in the Lord.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 3:1-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/3:1)

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.  
He came to Jesus at night and said to him,  
“Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God,  
for no one can do these signs that you are doing  
unless God is with him.”  
Jesus answered and said to him,  
“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
unless one is born from above, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.”   
Nicodemus said to him,  
“How can a man once grown old be born again?  
Surely he cannot reenter his mother’s womb and be born again, can he?”  
Jesus answered,  
“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
unless one is born of water and Spirit  
he cannot enter the Kingdom of God.  
What is born of flesh is flesh  
and what is born of spirit is spirit.  
Do not be amazed that I told you,  
‘You must be born from above.’  
The wind blows where it wills,  
and you can hear the sound it makes,  
but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes;  
so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

**Day 150**

# April 29, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 268

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 4:32-37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/4:32)

The community of believers was of one heart and mind,  
and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own,  
but they had everything in common.  
With great power the Apostles bore witness  
to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus,  
and great favor was accorded them all.  
There was no needy person among them,  
for those who owned property or houses would sell them,  
bring the proceeds of the sale,  
and put them at the feet of the Apostles,  
and they were distributed to each according to need.  
  
Thus Joseph, also named by the Apostles Barnabas  
(which is translated “son of encouragement”),  
a Levite, a Cypriot by birth,  
sold a piece of property that he owned,  
then brought the money and put it at the feet of the Apostles.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 93:1AB, 1CD-2, 5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/93:1)

R. (1a) **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The LORD is king, in splendor robed;  
robed is the LORD and girt about with strength.  
R. **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
And he has made the world firm,  
not to be moved.  
Your throne stands firm from of old;  
from everlasting you are, O LORD.  
R. **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Your decrees are worthy of trust indeed:  
holiness befits your house,  
O LORD, for length of days.  
R. **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 3:7B-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/3:7)

Jesus said to Nicodemus:  
“‘You must be born from above.’  
The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes,  
but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes;  
so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”  
Nicodemus answered and said to him,  
‘How can this happen?”  
Jesus answered and said to him,  
“You are the teacher of Israel and you do not understand this?  
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
we speak of what we know and we testify to what we have seen,  
but you people do not accept our testimony.  
If I tell you about earthly things and you do not believe,  
how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?  
No one has gone up to heaven  
except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man.  
And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,  
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,  
so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

**Day 151**

# April 30, 2014

### Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter Lectionary: 269

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 5:17-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/5:17)

The high priest rose up and all his companions,  
that is, the party of the Sadducees,  
and, filled with jealousy,  
laid hands upon the Apostles and put them in the public jail.  
But during the night, the angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison,  
led them out, and said,  
“Go and take your place in the temple area,  
and tell the people everything about this life.”  
When they heard this,  
they went to the temple early in the morning and taught.  
When the high priest and his companions arrived,  
they convened the Sanhedrin,  
the full senate of the children of Israel,  
and sent to the jail to have them brought in.  
But the court officers who went did not find them in the prison,  
so they came back and reported,  
“We found the jail securely locked  
and the guards stationed outside the doors,  
but when we opened them, we found no one inside.”  
When the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests heard this report,   
they were at a loss about them,  
as to what this would come to.  
Then someone came in and reported to them,  
“The men whom you put in prison are in the temple area  
and are teaching the people.”   
Then the captain and the court officers went and brought them,  
but without force,  
because they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/34:2)

R. (7a) **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him, and delivers them.  
Taste and see how good the LORD is;  
blessed the man who takes refuge in him.  
R. **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia**.

#### Gospel [JN 3:16-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/3:16)

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish  
but might have eternal life.  
For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.  
Whoever believes in him will not be condemned,  
but whoever does not believe has already been condemned,  
because he has not believed in the name of the only-begotten Son of God.  
And this is the verdict,  
that the light came into the world,  
but people preferred darkness to light,  
because their works were evil.  
For everyone who does wicked things hates the light  
and does not come toward the light,  
so that his works might not be exposed.  
But whoever lives the truth comes to the light,  
so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

**Day 152**

# May 1, 2014

### Thursday of the Second Week of Easter Lectionary: 270

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 5:27-33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/5:27)

When the court officers had brought the Apostles in  
and made them stand before the Sanhedrin,  
the high priest questioned them,  
“We gave you strict orders did we not,  
to stop teaching in that name.  
Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching  
and want to bring this man’s blood upon us.”  
But Peter and the Apostles said in reply,  
“We must obey God rather than men.   
The God of our ancestors raised Jesus,  
though you had him killed by hanging him on a tree.  
God exalted him at his right hand as leader and savior  
to grant Israel repentance and forgiveness of sins.  
We are witnesses of these things,  
as is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”  
  
When they heard this,  
they became infuriated and wanted to put them to death.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 34:2 AND 9, 17-18, 19-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/34:2)

R. (7a) **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall be ever in my mouth.  
Taste and see how good the LORD is;  
blessed the man who takes refuge in him.  
R. **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
The LORD confronts the evildoers,  
to destroy remembrance of them from the earth.  
When the just cry out, the LORD hears them,  
and from all their distress he rescues them.  
R. **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;  
and those who are crushed in spirit he saves.  
Many are the troubles of the just man,  
but out of them all the LORD delivers him.  
R. **The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 3:31-36](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/3:31)

The one who comes from above is above all.  
The one who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of earthly things.  
But the one who comes from heaven is above all.  
He testifies to what he has seen and heard,  
but no one accepts his testimony.  
Whoever does accept his testimony certifies that God is trustworthy.  
For the one whom God sent speaks the words of God.  
He does not ration his gift of the Spirit.  
The Father loves the Son and has given everything over to him.  
Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life,  
but whoever disobeys the Son will not see life,  
but the wrath of God remains upon him.

**Day 153**

# May 2, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 271

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 5:34-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/5:34)

A Pharisee in the Sanhedrin named Gamaliel,  
a teacher of the law, respected by all the people,  
stood up, ordered the Apostles to be put outside for a short time,  
and said to the Sanhedrin, “Fellow children of Israel,  
be careful what you are about to do to these men.  
Some time ago, Theudas appeared, claiming to be someone important,  
and about four hundred men joined him, but he was killed,  
and all those who were loyal to him  
were disbanded and came to nothing.  
After him came Judas the Galilean at the time of the census.  
He also drew people after him,  
but he too perished and all who were loyal to him were scattered.  
So now I tell you,  
have nothing to do with these men, and let them go.  
For if this endeavor or this activity is of human origin,  
it will destroy itself.  
But if it comes from God, you will not be able to destroy them;  
you may even find yourselves fighting against God.”  
They were persuaded by him.  
After recalling the Apostles, they had them flogged,  
ordered them to stop speaking in the name of Jesus,  
and dismissed them.  
So they left the presence of the Sanhedrin,  
rejoicing that they had been found worthy  
to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name.  
And all day long, both at the temple and in their homes,  
they did not stop teaching and proclaiming the Christ, Jesus.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 27:1, 4, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/27:1)

R. (see 4abc) **One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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. **One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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.**One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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. **One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 6:1-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/6:1)

Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee.  
A large crowd followed him,  
because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick.  
Jesus went up on the mountain,  
and there he sat down with his disciples.   
The Jewish feast of Passover was near.  
When Jesus raised his eyes and saw that a large crowd was coming to him,  
he said to Philip, “Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?”  
He said this to test him,  
because he himself knew what he was going to do.  
Philip answered him,  
“Two hundred days’ wages worth of food would not be enough  
for each of them to have a little.”  
One of his disciples,  
Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him,  
“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish;  
but what good are these for so many?”  
Jesus said, “Have the people recline.”   
Now there was a great deal of grass in that place.   
So the men reclined, about five thousand in number.  
Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks,  
and distributed them to those who were reclining,  
and also as much of the fish as they wanted.  
When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples,  
“Gather the fragments left over,  
so that nothing will be wasted.”  
So they collected them,  
and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments  
from the five barley loaves that had been more than they could eat.  
When the people saw the sign he had done, they said,  
“This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world.”   
Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off  
to make him king,  
he withdrew again to the mountain alone.

**Day 154**

# May 3, 2014

### Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles Lectionary: 561

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 15:1-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/15:1)

I am reminding you, brothers and sisters,  
of the Gospel I preached to you,  
which you indeed received and in which you also stand.  
Through it you are also being saved,  
if you hold fast to the word I preached to you,  
unless you believed in vain.  
For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received:  
that Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
that he was buried;  
that he was raised on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve.  
After that, he appeared to more  
than five hundred brothers and sisters at once,  
most of whom are still living,  
though some have fallen asleep.  
After that he appeared to James,  
then to all the Apostles.  
Last of all, as to one born abnormally,  
he appeared to me.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 19:2-3, 4-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/19:2)

R. (5)**Their message goes out through all the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The heavens declare the glory of God;  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.  
Day pours out the word to day;  
and night to night imparts knowledge.  
R. **Their message goes out through all the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Not a word nor a discourse  
whose voice is not heard;  
Through all the earth their voice resounds,  
and to the ends of the world, their message.  
R. **Their message goes out through all the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 14:6-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/14:6)

Jesus said to Thomas, “I am the way and the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, then you will also know my Father.  
From now on you do know him and have seen him.”  
Philip said to him,   
“Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.”  
Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time  
and you still do not know me, Philip?  
Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.  
How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?  
Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?  
The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own.  
The Father who dwells in me is doing his works.   
Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me,  
or else, believe because of the works themselves.  
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
whoever believes in me will do the works that I do,  
and will do greater ones than these,  
because I am going to the Father.  
And whatever you ask in my name, I will do,  
so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.  
If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it.”

**Day 155**

# May 4, 2014

### Third Sunday of Easter Lectionary: 46

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 2:14, 22-33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/2:14)

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven,  
raised his voice, and proclaimed:  
“You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem.  
Let this be known to you, and listen to my words.  
You who are Israelites, hear these words.  
Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God  
with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs,  
which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know.  
This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God,  
you killed, using lawless men to crucify him.  
But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death,  
because it was impossible for him to be held by it.  
For David says of him:  
I saw the Lord ever before me,with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted;my flesh, too, will dwell in hope,because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld,nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption.You have made known to me the paths of life;you will fill me with joy in your presence.  
  
“My brothers, one can confidently say to you  
about the patriarch David that he died and was buried,  
and his tomb is in our midst to this day.  
But since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him  
that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne,  
he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ,  
that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld  
nor did his flesh see corruption.  
God raised this Jesus;  
of this we are all witnesses.  
Exalted at the right hand of God,  
he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father  
and poured him forth, as you see and hear.”

#### Reading 2 [1 PT 1:17-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1peter/1:17)

Beloved:  
If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially  
according to each one’s works,  
conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning,  
realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct,  
handed on by your ancestors,  
not with perishable things like silver or gold  
but with the precious blood of Christ  
as of a spotless unblemished lamb.  
  
He was known before the foundation of the world   
but revealed in the final time for you,  
who through him believe in God  
who raised him from the dead and gave him glory,  
so that your faith and hope are in God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/16:1)

R/ (11a) **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;  
I say to the LORD, “My Lord are you.”  
O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.  
R/ **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**  
or:  
R/**Alleluia.**  
I bless the LORD who counsels me;  
even in the night my heart exhorts me.  
I set the LORD ever before me;  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.  
R/**Lord, you will show us the path of life.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,   
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.  
R/ **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
You will show me the path to life,  
abounding joy in your presence,  
the delights at your right hand forever.  
R/ **Lord, you will show us the path of life.**  
or:  
R/**Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [LK 24:13-35](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/24:13)

That very day, the first day of the week,   
two of Jesus’ disciples were going  
to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus,  
and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.  
And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,  
Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,  
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.  
He asked them,   
“What are you discussing as you walk along?”  
They stopped, looking downcast.  
One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply,  
“Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem  
who does not know of the things  
that have taken place there in these days?”  
And he replied to them, “What sort of things?”  
They said to him,   
“The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene,  
who was a prophet mighty in deed and word  
before God and all the people,  
how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over  
to a sentence of death and crucified him.  
But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel;  
and besides all this,  
it is now the third day since this took place.  
Some women from our group, however, have astounded us:  
they were at the tomb early in the morning   
and did not find his body;  
they came back and reported  
that they had indeed seen a vision of angels  
who announced that he was alive.  
Then some of those with us went to the tomb  
and found things just as the women had described,  
but him they did not see.”  
And he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are!  
How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!  
Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things  
and enter into his glory?”  
Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,  
he interpreted to them what referred to him  
in all the Scriptures.  
As they approached the village to which they were going,  
he gave the impression that he was going on farther.  
But they urged him, “Stay with us,  
for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.”  
So he went in to stay with them.  
And it happened that, while he was with them at table,  
he took bread, said the blessing,  
broke it, and gave it to them.  
With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,  
but he vanished from their sight.  
Then they said to each other,  
“Were not our hearts burning within us  
while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?”  
So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem  
where they found gathered together  
the eleven and those with them who were saying,  
“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”  
Then the two recounted   
what had taken place on the way  
and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

**Day 156**

# May 5, 2014

### Monday of the Third Week of Easter Lectionary: 273

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 6:8-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/6:8)

Stephen, filled with grace and power,  
was working great wonders and signs among the people.  
Certain members of the so-called Synagogue of Freedmen,  
Cyreneans, 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.  
Then they instigated some men to say,  
“We have heard him speaking blasphemous words  
against Moses and God.”  
They stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes,  
accosted him, seized him,  
and brought him before the Sanhedrin.  
They presented false witnesses who testified,  
“This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law.  
For we have heard him claim  
that this Jesus the Nazorean will destroy this place  
and change the customs that Moses handed down to us.”  
All those who sat in the Sanhedrin looked intently at him  
and saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:23)

R. (1ab) **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Though princes meet and talk against me,  
your servant meditates on your statutes.  
Yes, your decrees are my delight;  
they are my counselors.  
R. **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
I declared my ways, and you answered me;  
teach me your statutes.  
Make me understand the way of your precepts,  
and I will meditate on your wondrous deeds.  
R. **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Remove from me the way of falsehood,  
and favor me with your law.  
The way of truth I have chosen;  
I have set your ordinances before me.  
R. **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 6:22-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/6:22)

[After Jesus had fed the five thousand men, his disciples saw him walking on the sea.]  
The next day, the crowd that remained across the sea  
saw that there had been only one boat there,  
and that Jesus had not gone along with his disciples in the boat,  
but only his disciples had left.  
Other boats came from Tiberias  
near the place where they had eaten the bread  
when the Lord gave thanks.  
When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there,  
they themselves got into boats  
and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus.  
And when they found him across the sea they said to him,  
“Rabbi, when did you get here?”  
Jesus answered them and said,  
“Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me  
not because you saw signs  
but because you ate the loaves and were filled.  
Do not work for food that perishes  
but for the food that endures for eternal life,  
which the Son of Man will give you.   
For on him the Father, God, has set his seal.”   
So they said to him,  
“What can we do to accomplish the works of God?”  
Jesus answered and said to them,  
“This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent.”

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**Day 157**

# May 6, 2014

### Tuesday of the Third Week of Easter Lectionary: 274

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 7:51-8:1A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/7:51)

Stephen said to the people, the elders, and the scribes:  
“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears,  
you always oppose the Holy Spirit;  
you are just like your ancestors.  
Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute?  
They put to death those who foretold the coming of the righteous one,  
whose betrayers and murderers you have now become.  
You received the law as transmitted by angels,  
but you did not observe it.”  
  
When they heard this, they were infuriated,  
and they ground their teeth at him.  
But Stephen, 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 Stephen 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.”  
Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice,  
“Lord, do not hold this sin against them”;  
and when he said this, he fell asleep.  
  
Now Saul was consenting to his execution.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 31:3CD-4, 6 AND 7B AND 8A, 17 AND 21AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/31:3)

R. (6a) **Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Into your hands I commend my spirit;  
you will redeem me, O LORD, O faithful God.  
My trust is in the LORD;  
I will rejoice and be glad of your mercy.  
R. **Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your kindness.  
You hide them in the shelter of your presence  
from the plottings of men.  
R. **Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 6:30-35](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/6:30)

The crowd said to Jesus:  
“What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you?  
What can you do?  
Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written:  
  
He gave them bread from heaven to eat.”  
  
So Jesus said to them,  
“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven;  
my Father gives you the true bread from heaven.   
For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world.”  
  
So they said to Jesus,  
“Sir, give us this bread always.”   
Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life;  
whoever comes to me will never hunger,  
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

**Day 158**

# May 7, 2014

### Wednesday of the Third Week of Easter Lectionary: 275

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 8:1B-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/8:1)

There broke out a severe persecution of the Church in Jerusalem,  
and all were scattered  
throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria,  
except the Apostles.  
Devout men buried Stephen and made a loud lament over him.  
Saul, meanwhile, was trying to destroy the Church;  
entering house after house and dragging out men and women,  
he handed them over for imprisonment.  
  
Now those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.  
Thus Philip went down to the city of Samaria  
and proclaimed the Christ to them.  
With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip  
when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing.  
For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice,  
came out of many possessed people,  
and many paralyzed and crippled people were cured.  
There was great joy in that city.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 66:1-3A, 4-5, 6-7A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/66:1)

R. (1) **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Shout joyfully to God, all the earth,  
sing praise to the glory of his name;  
proclaim his glorious praise.  
Say to God, “How tremendous are your deeds!”  
R.**Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
“Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you,  
sing praise to your name!”  
Come and see the works of God,  
his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam.  
R. **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
He has changed the sea into dry land;  
through the river they passed on foot;  
therefore let us rejoice in him.  
He rules by his might forever.  
R. **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 6:35-40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/6:35)

Jesus said to the crowds,  
“I am the bread of life;  
whoever comes to me will never hunger,  
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.  
But I told you that although you have seen me,  
you do not believe.  
Everything that the Father gives me will come to me,  
and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,  
because I came down from heaven not to do my own will  
but the will of the one who sent me.  
And this is the will of the one who sent me,  
that I should not lose anything of what he gave me,  
but that I should raise it on the last day.  
For this is the will of my Father,  
that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him  
may have eternal life,  
and I shall raise him on the last day.”

**Day 159**

# May 8, 2014

### Thursday of the Third Week of Easter Lectionary: 276

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 8:26-40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/8:26)

The angel of the Lord spoke to Philip,  
“Get up and head south on the road  
that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza, the desert route.”   
So he got up and set out.   
Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch,  
a court official of the Candace,  
that is, the queen of the Ethiopians,  
in charge of her entire treasury,  
who had come to Jerusalem to worship, and was returning home.  
Seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.  
The Spirit said to Philip,  
“Go and join up with that chariot.”   
Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and said,  
“Do you understand what you are reading?”   
He replied,  
“How can I, unless someone instructs me?”   
So he invited Philip to get in and sit with him.   
This was the Scripture passage he was reading:  
  
Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,so he opened not his mouth.In his humiliation justice was denied him.Who will tell of his posterity?For his life is taken from the earth.  
  
Then the eunuch said to Philip in reply,  
“I beg you, about whom is the prophet saying this?  
About himself, or about someone else?”   
Then Philip opened his mouth and, beginning with this Scripture passage,  
he proclaimed Jesus to him.  
As they traveled along the road  
they came to some water,  
and the eunuch said, “Look, there is water.   
What is to prevent my being baptized?”   
Then he ordered the chariot to stop,  
and Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water,  
and he baptized him.   
When they came out of the water,  
the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away,  
and the eunuch saw him no more,  
but continued on his way rejoicing.   
Philip came to Azotus, and went about proclaiming the good news  
to all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 66:8-9, 16-17, 20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/66:8)

R. (1)**Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
Bless our God, you peoples,  
loudly sound his praise;  
He has given life to our souls,  
and has not let our feet slip.  
R. **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare  
what he has done for me.  
When I appealed to him in words,  
praise was on the tip of my tongue.  
R. **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Blessed be God who refused me not  
my prayer or his kindness!  
R. **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 6:44-51](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/6:44)

Jesus said to the crowds:  
“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him,  
and I will raise him on the last day.  
It is written in the prophets:  
  
They shall all be taught by God.  
  
Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me.  
Not that anyone has seen the Father  
except the one who is from God;  
he has seen the Father.   
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
whoever believes has eternal life.   
I am the bread of life.   
Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died;  
this is the bread that comes down from heaven  
so that one may eat it and not die.   
I am the living bread that came down from heaven;  
whoever eats this bread will live forever;  
and the bread that I will give  
is my Flesh for the life of the world.”

**Day 160**

# May 9, 2014

### Friday of the Third Week of Easter Lectionary: 277

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 9:1-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/9:1)

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.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 117:1BC, 2](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/117:1)

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

#### Gospel [JN 6:52-59](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/6:52)

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,  
“How can this man give us his Flesh to eat?”   
Jesus said to them,  
“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink his Blood,  
you do not have life within you.   
Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood  
has eternal life,  
and I will raise him on the last day.  
For my Flesh is true food,  
and my Blood is true drink.   
Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood  
remains in me and I in him.  
Just as the living Father sent me  
and I have life because of the Father,  
so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.   
This is the bread that came down from heaven.   
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,  
whoever eats this bread will live forever.”   
These things he said while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

**Day 161**

# May 10, 2014

### Saturday of the Third Week of Easter Lectionary: 278

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 9:31-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/9:31)

The Church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria  
was at peace.   
She was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord,  
and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit she grew in numbers.  
  
As Peter was passing through every region,  
he went down to the holy ones living in Lydda.   
There he found a man named Aeneas,  
who had been confined to bed for eight years, for he was paralyzed.   
Peter said to him,  
“Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed.”   
He got up at once.   
And all the inhabitants of Lydda and Sharon saw him,  
and they turned to the Lord.  
  
Now in Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha  
(which translated is Dorcas).   
She was completely occupied with good deeds and almsgiving.   
Now during those days she fell sick and died,  
so after washing her, they laid her out in a room upstairs.   
Since Lydda was near Joppa,  
the disciples, hearing that Peter was there,  
sent two men to him with the request,  
“Please come to us without delay.”   
So Peter got up and went with them.   
When he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs  
where all the widows came to him weeping  
and showing him the tunics and cloaks  
that Dorcas had made while she was with them.   
Peter sent them all out and knelt down and prayed.   
Then he turned to her body and said, “Tabitha, rise up.”   
She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up.   
He gave her his hand and raised her up,  
and when he had called the holy ones and the widows,  
he presented her alive.   
This became known all over Joppa,  
and many came to believe in the Lord.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/116:12)

R. (12) **How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?**  
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. **How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?**  
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.  
R. **How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
O LORD, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;  
you have loosed my bonds.  
To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.  
R. **How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 6:60-69](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/6:60)

Many of the disciples of Jesus who were listening said,  
“This saying is hard; who can accept it?”  
Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this,  
he said to them, “Does this shock you?  
What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?  
It is the Spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail.  
The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life.  
But there are some of you who do not believe.”  
Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe  
and the one who would betray him.  
And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me  
unless it is granted him by my Father.”  
  
As a result of this,  
many of his disciples returned to their former way of life  
and no longer walked with him.  
Jesus then said to the Twelve, “Do you also want to leave?”  
Simon Peter answered him, “Master, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
We have come to believe  
and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

**Day 162**

# May 11, 2014

### Fourth Sunday of Easter Lectionary: 49

#### Reading 1[ACTS 2:14A, 36-41](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/2:14)

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven,  
raised his voice, and proclaimed:  
“Let the whole house of Israel know for certain  
that God has made both Lord and Christ,  
this Jesus whom you crucified.”  
  
Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart,  
and they asked Peter and the other apostles,  
“What are we to do, my brothers?”  
Peter said to them,  
“Repent and be baptized, every one of you,  
in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins;  
and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.  
For the promise is made to you and to your children  
and to all those far off,  
whomever the Lord our God will call.”  
He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them,  
“Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”  
Those who accepted his message were baptized,  
and about three thousand persons were added that day.

#### Reading 2 [1 PT 2:20B-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1peter/2:20)

Beloved:  
If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good,  
this is a grace before God.  
For to this you have been called,  
because Christ also suffered for you,  
leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps.  
He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.  
  
When he was insulted, he returned no insult;  
when he suffered, he did not threaten;  
instead, he handed himself over to the one who judges justly.  
He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross,  
so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.  
By his wounds you have been healed.  
For you had gone astray like sheep,  
but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 23:1-2A, 3B-4, 5, 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

R/  (1) **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**  
or:  
R/  **Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R/  **Alleluia.**  
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/  **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**  
or:  
R/  **Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R/**Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R/  **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 10:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/10:1)

Jesus said:  
“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate  
but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber.  
But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.  
The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice,  
as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.  
When he has driven out all his own,  
he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him,  
because they recognize his voice.  
But they will not follow a stranger;  
they will run away from him,  
because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.”  
Although Jesus used this figure of speech,  
the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them.  
  
So Jesus said again, “Amen, amen, I say to you,  
I am the gate for the sheep.  
All who came before me are thieves and robbers,  
but the sheep did not listen to them.  
I am the gate.  
Whoever enters through me will be saved,  
and will come in and go out and find pasture.  
A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy;  
I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”

**Day 163**

# May 12, 2014

### Monday of the Fourth Week of Easter Lectionary: 279

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 11:1-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/11:1)

The Apostles and the brothers who were in Judea  
heard that the Gentiles too had accepted the word of God.   
So when Peter went up to Jerusalem  
the circumcised believers confronted him, saying,  
‘You entered the house of uncircumcised people and ate with them.”   
Peter began and explained it to them step by step, saying,  
“I was at prayer in the city of Joppa  
when in a trance I had a vision,  
something resembling a large sheet coming down,  
lowered from the sky by its four corners, and it came to me.   
Looking intently into it,  
I observed and saw the four-legged animals of the earth,  
the wild beasts, the reptiles, and the birds of the sky.   
I also heard a voice say to me, ‘Get up, Peter. Slaughter and eat.’   
But I said, ‘Certainly not, sir,  
because nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’   
But a second time a voice from heaven answered,  
‘What God has made clean, you are not to call profane.’   
This happened three times,  
and then everything was drawn up again into the sky.  
Just then three men appeared at the house where we were,  
who had been sent to me from Caesarea.   
The Spirit told me to accompany them without discriminating.   
These six brothers also went with me,  
and we entered the man’s house.   
He related to us how he had seen the angel standing in his house, saying,  
‘Send someone to Joppa and summon Simon, who is called Peter,  
who will speak words to you   
by which you and all your household will be saved.’   
As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them  
as it had upon us at the beginning,  
and I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said,  
‘John baptized with water  
but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’   
If then God gave them the same gift he gave to us  
when we came to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ,  
who was I to be able to hinder God?”  
When they heard this,  
they stopped objecting and glorified God, saying,  
“God has then granted life-giving repentance to the Gentiles too.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 42:2-3; 43:3, 4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/42:2)

R. (see 3a)**Athirst is my soul for the living God.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
As the hind longs for the running waters,  
so my soul longs for you, O God.  
Athirst is my soul for God, the living God.  
When shall I go and behold the face of God?  
R. **Athirst is my soul for the living God.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Send forth your light and your fidelity;  
they shall lead me on  
And bring me to your holy mountain,  
to your dwelling-place.  
R. **Athirst is my soul for the living God.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Then will I go in to the altar of God,  
the God of my gladness and joy;  
Then will I give you thanks upon the harp,  
O God, my God!  
R. **Athirst is my soul for the living God.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 10:11-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/10:11)

Jesus said:  
“I am the good shepherd.  
A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.  
A hired man, who is not a shepherd  
and whose sheep are not his own,  
sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away,  
and the wolf catches and scatters them.  
This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep.  
I am the good shepherd,  
and I know mine and mine know me,  
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father;  
and I will lay down my life for the sheep.  
I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold.  
These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice,  
and there will be one flock, one shepherd.  
This is why the Father loves me,  
because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own.  
I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again.  
This command I have received from my Father.”

**Day 164**

# May 13, 2014

### Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Easter Lectionary: 280

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 11:19-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/11:19)

Those who had been scattered by the persecution  
that arose because of Stephen  
went as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch,  
preaching the word to no one but Jews.  
There were some Cypriots and Cyrenians among them, however,  
who came to Antioch and began to speak to the Greeks as well,  
proclaiming the Lord Jesus.   
The hand of the Lord was with them  
and a great number who believed turned to the Lord.   
The news about them reached the ears of the Church in Jerusalem,  
and they sent Barnabas to go to Antioch.  
When he arrived and saw the grace of God,  
he rejoiced and encouraged them all  
to remain faithful to the Lord in firmness of heart,  
for he was a good man, filled with the Holy Spirit and faith.  
And a large number of people was added to the Lord.   
Then he went to Tarsus to look for Saul,  
and when he had found him he brought him to Antioch.   
For a whole year they met with the Church  
and taught a large number of people,  
and it was in Antioch that the disciples  
were first called Christians.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 87:1B-3, 4-5, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/87:1)

R. (117:1a) **All you nations, praise the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
His foundation upon the holy mountains  
the LORD loves:  
The gates of Zion,  
more than any dwelling of Jacob.  
Glorious things are said of you,  
O city of God!  
R. **All you nations, praise the Lord.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
I tell of Egypt and Babylon  
among those who know the LORD;  
Of Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia:  
“This man was born there.”  
And of Zion they shall say:  
“One and all were born in her;  
And he who has established her  
is the Most High LORD.”  
R. **All you nations, praise the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
They shall note, when the peoples are enrolled:  
“This man was born there.”  
And all shall sing, in their festive dance:  
“My home is within you.”  
R. **All you nations, praise the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 10:22-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/10:22)

The feast of the Dedication was taking place in Jerusalem.  
It was winter.   
And Jesus walked about in the temple area on the Portico of Solomon.   
So the Jews gathered around him and said to him,  
“How long are you going to keep us in suspense?   
If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.”   
Jesus answered them, “I told you and you do not believe.  
The works I do in my Father’s name testify to me.  
But you do not believe, because you are not among my sheep.  
My sheep hear my voice;  
I know them, and they follow me.   
I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish.   
No one can take them out of my hand.   
My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all,  
and no one can take them out of the Father’s hand.   
The Father and I are one.”

**Day 165**

# May 14, 2014

### Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle Lectionary: 564

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 1:15-17, 20-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/1:15)

Peter stood up in the midst of the brothers and sisters  
(there was a group of about one hundred and twenty persons  
in the one place).  
He said, “My brothers and sisters,  
the Scripture had to be fulfilled  
which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand  
through the mouth of David, concerning Judas,  
who was the guide for those who arrested Jesus.  
Judas was numbered among us  
and was allotted a share in this ministry.  
For it is written in the Book of Psalms:  
  
Let his encampment become desolate,and may no one dwell in it.  
and:  
May another take his office.  
  
Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men   
who accompanied us the whole time   
the Lord Jesus came and went among us,  
beginning from the baptism of John  
until the day on which he was taken up from us,  
become with us a witness to his resurrection.”  
So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas,  
who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.  
Then they prayed,  
“You, Lord, who know the hearts of all,  
show which one of these two you have chosen  
to take the place in this apostolic ministry  
from which Judas turned away to go to his own place.”  
Then they gave lots to them, and the lot fell upon Matthias,  
and he was counted with the Eleven Apostles.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/113:1)

R. (8) **The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Praise, you servants of the LORD,  
praise the name of the LORD.  
Blessed be the name of the LORD  
both now and forever.  
R. **The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
From the rising to the setting of the sun  
is the name of the LORD to be praised.  
High above all nations is the LORD;  
above the heavens is his glory.  
R.**The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high  
and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?  
R. **The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
He raises up the lowly from the dust;  
from the dunghill he lifts up the poor  
To seat them with princes,  
with the princes of his own people.  
R. **The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 15:9-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/15:9)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“As the Father loves me, so I also love you.  
Remain in my love.  
If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father’s commandments  
and remain in his love.  
  
“I have told you this so that my joy might be in you  
and your joy might be complete.  
This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.  
No one has greater love than this,  
to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.  
You are my friends if you do what I command you.  
I no longer call you slaves,  
because a slave does not know what his master is doing.  
I have called you friends,  
because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.  
It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you  
and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain,  
so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.  
This I command you: love one another.”

**Day 166**

# May 15, 2014

### Thursday of the Fourth Week of Easter Lectionary: 282

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 13:13-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/13:13)

From Paphos, Paul and his companions  
set sail and arrived at Perga in Pamphylia.   
But John left them and returned to Jerusalem.   
They continued on from Perga and reached Antioch in Pisidia.   
On the sabbath they entered into the synagogue and took their seats.   
After the reading of the law and the prophets,  
the synagogue officials sent word to them,  
“My brothers, if one of you has a word of exhortation  
for the people, please speak.”  
  
So Paul got up, motioned with his hand, and said,  
“Fellow children of Israel and you others who are God-fearing, listen.  
The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors  
and exalted the people during their sojourn in the land of Egypt.   
With uplifted arm he led them out,  
and for about forty years he put up with them in the desert.  
When he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan,  
he gave them their land as an inheritance  
at the end of about four hundred and fifty years.  
After these things he provided judges up to Samuel the prophet.   
Then they asked for a king.  
God gave them Saul, son of Kish,  
a man from the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years.   
Then he removed him and raised up David as their king;  
of him he testified,  
I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart;he will carry out my every wish.  
From this man’s descendants God, according to his promise,  
has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus.   
John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance  
to all the people of Israel;  
and as John was completing his course, he would say,  
‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he.  
Behold, one is coming after me;  
I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.’“

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 AND 27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/89:2)

R. (2) **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
“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. **For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
“My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him,  
and through my name shall his horn be exalted.  
He shall say of me, ‘You are my father,  
my God, the Rock, my savior.’”  
R.**For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 13:16-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/13:16)

When Jesus had washed the disciples’ feet, he said to them:  
“Amen, amen, I say to you, no slave is greater than his master  
nor any messenger greater than the one who sent him.  
If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it.  
I am not speaking of all of you.  
I know those whom I have chosen.  
But so that the Scripture might be fulfilled,  
The one who ate my food has raised his heel against me.  
From now on I am telling you before it happens,  
so that when it happens you may believe that I AM.   
Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send  
receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.”

**Day 167**

# May 16, 2014

### Friday of the Fourth Week of Easter Lectionary: 283

#### Reading 1 Acts [13:26-33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/13:26)

When Paul came to Antioch in Pisidia, he said in the synagogue:  
“My brothers, children of the family of Abraham,  
and those others among you who are God-fearing,  
to us this word of salvation has been sent.   
The inhabitants of Jerusalem and their leaders failed to recognize him,  
and by condemning him they fulfilled the oracles of the prophets  
that are read sabbath after sabbath.   
For even though they found no grounds for a death sentence,  
they asked Pilate to have him put to death,  
and when they had accomplished all that was written about him,  
they took him down from the tree and placed him in a tomb.   
But God raised him from the dead,  
and for many days he appeared to those  
who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem.   
These are now his witnesses before the people.  
We ourselves are proclaiming this good news to you  
that what God promised our fathers  
he has brought to fulfillment for us, their children, by raising up Jesus,  
as it is written in the second psalm,  
You are my Son; this day I have begotten you.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/2:6)

R. (7bc) **You are my Son; this day I have begotten you.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
“I myself have set up my king  
on Zion, my holy mountain.”  
I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:  
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;  
this day I have begotten you.”  
R. **You are my Son; this day I have begotten you.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
“Ask of me and I will give you  
the nations for an inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for your possession.  
You shall rule them with an iron rod;  
you shall shatter them like an earthen dish.”  
R. **You are my Son; this day I have begotten you.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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. **You are my Son; this day I have begotten you.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 14:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/14:1)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Do not let your hearts be troubled.   
You have faith in God; have faith also in me.   
In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.  
If there were not,  
would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?  
And if I go and prepare a place for you,  
I will come back again and take you to myself,  
so that where I am you also may be.  
Where I am going you know the way.”   
Thomas said to him,   
“Master, we do not know where you are going;  
how can we know the way?”   
Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life.   
No one comes to the Father except through me.”

**Day 168**

# May 17, 2014

« [May 16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/051614.cfm)  |  [May 18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/051814.cfm) »

### Saturday of the Fourth Week of Easter Lectionary: 284

#### Reading 1[ACTS 13:44-52](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/13:44)

On the following sabbath  
almost the whole city  
gathered to hear the word of the Lord.   
When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy  
and with violent abuse contradicted what Paul said.   
Both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said,  
“It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first,  
but since you reject it  
and condemn yourselves as unworthy of eternal life,  
we now turn to the Gentiles.   
For so the Lord has commanded us,  
I have made you a light to the Gentiles,that you may be an instrument of salvationto the ends of the earth.”  
  
The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this  
and glorified the word of the Lord.   
All who were destined for eternal life came to believe,  
and the word of the Lord continued to spread  
through the whole region.   
The Jews, however, incited the women of prominence who were worshipers  
and the leading men of the city,  
stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas,  
and expelled them from their territory.   
So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them  
and went to Iconium.   
The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

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

#### Gospel [JN 14:7-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/14:7)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“If you know me, then you will also know my Father.   
From now on you do know him and have seen him.”   
Philip said to Jesus,   
“Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.”   
Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time  
and you still do not know me, Philip?   
Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.   
How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?   
Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?   
The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own.   
The Father who dwells in me is doing his works.   
Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me,  
or else, believe because of the works themselves.   
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
whoever believes in me will do the works that I do,  
and will do greater ones than these,  
because I am going to the Father.   
And whatever you ask in my name, I will do,  
so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.   
If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it.”

**Day 169**

# May 18, 2014

### Fifth Sunday of Easter Lectionary: 52

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 6:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/6:1)

As the number of disciples continued to grow,  
the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews  
because their widows  
were being neglected in the daily distribution.  
So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said,  
“It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table.  
Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men,  
filled with the Spirit and wisdom,  
whom we shall appoint to this task,  
whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer  
and to the ministry of the word.”  
The proposal was acceptable to the whole community,  
so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit,  
also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas,  
and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism.  
They presented these men to the apostles  
who prayed and laid hands on them.  
The word of God continued to spread,  
and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly;  
even a large group of priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:1)

R/ (22) **Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Exult, you just, in the LORD;  
praise from the upright is fitting.  
Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;  
with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises.  
R/ **Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
R/ **Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,  
upon those who hope for his kindness,  
To deliver them from death  
and preserve them in spite of famine.  
R/ **Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 14:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/14:1)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
You have faith in God; have faith also in me.  
In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.  
If there were not,  
would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?  
And if I go and prepare a place for you,  
I will come back again and take you to myself,  
so that where I am you also may be.  
Where I am going you know the way.”  
Thomas said to him,  
“Master, we do not know where you are going;  
how can we know the way?”  
Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, then you will also know my Father.  
From now on you do know him and have seen him.”  
Philip said to him,  
“Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.”  
Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time  
and you still do not know me, Philip?  
Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.  
How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?  
Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?  
The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own.  
The Father who dwells in me is doing his works.  
Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me,  
or else, believe because of the works themselves.  
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
whoever believes in me will do the works that I do,  
and will do greater ones than these,  
because I am going to the Father.”

**Day 170**

# May 19, 2014

### Monday of the Fifth Week of Easter Lectionary: 285

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 14:5-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/14:5)

There was an attempt in Iconium  
by both the Gentiles and the Jews,  
together with their leaders,  
to attack and stone Paul and Barnabas.  
They realized it,  
and fled to the Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe  
and to the surrounding countryside,  
where they continued to proclaim the Good News.  
  
At Lystra there was a crippled man, lame from birth,  
who had never walked.   
He listened to Paul speaking, who looked intently at him,  
saw that he had the faith to be healed,  
and called out in a loud voice, “Stand up straight on your feet.”  
He jumped up and began to walk about.  
When the crowds saw what Paul had done,  
they cried out in Lycaonian,  
“The gods have come down to us in human form.”   
They called Barnabas “Zeus” and Paul “Hermes,”  
because he was the chief speaker.  
And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city,  
brought oxen and garlands to the gates,  
for he together with the people intended to offer sacrifice.  
  
The Apostles Barnabas and Paul tore their garments  
when they heard this and rushed out into the crowd, shouting,  
“Men, why are you doing this?   
We are of the same nature as you, human beings.   
We proclaim to you good news  
that you should turn from these idols to the living God,  
who made heaven and earth and sea and all that is in them.  
In past generations he allowed all Gentiles to go their own ways;  
yet, in bestowing his goodness,  
he did not leave himself without witness,  
for he gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons,  
and filled you with nourishment and gladness for your hearts.”  
Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds  
from offering sacrifice to them.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/115:1)

R. (1ab) **Not to us, O Lord, but to your name give the glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Not to us, O LORD, not to us  
but to your name give glory  
because of your mercy, because of your truth.  
Why should the pagans say,  
“Where is their God?”  
R. **Not to us, O Lord, but to your name give the glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Our God is in heaven;  
whatever he wills, he does.  
Their idols are silver and gold,  
the handiwork of men.  
R. **Not to us, O Lord, but to your name give the glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
May you be blessed by the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.  
Heaven is the heaven of the LORD,  
but the earth he has given to the children of men.  
R.**Not to us, O Lord, but to your name give the glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 14:21-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/14:21)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Whoever has my commandments and observes them  
is the one who loves me.  
Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father,  
and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”  
Judas, not the Iscariot, said to him,  
“Master, then what happened that you will reveal yourself to us  
and not to the world?”  
Jesus answered and said to him,  
“Whoever loves me will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.  
Whoever does not love me does not keep my words;  
yet the word you hear is not mine  
but that of the Father who sent me.  
  
“I have told you this while I am with you.  
The Advocate, the Holy Spirit   
whom the Father will send in my name—   
he will teach you everything  
and remind you of all that I told you.”

**Day 171**

# May 20, 2014

### Tuesday of Fifth Week of Easter Lectionary: 286

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 14:19-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/14:19)

In those days, some Jews from Antioch and Iconium  
arrived and won over the crowds.   
They stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city,  
supposing that he was dead.  
But when the disciples gathered around him,  
he got up and entered the city.   
On the following day he left with Barnabas for Derbe.  
  
After they had proclaimed the good news to that city  
and made a considerable number of disciples,  
they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch.  
They strengthened the spirits of the disciples  
and exhorted them to persevere in the faith, saying,  
“It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships  
to enter the Kingdom of God.”  
They appointed presbyters for them in each Church and,  
with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord  
in whom they had put their faith.  
Then they traveled through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia.  
After proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia.  
From there they sailed to Antioch,  
where they had been commended to the grace of God  
for the work they had now accomplished.   
And when they arrived, they called the Church together  
and reported what God had done with them  
and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.  
Then they spent no little time with the disciples.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:10-11, 12-13AB, 21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:10)

R. (see 12) **Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD,  
and let your faithful ones bless you.  
Let them discourse of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your might.  
R. **Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Making known to men your might  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.  
Your kingdom is a kingdom for all ages,  
and your dominion endures through all generations.  
R. **Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
May my mouth speak the praise of the LORD,  
and may all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.  
R. **Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 14:27-31A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/14:27)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
Not as the world gives do I give it to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.  
You heard me tell you,  
‘I am going away and I will come back to you.’  
If you loved me,  
you would rejoice that I am going to the Father;  
for the Father is greater than I.  
And now I have told you this before it happens,  
so that when it happens you may believe.  
I will no longer speak much with you,  
for the ruler of the world is coming.  
He has no power over me,  
but the world must know that I love the Father  
and that I do just as the Father has commanded me.”

**Day 172**

# May 21, 2014

### Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Easter Lectionary: 287

#### Reading 1`[ACTS 15:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/15:1)

Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers,  
“Unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice,  
you cannot be saved.”  
Because there arose no little dissension and debate  
by Paul and Barnabas with them,  
it was decided that Paul, Barnabas, and some of the others  
should go up to Jerusalem to the Apostles and presbyters  
about this question.   
They were sent on their journey by the Church,  
and passed through Phoenicia and Samaria  
telling of the conversion of the Gentiles,  
and brought great joy to all the brethren.  
When they arrived in Jerusalem,  
they were welcomed by the Church,  
as well as by the Apostles and the presbyters,  
and they reported what God had done with them.  
But some from the party of the Pharisees who had become believers  
stood up and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them  
and direct them to observe the Mosaic law.”  
  
The Apostles and the presbyters met together to see about this matter.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 122:1-2, 3-4AB, 4CD-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/122:1)

R. (see 1)  **Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 15:1-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/15:1)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.  
He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit,  
and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.  
You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.  
Remain in me, as I remain in you.  
Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own  
unless it remains on the vine,  
so neither can you unless you remain in me.  
I am the vine, you are the branches.  
Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit,  
because without me you can do nothing.  
Anyone who does not remain in me  
will be thrown out like a branch and wither;  
people will gather them and throw them into a fire  
and they will be burned.  
If you remain in me and my words remain in you,  
ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.  
By this is my Father glorified,  
that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

**Day 173**

# May 22, 2014

### Thursday of the Fifth Week of Easter Lectionary: 288

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 15:7-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/15:7)

After much debate had taken place,  
Peter got up and said to the Apostles and the presbyters,  
“My brothers, you are well aware that from early days  
God made his choice among you that through my mouth  
the Gentiles would hear the word of the Gospel and believe.  
And God, who knows the heart,  
bore witness by granting them the Holy Spirit  
just as he did us.  
He made no distinction between us and them,  
for by faith he purified their hearts.  
Why, then, are you now putting God to the test  
by placing on the shoulders of the disciples  
a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear?  
On the contrary, we believe that we are saved  
through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they.”  
The whole assembly fell silent,  
and they listened  
while Paul and Barnabas described the signs and wonders  
God had worked among the Gentiles through them.  
  
After they had fallen silent, James responded,  
“My brothers, listen to me.  
Symeon has described how God first concerned himself  
with acquiring from among the Gentiles a people for his name.  
The words of the prophets agree with this, as is written:  
  
After this I shall returnand rebuild the fallen hut of David;from its ruins I shall rebuild itand raise it up again,so that the rest of humanity may seek out the Lord,even all the Gentiles on whom my name is invoked.Thus says the Lord who accomplishes these things,known from of old.  
  
It is my judgment, therefore,  
that we ought to stop troubling the Gentiles who turn to God,  
but tell them by letter to avoid pollution from idols,  
unlawful marriage, the meat of strangled animals, and blood.  
For Moses, for generations now,  
has had those who proclaim him in every town,  
as he has been read in the synagogues every sabbath.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 96:1-2A, 2B-3, 10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/96:1)

R. (3)**Proclaim God’s marvelous deeds to all the nations.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all you lands.  
Sing to the LORD; bless his name.  
R.**Proclaim God’s marvelous deeds to all the nations.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Announce his salvation, day after day.  
Tell his glory among the nations;  
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.  
R. **Proclaim God’s marvelous deeds to all the nations.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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. **Proclaim God’s marvelous deeds to all the nations.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 15:9-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/15:9)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“As the Father loves me, so I also love you.  
Remain in my love.  
If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father’s commandments  
and remain in his love.  
  
“I have told you this so that  
my joy might be in you and  
your joy might be complete.”

**Day 174**

# May 23, 2014

### Friday of the Fifth Week of Easter Lectionary: 289

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 15:22-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/15:22)

The Apostles and presbyters, in agreement with the whole Church,  
decided to choose representatives  
and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas.   
The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas,  
and Silas, leaders among the brothers.  
This is the letter delivered by them:  
“The Apostles and the presbyters, your brothers,  
to the brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia  
of Gentile origin: greetings.  
Since we have heard that some of our number  
who went out without any mandate from us  
have upset you with their teachings  
and disturbed your peace of mind,  
we have with one accord decided to choose representatives  
and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,  
who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
So we are sending Judas and Silas  
who will also convey this same message by word of mouth:  
‘It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us  
not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities,  
namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols,  
from blood, from meats of strangled animals,  
and from unlawful marriage.  
If you keep free of these,  
you will be doing what is right. Farewell.’“  
  
And so they were sent on their journey.  
Upon their arrival in Antioch  
they called the assembly together and delivered the letter.  
When the people read it, they were delighted with the exhortation.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 57:8-9, 10 AND 12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/57:8)

R. (10a) **I will give you thanks among the peoples, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
My heart is steadfast, O God; my heart is steadfast;  
I will sing and chant praise.  
Awake, O my soul; awake, lyre and harp!  
I will wake the dawn.  
R. **I will give you thanks among the peoples, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
I will give thanks to you among the peoples, O LORD,  
I will chant your praise among the nations.  
For your mercy towers to the heavens,  
and your faithfulness to the skies.  
Be exalted above the heavens, O God;  
above all the earth be your glory!  
R. **I will give you thanks among the peoples, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 15:12-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/15:12)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.  
No one has greater love than this,  
to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.  
You are my friends if you do what I command you.  
I no longer call you slaves,  
because a slave does not know what his master is doing.  
I have called you friends,  
because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.  
It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you  
and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain,  
so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.  
This I command you: love one another.”

**Day 175**

# May 24, 2014

### Saturday of the Fifth Week of Easter Lectionary: 290

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 16:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/16:1)

Paul reached also Derbe and Lystra  
where there was a disciple named Timothy,  
the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer,  
but his father was a Greek.  
The brothers in Lystra and Iconium spoke highly of him,  
and Paul wanted him to come along with him.  
On account of the Jews of that region, Paul had him circumcised,  
for they all knew that his father was a Greek.  
As they traveled from city to city,  
they handed on to the people for observance the decisions  
reached by the Apostles and presbyters in Jerusalem.  
Day after day the churches grew stronger in faith  
and increased in number.  
  
They traveled through the Phrygian and Galatian territory  
because they had been prevented by the Holy Spirit  
from preaching the message in the province of Asia.  
When they came to Mysia, they tried to go on into Bithynia,  
but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them,  
so they crossed through Mysia and came down to Troas.  
During the night Paul had a vision.  
A Macedonian stood before him and implored him with these words,  
“Come over to Macedonia and help us.”  
When he had seen the vision,  
we sought passage to Macedonia at once,   
concluding that God had called us to proclaim the Good News to them.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 100:1B-2, 3, 5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/100:1)

R. (2a) **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;  
serve the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful song.  
R. **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Know that the LORD is God;  
he made us, his we are;  
his people, the flock he tends.  
R. **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The LORD is good:  
his kindness endures forever,  
and his faithfulness, to all generations.  
R. **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 15:18-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/15:18)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“If the world hates you, realize that it hated me first.  
If you belonged to the world, the world would love its own;  
but because you do not belong to the world,  
and I have chosen you out of the world,  
the world hates you.  
Remember the word I spoke to you,  
‘No slave is greater than his master.’  
If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.  
If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.  
And they will do all these things to you on account of my name,  
because they do not know the one who sent me.”

**Day 176**

# May 25, 2014

### Sixth Sunday of Easter Lectionary: 55

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 8:5-8, 14-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/8:5)

Philip went down to the city of Samaria  
and proclaimed the Christ to them.  
With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip  
when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing.  
For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice,  
came out of many possessed people,  
and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured.  
There was great joy in that city.  
  
Now when the apostles in Jerusalem  
heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God,  
they sent them Peter and John,  
who went down and prayed for them,  
that they might receive the Holy Spirit,  
for it had not yet fallen upon any of them;  
they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.  
Then they laid hands on them  
and they received the Holy Spirit.

#### Reading 2 [1 PT 3:15-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1peter/3:15)

Beloved:  
Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts.  
Always be ready to give an explanation  
to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope,  
but do it with gentleness and reverence,  
keeping your conscience clear,  
so that, when you are maligned,  
those who defame your good conduct in Christ  
may themselves be put to shame.  
For it is better to suffer for doing good,  
if that be the will of God, than for doing evil.  
  
For Christ also suffered for sins once,  
the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous,  
that he might lead you to God.  
Put to death in the flesh,  
he was brought to life in the Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/66:1)

R/ (1) **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Shout joyfully to God, all the earth,  
sing praise to the glory of his name;  
proclaim his glorious praise.  
Say to God, “How tremendous are your deeds!”  
R/ **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
“Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you,  
sing praise to your name!”  
Come and see the works of God,  
his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam.  
R/ **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
He has changed the sea into dry land;  
through the river they passed on foot;  
therefore let us rejoice in him.  
He rules by his might forever.  
R/ **Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Hear now, all you who fear God, while I declare  
what he has done for me.  
Blessed be God who refused me not  
my prayer or his kindness!  
R/**Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 14:15-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/14:15)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.  
And I will ask the Father,   
and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always,  
the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept,  
because it neither sees nor knows him.  
But you know him, because he remains with you,  
and will be in you.  
I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.  
In a little while the world will no longer see me,  
but you will see me, because I live and you will live.  
On that day you will realize that I am in my Father  
and you are in me and I in you.  
Whoever has my commandments and observes them  
is the one who loves me.  
And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father,  
and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”

**Day 177**

# May 26, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Philip Neri, Priest Lectionary: 291

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 16:11-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/16:11)

We set sail from Troas, making a straight run for Samothrace,  
and on the next day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi,  
a leading city in that district of Macedonia and a Roman colony.  
We spent some time in that city.  
On the sabbath we went outside the city gate along the river  
where we thought there would be a place of prayer.  
We sat and spoke with the women who had gathered there.  
One of them, a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth,  
from the city of Thyatira, a worshiper of God, listened,  
and the Lord opened her heart to pay attention  
to what Paul was saying.  
After she and her household had been baptized,  
she offered us an invitation,  
“If you consider me a believer in the Lord,  
come and stay at my home,” and she prevailed on us.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 149:1B-2, 3-4, 5-6A AND 9B](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/149:1)

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.**

#### Gospel [JN 15:26-16:4A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/15:26)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“When the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father,  
the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father,  
he will testify to me.  
And you also testify,  
because you have been with me from the beginning.  
  
“I have told you this so that you may not fall away.  
They will expel you from the synagogues;  
in fact, the hour is coming when everyone who kills you  
will think he is offering worship to God.  
They will do this because they have not known either the Father or me.  
I have told you this so that when their hour comes  
you may remember that I told you.”

**Day 178**

# May 27, 2014

### Tuesday of the Sixth Week of Easter Lectionary: 292

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 16:22-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/16:22)

The crowd in Philippi joined in the attack on Paul and Silas,  
and the magistrates had them stripped  
and ordered them to be beaten with rods.  
After inflicting many blows on them,  
they threw them into prison  
and instructed the jailer to guard them securely.  
When he received these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell  
and secured their feet to a stake.  
  
About midnight, while Paul and Silas were praying  
and singing hymns to God as the prisoners listened,  
there was suddenly such a severe earthquake  
that the foundations of the jail shook;  
all the doors flew open, and the chains of all were pulled loose.   
When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open,  
he drew his sword and was about to kill himself,  
thinking that the prisoners had escaped.  
But Paul shouted out in a loud voice,  
“Do no harm to yourself; we are all here.”  
He asked for a light and rushed in and,  
trembling with fear, he fell down before Paul and Silas.  
Then he brought them out and said,  
“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”  
And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus  
and you and your household will be saved.”  
So they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to everyone in his house.  
He took them in at that hour of the night and bathed their wounds;  
then he and all his family were baptized at once.  
He brought them up into his house and provided a meal  
and with his household rejoiced at having come to faith in God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 138:1-2AB, 2CDE-3, 7C-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/138:1)

R. (7c) **Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,  
for you have heard the words of my mouth;  
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;  
I will worship at your holy temple,  
and give thanks to your name.  
R. **Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Because of your kindness and your truth,  
you have made great above all things  
your name and your promise.  
When I called, you answered me;  
you built up strength within me.  
R. **Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Your right hand saves me.  
The LORD will complete what he has done for me;  
your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;  
forsake not the work of your hands.  
R. **Your right hand saves me, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 16:5-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/16:5)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Now I am going to the one who sent me,  
and not one of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’  
But because I told you this, grief has filled your hearts.  
But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go.  
For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you.  
But if I go, I will send him to you.  
And when he comes he will convict the world  
in regard to sin and righteousness and condemnation:  
sin, because they do not believe in me;   
righteousness, because I am going to the Father  
and you will no longer see me;  
condemnation, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.”

**Day 179**

# May 28, 2014

### Wednesday of the Sixth Week of Easter Lectionary: 293

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 17:15, 22-18:1](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/17:15)

After Paul’s escorts had taken him to Athens,  
they came away with instructions for Silas and Timothy  
to join him as soon as possible.  
  
Then Paul stood up at the Areopagus and said:  
“You Athenians, I see that in every respect  
you are very religious.  
For as I walked around looking carefully at your shrines,  
I even discovered an altar inscribed, ‘To an Unknown God.’  
What therefore you unknowingly worship, I proclaim to you.  
The God who made the world and all that is in it,  
the Lord of heaven and earth,  
does not dwell in sanctuaries made by human hands,  
nor is he served by human hands because he needs anything.  
Rather it is he who gives to everyone life and breath and everything.  
He made from one the whole human race  
to dwell on the entire surface of the earth,  
and he fixed the ordered seasons and the boundaries of their regions,  
so that people might seek God,  
even perhaps grope for him and find him,  
though indeed he is not far from any one of us.  
For ‘In him we live and move and have our being,’  
as even some of your poets have said,  
‘For we too are his offspring.’  
Since therefore we are the offspring of God,  
we ought not to think that the divinity is like an image  
fashioned from gold, silver, or stone by human art and imagination.  
God has overlooked the times of ignorance,  
but now he demands that all people everywhere repent  
because he has established a day on which he will ‘judge the world  
with justice’ through a man he has appointed,  
and he has provided confirmation for all  
by raising him from the dead.”  
  
When they heard about resurrection of the dead,  
some began to scoff, but others said,  
“We should like to hear you on this some other time.”  
And so Paul left them.  
But some did join him, and became believers.  
Among them were Dionysius,  
a member of the Court of the Areopagus,  
a woman named Damaris, and others with them.  
  
After this he left Athens and went to Corinth.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/148:1)

R. **Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights.  
Praise him, all you his angels;  
praise him, all you his hosts.  
R. **Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Let the kings of the earth and all peoples,  
the princes and all the judges of the earth,  
Young men too, and maidens,  
old men and boys.  
R. **Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
His majesty is above earth and heaven.  
R. **Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
He has lifted up the horn of his people;  
Be this his praise from all his faithful ones,  
from the children of Israel, the people close to him.   
Alleluia.  
R. **Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 16:12-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/16:12)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now.  
But when he comes, the Spirit of truth,  
he will guide you to all truth.  
He will not speak on his own,  
but he will speak what he hears,  
and will declare to you the things that are coming.  
He will glorify me,  
because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you.  
Everything that the Father has is mine;  
for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine  
and declare it to you.”

**Day 180**

# May 29, 2014 | The Ascension Of The Lord

### The Ascension of the Lord Lectionary: 58

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 1:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/1:11)

In the first book, Theophilus,  
I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught  
until the day he was taken up,  
after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit  
to the apostles whom he had chosen.  
He presented himself alive to them  
by many proofs after he had suffered,  
appearing to them during forty days  
and speaking about the kingdom of God.  
While meeting with the them,  
he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem,  
but to wait for “the promise of the Father  
about which you have heard me speak;  
for John baptized with water,  
but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”  
  
When they had gathered together they asked him,  
“Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”  
He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons  
that the Father has established by his own authority.  
But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you,  
and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem,  
throughout Judea and Samaria,  
and to the ends of the earth.”  
When he had said this, as they were looking on,  
he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.  
While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going,  
suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them.  
They said, “Men of Galilee,  
why are you standing there looking at the sky?  
This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven  
will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

#### Reading 2 [EPH 1:17-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/1:17)

Brothers and sisters:  
May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,  
give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation  
resulting in knowledge of him.  
May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened,  
that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call,  
what are the riches of glory  
in his inheritance among the holy ones,  
and what is the surpassing greatness of his power  
for us who believe,  
in accord with the exercise of his great might,  
which he worked in Christ,  
raising him from the dead  
and seating him at his right hand in the heavens,  
far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion,  
and every name that is named  
not only in this age but also in the one to come.  
And he put all things beneath his feet  
and gave him as head over all things to the church,  
which is his body,  
the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/47:2)

R/ (6) **God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
All you peoples, clap your hands,  
shout to God with cries of gladness,  
For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome,  
is the great king over all the earth.  
R/ **God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy;  
the LORD, amid trumpet blasts.  
Sing praise to God, sing praise;  
sing praise to our king, sing praise.  
R/**God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
For king of all the earth is God;  
sing hymns of praise.  
God reigns over the nations,  
God sits upon his holy throne.  
R/**God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MT 28:16-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/28:16)

The eleven disciples went to Galilee,  
to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.  
When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.  
Then Jesus approached and said to them,  
“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,  
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.  
And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

# May 29, 2014 | Thursday Of The Sixth Week Of Easter

### Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter Lectionary: 294

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 18:1-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/18:1)

Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.  
There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus,  
who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla  
because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome.  
He went to visit them and, because he practiced the same trade,  
stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade.  
Every sabbath, he entered into discussions in the synagogue,  
attempting to convince both Jews and Greeks.  
  
When Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia,  
Paul began to occupy himself totally with preaching the word,  
testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.  
When they opposed him and reviled him,  
he shook out his garments and said to them,  
“Your blood be on your heads!  
I am clear of responsibility.   
From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”  
So he left there and went to a house  
belonging to a man named Titus Justus, a worshiper of God;  
his house was next to a synagogue.  
Crispus, the synagogue official, came to believe in the Lord  
along with his entire household, and many of the Corinthians  
who heard believed and were baptized.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

R. (see 2b) **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**  
or:   
R.**Alleluia.**  
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. **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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. **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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. **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 16:16-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/16:16)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“A little while and you will no longer see me,  
and again a little while later and you will see me.”  
So some of his disciples said to one another,  
“What does this mean that he is saying to us,  
‘A little while and you will not see me,  
and again a little while and you will see me,’  
and ‘Because I am going to the Father’?”  
So they said, “What is this ‘little while’ of which he speaks?  
We do not know what he means.”   
Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them,  
“Are you discussing with one another what I said,  
‘A little while and you will not see me,  
and again a little while and you will see me’?  
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices;  
you will grieve, but your grief will become joy.”

**Day 181**

# May 30, 2014

### Friday of the Sixth Week of Easter Lectionary: 295

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 18:9-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/18:9)

One night while Paul was in Corinth, the Lord said to him in a vision,  
“Do not be afraid.  
Go on speaking, and do not be silent, for I am with you.  
No one will attack and harm you,  
for I have many people in this city.”  
He settled there for a year and a half  
and taught the word of God among them.  
  
But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia,  
the Jews rose up together against Paul  
and brought him to the tribunal, saying,  
“This man is inducing people to worship God contrary to the law.”  
When Paul was about to reply, Gallio spoke to the Jews,  
“If it were a matter of some crime or malicious fraud,  
I should with reason hear the complaint of you Jews;  
but since it is a question of arguments over doctrine and titles  
and your own law, see to it yourselves.  
I do not wish to be a judge of such matters.”  
And he drove them away from the tribunal.  
They all seized Sosthenes, the synagogue official,  
and beat him in full view of the tribunal.  
But none of this was of concern to Gallio.  
  
Paul remained for quite some time,  
and after saying farewell to the brothers he sailed for Syria,  
together with Priscilla and Aquila.  
At Cenchreae he had shaved his head because he had taken a vow.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/47:2)

R. (8a) **God is king of all the earth.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
All you peoples, clap your hands,  
shout to God with cries of gladness,  
For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome,  
is the great king over all the earth.   
R. **God is king of all the earth.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
He brings people under us;  
nations under our feet.  
He chooses for us our inheritance,  
the glory of Jacob, whom he loves.  
R. **God is king of all the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy;  
the LORD, amid trumpet blasts.  
Sing praise to God, sing praise;  
sing praise to our king, sing praise.  
R. **God is king of all the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 16:20-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/16:20)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn,  
while the world rejoices;  
you will grieve, but your grief will become joy.  
When a woman is in labor, she is in anguish because her hour has arrived;  
but when she has given birth to a child,  
she no longer remembers the pain because of her joy  
that a child has been born into the world.  
So you also are now in anguish.  
But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice,  
and no one will take your joy away from you.  
On that day you will not question me about anything.  
Amen, amen, I say to you,  
whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you.”

**Day 182**

# May 31, 2014

### Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lectionary: 572

#### Reading 1 [ZEP 3:14-18A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/zephaniah/3:14)

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.

#### Or [ROM 12:9-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/12:9)

Brothers and sisters:  
Let love be sincere;  
hate what is evil,  
hold on to what is good;  
love one another with mutual affection;  
anticipate one another in showing honor.  
Do not grow slack in zeal,  
be fervent in spirit,  
serve the Lord.  
Rejoice in hope,  
endure in affliction,  
persevere in prayer.  
Contribute to the needs of the holy ones,  
exercise hospitality.  
Bless those who persecute you,  
bless and do not curse them.  
Rejoice with those who rejoice,  
weep with those who weep.  
Have the same regard for one another;  
do not be haughty but associate with the lowly;  
do not be wise in your own estimation.

#### Gospel [LK 1:39-56](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/1:39)

Mary set out  
and traveled to the hill country in haste  
to a town of Judah,  
where she entered the house of Zechariah  
and greeted Elizabeth.  
When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting,  
the infant leaped in her womb,  
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,  
cried out in a loud voice and said,  
“Most blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.  
And how does this happen to me,  
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?  
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,  
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.  
Blessed are you who believed  
that what was spoken to you by the Lord  
would be fulfilled.”  
  
And Mary said:  
“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
  
He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.”  
  
Mary remained with her about three months  
and then returned to her home.

**Day 183**

# June 1, 2014 | Seventh Sunday Of Easter

### Seventh Sunday of Easter Lectionary: 59

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 1:12-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/1:12)

After Jesus had been taken up to heaven the apostles  
returned to Jerusalem  
from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem,  
a sabbath day’s journey away.  
  
When they entered the city  
they went to the upper room where they were staying,  
Peter and John and James and Andrew,  
Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew,  
James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot,  
and Judas son of James.  
All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer,  
together with some women,  
and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

#### Reading 2 [1 PT 4:13-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1peter/4:13)

Beloved:  
Rejoice to the extent that you share in the sufferings of Christ,  
so that when his glory is revealed  
you may also rejoice exultantly.  
If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you,  
for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.  
But let no one among you be made to suffer  
as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as an intriguer.  
But whoever is made to suffer as a Christian should not be ashamed  
but glorify God because of the name.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 27:1, 4, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/27:1)

R/ (13)**I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
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/**I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**  
or:  
R/**Alleluia.**  
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/ **I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**  
or:  
R/**Alleluia.**  
Hear, O Lord, the sound of my call;  
have pity on me, and answer me.  
Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.  
R/ **I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 17:1-11A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/17:1)

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said,  
“Father, the hour has come.  
Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you,  
just as you gave him authority over all people,  
so that your son may give eternal life to all you gave him.  
Now this is eternal life,  
that they should know you, the only true God,  
and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ.  
I glorified you on earth  
by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do.  
Now glorify me, Father, with you,  
with the glory that I had with you before the world began.  
  
“I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world.  
They belonged to you, and you gave them to me,  
and they have kept your word.  
Now they know that everything you gave me is from you,  
because the words you gave to me I have given to them,  
and they accepted them and truly understood that I came from you,  
and they have believed that you sent me.  
I pray for them.  
I do not pray for the world but for the ones you have given me,  
because they are yours, and everything of mine is yours  
and everything of yours is mine,  
and I have been glorified in them.  
And now I will no longer be in the world,  
but they are in the world, while I am coming to you.”

**Day 184**

# June 2, 2014

### Monday of the Seventh Week of Easter Lectionary: 297

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 19:1-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/19:1)

While Apollos was in Corinth,  
Paul traveled through the interior of the country  
and down to Ephesus where he found some disciples.   
He said to them,  
“Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?”  
They answered him,  
“We have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”  
He said, “How were you baptized?”  
They replied, “With the baptism of John.”  
Paul then said, “John baptized with a baptism of repentance,  
telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him,  
that is, in Jesus.”  
When they heard this,  
they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.  
And when Paul laid his hands on them,  
the Holy Spirit came upon them,  
and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.  
Altogether there were about twelve men.  
  
He entered the synagogue, and for three months debated boldly  
with persuasive arguments about the Kingdom of God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 68:2-3AB, 4-5ACD, 6-7AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/68:2)

R. (33a) **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
God arises; his enemies are scattered,  
and those who hate him flee before him.  
As smoke is driven away, so are they driven;  
as wax melts before the fire.   
R. **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
But the just rejoice and exult before God;  
they are glad and rejoice.  
Sing to God, chant praise to his name;  
whose name is the LORD.   
R. **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The father of orphans and the defender of widows  
is God in his holy dwelling.  
God gives a home to the forsaken;  
he leads forth prisoners to prosperity.  
R. **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 16:29-33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/16:29)

The disciples said to Jesus,  
“Now you are talking plainly, and not in any figure of speech.  
Now we realize that you know everything  
and that you do not need to have anyone question you.  
Because of this we believe that you came from God.”  
Jesus answered them, “Do you believe now?  
Behold, the hour is coming and has arrived  
when each of you will be scattered to his own home  
and you will leave me alone.  
But I am not alone, because the Father is with me.  
I have told you this so that you might have peace in me.  
In the world you will have trouble,  
but take courage, I have conquered the world.”

**Day 185**

# June 3, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs Lectionary: 298

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 20:17-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/20:17)

From Miletus Paul had the presbyters  
of the Church at Ephesus summoned.   
When they came to him, he addressed them,  
“You know how I lived among you  
the whole time from the day I first came to the province of Asia.  
I served the Lord with all humility  
and with the tears and trials that came to me  
because of the plots of the Jews,  
and I did not at all shrink from telling you  
what was for your benefit,  
or from teaching you in public or in your homes.  
I earnestly bore witness for both Jews and Greeks  
to repentance before God and to faith in our Lord Jesus.  
But now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem.  
What will happen to me there I do not know,  
except that in one city after another  
the Holy Spirit has been warning me  
that imprisonment and hardships await me.  
Yet I consider life of no importance to me,  
if only I may finish my course  
and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus,  
to bear witness to the Gospel of God’s grace.  
  
“But now I know that none of you  
to whom I preached the kingdom during my travels  
will ever see my face again.  
And so I solemnly declare to you this day  
that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you,  
for I did not shrink from proclaiming to you the entire plan of God.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 68:10-11, 20-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/68:10)

R. (33a)**Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
A bountiful rain you showered down, O God, upon your inheritance;  
you restored the land when it languished;  
Your flock settled in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you provided it for the needy.  
R. **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Blessed day by day be the Lord,  
who bears our burdens; God, who is our salvation.  
God is a saving God for us;  
the LORD, my Lord, controls the passageways of death.   
R. **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 17:1-11A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/17:1)

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said,  
“Father, the hour has come.  
Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you,  
just as you gave him authority over all people,  
so that your son may give eternal life to all you gave him.  
Now this is eternal life,  
that they should know you, the only true God,  
and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ.  
I glorified you on earth  
by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do.  
Now glorify me, Father, with you,  
with the glory that I had with you before the world began.  
  
“I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world.  
They belonged to you, and you gave them to me,  
and they have kept your word.  
Now they know that everything you gave me is from you,  
because the words you gave to me I have given to them,  
and they accepted them and truly understood that I came from you,  
and they have believed that you sent me.  
I pray for them.  
I do not pray for the world but for the ones you have given me,  
because they are yours, and everything of mine is yours  
and everything of yours is mine,  
and I have been glorified in them.  
And now I will no longer be in the world,  
but they are in the world, while I am coming to you.”

**Day 186**

# June 4, 2014

### Wednesday of the Seventh Week of Easter Lectionary: 299

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 20:28-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/20:28)

At Miletus, Paul spoke to the presbyters of the Church of Ephesus:  
“Keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock  
of which the Holy Spirit has appointed you overseers,  
in which you tend the Church of God  
that he acquired with his own Blood.  
I know that after my departure savage wolves will come among you,  
and they will not spare the flock.  
And from your own group, men will come forward perverting the truth  
to draw the disciples away after them.  
So be vigilant and remember that for three years, night and day,  
I unceasingly admonished each of you with tears.  
And now I commend you to God  
and to that gracious word of his that can build you up  
and give you the inheritance among all who are consecrated.  
I have never wanted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing.  
You know well that these very hands  
have served my needs and my companions.  
In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort  
we must help the weak,  
and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said,  
‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”  
  
When he had finished speaking  
he knelt down and prayed with them all.  
They were all weeping loudly  
as they threw their arms around Paul and kissed him,  
for they were deeply distressed that he had said  
that they would never see his face again.  
Then they escorted him to the ship.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 68:29-30, 33-35A, 35BC-36AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/68:29)

R. (33a) **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Show forth, O God, your power,  
the power, O God, with which you took our part;  
For your temple in Jerusalem  
let the kings bring you gifts.  
R.**Sing to God, O Kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
You kingdoms of the earth, sing to God,  
chant praise to the Lord  
who rides on the heights of the ancient heavens.  
Behold, his voice resounds, the voice of power:  
“Confess the power of God!”  
R. **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Over Israel is his majesty;  
his power is in the skies.  
Awesome in his sanctuary is God, the God of Israel;  
he gives power and strength to his people.  
R. **Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 17:11B-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/17:11)

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed, saying:  
“Holy Father, keep them in your name  
that you have given me,  
so that they may be one just as we are one.  
When I was with them I protected them in your name that you gave me,  
and I guarded them, and none of them was lost  
except the son of destruction,  
in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled.  
But now I am coming to you.  
I speak this in the world  
so that they may share my joy completely.  
I gave them your word, and the world hated them,  
because they do not belong to the world  
any more than I belong to the world.  
I do not ask that you take them out of the world  
but that you keep them from the Evil One.  
They do not belong to the world  
any more than I belong to the world.  
Consecrate them in the truth.   
Your word is truth.  
As you sent me into the world,  
so I sent them into the world.  
And I consecrate myself for them,  
so that they also may be consecrated in truth.”

**Day 187**

# June 5, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr Lectionary: 300

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 22:30; 23:6-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/22:30)

Wishing to determine the truth  
about why Paul was being accused by the Jews,  
the commander freed him  
and ordered the chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin to convene.  
Then he brought Paul down and made him stand before them.  
  
Paul was aware that some were Sadducees and some Pharisees,  
so he called out before the Sanhedrin,  
“My brothers, I am a Pharisee, the son of Pharisees;  
I am on trial for hope in the resurrection of the dead.”  
When he said this,  
a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and Sadducees,  
and the group became divided.  
For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection  
or angels or spirits,  
while the Pharisees acknowledge all three.  
A great uproar occurred,  
and some scribes belonging to the Pharisee party  
stood up and sharply argued,  
“We find nothing wrong with this man.  
Suppose a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?”  
The dispute was so serious that the commander,  
afraid that Paul would be torn to pieces by them,  
ordered his troops to go down and rescue Paul from their midst  
and take him into the compound.  
The following night the Lord stood by him and said, “Take courage.  
For just as you have borne witness to my cause in Jerusalem,  
so you must also bear witness in Rome.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 16:1-2A AND 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/16:1)

R. (1) **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;  
I say to the LORD, “My Lord are you.”  
O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.   
R. **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
I bless the LORD who counsels me;  
even in the night my heart exhorts me.  
I set the LORD ever before me;  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.  
R. **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
Because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.  
R. **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
You will show me the path to life,  
fullness of joys in your presence,  
the delights at your right hand forever.  
R. **Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 17:20-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/17:20)

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed saying:  
“I pray not only for these,  
but also for those who will believe in me through their word,  
so that they may all be one,  
as you, Father, are in me and I in you,  
that they also may be in us,  
that the world may believe that you sent me.  
And I have given them the glory you gave me,  
so that they may be one, as we are one,  
I in them and you in me,  
that they may be brought to perfection as one,  
that the world may know that you sent me,  
and that you loved them even as you loved me.  
Father, they are your gift to me.  
I wish that where I am they also may be with me,  
that they may see my glory that you gave me,  
because you loved me before the foundation of the world.  
Righteous Father, the world also does not know you,  
but I know you, and they know that you sent me.  
I made known to them your name and I will make it known,  
that the love with which you loved me  
may be in them and I in them.”

**Day 188**

# June 6, 2014

### Friday of the Seventh Week of Easter Lectionary: 301

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 25:13B-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/25:13)

King Agrippa and Bernice arrived in Caesarea  
on a visit to Festus.  
Since they spent several days there,  
Festus referred Paul’s case to the king, saying,  
“There is a man here left in custody by Felix.  
When I was in Jerusalem the chief priests and the elders of the Jews  
brought charges against him and demanded his condemnation.  
I answered them that it was not Roman practice  
to hand over an accused person before he has faced his accusers  
and had the opportunity to defend himself against their charge.  
So when they came together here, I made no delay;  
the next day I took my seat on the tribunal  
and ordered the man to be brought in.  
His accusers stood around him,  
but did not charge him with any of the crimes I suspected.  
Instead they had some issues with him about their own religion  
and about a certain Jesus who had died  
but who Paul claimed was alive.  
Since I was at a loss how to investigate this controversy,  
I asked if he were willing to go to Jerusalem  
and there stand trial on these charges.  
And when Paul appealed that he be held in custody  
for the Emperor’s decision,  
I ordered him held until I could send him to Caesar.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/103:1)

R. (19a) **The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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 has established his throne in heaven.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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 has established his throne in heaven.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The LORD has established his throne in heaven,   
and his kingdom rules over all.  
Bless the LORD, all you his angels,  
you mighty in strength, who do his bidding.  
R. **The Lord has established his throne in heaven.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 21:15-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/21:15)

After Jesus had revealed himself to his disciples and eaten breakfast with them,   
he said to Simon Peter,  
“Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?”  
Simon Peter answered him, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”  
Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”  
He then said to Simon Peter a second time,  
“Simon, son of John, do you love me?”  
Simon Peter answered him, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”   
He said to him, “Tend my sheep.”  
He said to him the third time,  
“Simon, son of John, do you love me?”  
Peter was distressed that he had said to him a third time,  
“Do you love me?” and he said to him,  
“Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.”  
Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.  
Amen, amen, I say to you, when you were younger,  
you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted;   
but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands,  
and someone else will dress you  
and lead you where you do not want to go.”  
He said this signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God.  
And when he had said this, he said to him, “Follow me.”

**Day 189**

# June 7, 2014

### Saturday of the Seventh Week of Easter Lectionary: 302

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 28:16-20, 30-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/28:16)

When he entered Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself,  
with the soldier who was guarding him.  
  
Three days later he called together the leaders of the Jews.  
When they had gathered he said to them, “My brothers,  
although I had done nothing against our people  
or our ancestral customs,  
I was handed over to the Romans as a prisoner from Jerusalem.  
After trying my case the Romans wanted to release me,  
because they found nothing against me deserving the death penalty.  
But when the Jews objected, I was obliged to appeal to Caesar,  
even though I had no accusation to make against my own nation.  
This is the reason, then, I have requested to see you  
and to speak with you, for it is on account of the hope of Israel  
that I wear these chains.”   
  
He remained for two full years in his lodgings.  
He received all who came to him, and with complete assurance  
and without hindrance he proclaimed the Kingdom of God  
and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 11:4, 5 AND 7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/11:4)

R. (see 7b) **The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The LORD is in his holy temple;  
the LORD’s throne is in heaven.  
His eyes behold,  
his searching glance is on mankind.  
R. **The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The LORD searches the just and the wicked;  
the lover of violence he hates.  
For the LORD is just, he loves just deeds;  
the upright shall see his face.  
R. **The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 21:20-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/21:20)

Peter turned and saw the disciple following whom Jesus loved,  
the one who had also reclined upon his chest during the supper  
and had said, “Master, who is the one who will betray you?”  
When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about him?”  
Jesus said to him, “What if I want him to remain until I come?  
What concern is it of yours?   
You follow me.”  
So the word spread among the brothers that that disciple would not die.  
But Jesus had not told him that he would not die,  
just “What if I want him to remain until I come?  
What concern is it of yours?”  
  
It is this disciple who testifies to these things  
and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true.  
There are also many other things that Jesus did,  
but if these were to be described individually,  
I do not think the whole world would contain the books  
that would be written.

**Day 190**

# June 8, 2014 | Mass During The Day

### Pentecost Sunday Mass during the Day Lectionary: 63

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 2:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/2:1)

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,  
they were all in one place together.  
And suddenly there came from the sky  
a noise like a strong driving wind,  
and it filled the entire house in which they were.  
Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,  
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.  
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit  
and began to speak in different tongues,  
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.  
  
Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem.  
At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd,  
but they were confused  
because each one heard them speaking in his own language.  
They were astounded, and in amazement they asked,  
“Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans?  
Then how does each of us hear them in his native language?  
We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites,  
inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,  
Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia,  
Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene,  
as well as travelers from Rome,  
both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs,  
yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues  
of the mighty acts of God.”

#### Reading 2 [1 COR 12:3B-7, 12-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/12:3)

Brothers and sisters:  
No one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.  
  
There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;   
there are different forms of service but the same Lord;  
there are different workings but the same God  
who produces all of them in everyone.  
To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit  
is given for some benefit.  
  
As a body is one though it has many parts,  
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body,  
so also Christ.  
For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,  
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,  
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/104:1)

R/ (cf. 30) **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!  
How manifold are your works, O Lord!  
the earth is full of your creatures;  
R/ **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
may the LORD be glad in his works!  
Pleasing to him be my theme;  
I will be glad in the LORD.  
R/ **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
or:  
R/**Alleluia.**  
If you take away their breath, they perish  
and return to their dust.  
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the earth.  
R/ **Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [JN 20:19-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/20:19)

On the evening of that first day of the week,  
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,  
for fear of the Jews,  
Jesus came and stood in their midst  
and said to them, “Peace be with you.”  
When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.  
The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.  
Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you.  
As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”  
And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,  
“Receive the Holy Spirit.  
Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,  
and whose sins you retain are retained.”

**Day 191**

# June 9, 2014

### Monday of the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 359

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 17:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/17:1)

Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab:  
“As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve,  
during these years there shall be no dew or rain except at my word.”  
The LORD then said to Elijah:  
“Leave here, go east  
and hide in the Wadi Cherith, east of the Jordan.  
You shall drink of the stream,  
and I have commanded ravens to feed you there.”  
So he left and did as the LORD had commanded.  
He went and remained by the Wadi Cherith, east of the Jordan.  
Ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning,  
and bread and meat in the evening,  
and he drank from the stream.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 121:1BC-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/121:1)

R. (see 2) **Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**  
I lift up my eyes toward the mountains;  
whence shall help come to me?  
My help is from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.  
R. **Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**  
May he not suffer your foot to slip;  
may he slumber not who guards you:  
Indeed he neither slumbers nor sleeps,  
the guardian of Israel.  
R. **Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**  
The LORD is your guardian; the LORD is your shade;  
he is beside you at your right hand.  
The sun shall not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.   
R. **Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**  
The LORD will guard you from all evil;  
he will guard your life.  
The LORD will guard your coming and your going,  
both now and forever.   
R. **Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:1)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain,  
and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.   
He began to teach them, saying:  
  
“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the land.  
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.  
Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.  
Blessed are the clean of heart,  
for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you  
and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.  
Rejoice and be glad,  
for your reward will be great in heaven.  
Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

**Day 192**

# June 10, 2014

### Tuesday of the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 360

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 17:7-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/17:7)

The brook near where Elijah was hiding ran dry,  
because no rain had fallen in the land.  
So the LORD said to Elijah:   
“Move on to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there.  
I have designated a widow there to provide for you.”  
He left and went to Zarephath.  
As he arrived at the entrance of the city,  
a widow was gathering sticks there; he called out to her,  
“Please bring me a small cupful of water to drink.”  
She left to get it, and he called out after her,  
“Please bring along a bit of bread.”  
She answered, “As the LORD, your God, lives,   
I have nothing baked;  
there is only a handful of flour in my jar  
and a little oil in my jug.  
Just now I was collecting a couple of sticks,  
to go in and prepare something for myself and my son;  
when we have eaten it, we shall die.”  
Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid.   
Go and do as you propose.  
But first make me a little cake and bring it to me.  
Then you can prepare something for yourself and your son.  
For the LORD, the God of Israel, says,  
‘The jar of flour shall not go empty,  
nor the jug of oil run dry,  
until the day when the LORD sends rain upon the earth.’”  
She left and did as Elijah had said.  
She was able to eat for a year, and Elijah and her son as well;  
the jar of flour did not go empty,  
nor the jug of oil run dry,  
as the LORD had foretold through Elijah.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 4:2-3, 4-5, 7B-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/4:2)

R. (7a) **Lord, let your face shine on us.**  
When I call, answer me, O my just God,  
you who relieve me when I am in distress;  
Have pity on me, and hear my prayer!  
Men of rank, how long will you be dull of heart?  
Why do you love what is vain and seek after falsehood?  
R. **Lord, let your face shine on us.**  
Know that the LORD does wonders for his faithful one;  
the LORD will hear me when I call upon him.  
Tremble, and sin not;  
reflect, upon your beds, in silence.   
R. **Lord, let your face shine on us.**  
O LORD, let the light of your countenance shine upon us!  
You put gladness into my heart,  
more than when grain and wine abound.  
R. **Lord, let your face shine on us.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:13-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:13)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“You are the salt of the earth.  
But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?  
It is no longer good for anything  
but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.  
You are the light of the world.  
A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.  
Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket;  
it is set on a lampstand,  
where it gives light to all in the house.  
Just so, your light must shine before others,  
that they may see your good deeds  
and glorify your heavenly Father.”

**Day 193**

# June 11, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Barnabas, Apostle Lectionary: 580/361

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 11:21B-26; 13:1-3](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/11:21)

In those days a great number who believed turned to the Lord.  
The news about them reached the ears of the Church in Jerusalem,  
and they sent Barnabas to go to Antioch.  
When he arrived and saw the grace of God,  
he rejoiced and encouraged them all  
to remain faithful to the Lord in firmness of heart,  
for he was a good man, filled with the Holy Spirit and faith.  
And a large number of people was added to the Lord.  
Then he went to Tarsus to look for Saul,  
and when he had found him he brought him to Antioch.  
For a whole year they met with the Church  
and taught a large number of people,  
and it was in Antioch that the disciples  
were first called Christians.  
  
Now there were in the Church at Antioch prophets and teachers:  
Barnabas, Symeon who was called Niger,  
Lucius of Cyrene,  
Manaen who was a close friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.  
While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said,  
“Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul  
for the work to which I have called them.”  
Then, completing their fasting and prayer,  
they laid hands on them and sent them off.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

R. (see 2b) **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**  
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. **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**  
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. **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**  
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.**The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**  
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. **The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:17-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:17)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets.  
I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.  
Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away,  
not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter  
will pass from the law,  
until all things have taken place.  
Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments  
and teaches others to do so  
will be called least in the Kingdom of heaven.  
But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments  
will be called greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.”

**Day 194**

# June 12, 2014

### Thursday of the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 362

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 18:41-46](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/18:41)

Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink,  
for there is the sound of a heavy rain.”  
So Ahab went up to eat and drink,  
while Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel,  
crouched down to the earth,  
and put his head between his knees.  
“Climb up and look out to sea,” he directed his servant,  
who went up and looked, but reported, “There is nothing.”  
Seven times he said, “Go, look again!”  
And the seventh time the youth reported,  
“There is a cloud as small as a man’s hand rising from the sea.”  
Elijah said, “Go and say to Ahab,  
‘Harness up and leave the mountain before the rain stops you.’”  
In a trice the sky grew dark with clouds and wind,  
and a heavy rain fell.  
Ahab mounted his chariot and made for Jezreel.  
But the hand of the LORD was on Elijah,  
who girded up his clothing and ran before Ahab  
as far as the approaches to Jezreel.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 65:10, 11, 12-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/65:10)

R. (2a) **It is right to praise you in Zion, O God.**  
You have visited the land and watered it;  
greatly have you enriched it.  
God’s watercourses are filled;  
you have prepared the grain.  
R.**It is right to praise you in Zion, O God.**  
Thus have you prepared the land:   
drenching its furrows, breaking up its clods,  
Softening it with showers,   
blessing its yield.  
R.**It is right to praise you in Zion, O God.**  
You have crowned the year with your bounty,  
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;  
The untilled meadows overflow with it,  
and rejoicing clothes the hills.  
R. **It is right to praise you in Zion, O God.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:20-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:20)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that  
of the scribes and Pharisees,  
you will not enter into the Kingdom of heaven.  
  
“You have heard that it was said to your ancestors,  
You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.  
But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother  
will be liable to judgment,  
and whoever says to his brother,  
‘Raqa,’ will be answerable to the Sanhedrin,  
and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ will be liable to fiery Gehenna.  
Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar,  
and there recall that your brother  
has anything against you,  
leave your gift there at the altar,  
go first and be reconciled with your brother,  
and then come and offer your gift.  
Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court with him.  
Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge,  
and the judge will hand you over to the guard,  
and you will be thrown into prison.  
Amen, I say to you,  
you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.”

**Day 195**

# June 13, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 363

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 19:9A, 11-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/19:9)

At the mountain of God, Horeb,  
Elijah came to a cave, where he took shelter.  
But the word of the LORD came to him,  
“Go outside and stand on the mountain before the LORD;  
the LORD will be passing by.”  
A strong and heavy wind was rending the mountains  
and crushing rocks before the LORD—  
but the LORD was not in the wind.  
After the wind there was an earthquake—   
but the LORD was not in the earthquake.  
After the earthquake there was fire—  
but the LORD was not in the fire.  
After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound.  
When he heard this,  
Elijah hid his face in his cloak  
and went and stood at the entrance of the cave.  
A voice said to him, “Elijah, why are you here?”  
He replied, “I have been most zealous for the LORD,  
the God of hosts.  
But the children of Israel have forsaken your covenant,  
torn down your altars,  
and put your prophets to the sword.  
I alone am left, and they seek to take my life.”  
The LORD said to him,  
“Go, take the road back to the desert near Damascus.  
When you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king of Aram.  
Then you shall anoint Jehu, son of Nimshi, as king of Israel,  
and Elisha, son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah,  
as prophet to succeed you.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 27:7-8A, 8B-9ABC, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/27:7)

R. (8b) **I long to see your face, O Lord.**  
Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call;  
have pity on me, and answer me.  
Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.  
R. **I long to see your face, O Lord.**  
Your presence, O LORD, I seek.  
Hide not your face from me;  
do not in anger repel your servant.  
You are my helper: cast me not off.  
R. **I long to see your face, O Lord.**  
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. **I long to see your face, O Lord.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:27-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:27)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery.  
But I say to you,   
everyone who looks at a woman with lust  
has already committed adultery with her in his heart.  
If your right eye causes you to sin,   
tear it out and throw it away.  
It is better for you to lose one of your members  
than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna.  
And if your right hand causes you to sin,   
cut it off and throw it away.  
It is better for you to lose one of your members  
than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.  
  
“It was also said,  
Whoever divorces his wife must give her a bill of divorce.  
But I say to you,  
whoever divorces his wife (unless the marriage is unlawful)  
causes her to commit adultery,  
and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.”

**Day 196**

# June 14, 2014

### Saturday of the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 364

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 19:19-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/19:19)

Elijah set out, and came upon Elisha, son of Shaphat,  
as he was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen;  
he was following the twelfth.  
Elijah went over to him and threw his cloak over him.  
Elisha left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said,  
“Please, let me kiss my father and mother goodbye,  
and I will follow you.”  
Elijah answered, “Go back!   
Have I done anything to you?”  
Elisha left him and, taking the yoke of oxen, slaughtered them;  
he used the plowing equipment for fuel to boil their flesh,  
and gave it to his people to eat.  
Then he left and followed Elijah as his attendant.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 16:1B-2A AND 5, 7-8, 9-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/16:1)

R. (see 5a) **You are my inheritance, O Lord.**  
Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;  
I say to the LORD, “My Lord are you.”  
O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you it is who hold fast my lot.  
R. **You are my inheritance, O Lord.**  
I bless the LORD who counsels me;  
even in the night my heart exhorts me.  
I set the LORD ever before me;  
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.   
R. **You are my inheritance, O Lord.**  
Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
Because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.  
R.**You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:33-37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:33)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“You have heard that it was said to your ancestors,Do not take a false oath,  
but make good to the Lord all that you vow.  
But I say to you, do not swear at all;  
not by heaven, for it is God’s throne;  
nor by the earth, for it is his footstool;  
nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.  
Do not swear by your head,  
for you cannot make a single hair white or black.  
Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’  
Anything more is from the Evil One.”

**Day 197**

# June 15, 2014

### The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Lectionary: 164

#### Reading 1 [EX 34:4B-6, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/exodus/34:4)

Early in the morning Moses went up Mount Sinai  
as the LORD had commanded him,  
taking along the two stone tablets.  
  
Having come down in a cloud, the LORD stood with Moses there  
and proclaimed his name, "LORD."  
Thus the LORD passed before him and cried out,  
"The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God,  
slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity."  
Moses at once bowed down to the ground in worship.  
Then he said, "If I find favor with you, O Lord,  
do come along in our company.  
This is indeed a stiff-necked people; yet pardon our wickedness and sins,  
and receive us as your own."

#### Responsorial Psalm [DN 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56](http://www.usccb.org/bible/daniel/3:52)

R/ (52b) **Glory and praise for ever!**  
Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers,  
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever;  
And blessed is your holy and glorious name,  
praiseworthy and exalted above all for all ages.  
R/**Glory and praise for ever!**  
Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory,  
praiseworthy and glorious above all forever.  
R/ **Glory and praise for ever!**  
Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom,  
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.  
R/**Glory and praise for ever!**  
Blessed are you who look into the depths  
from your throne upon the cherubim,  
praiseworthy and exalted above all forever.  
R/ **Glory and praise for ever!**

#### Gospel [JN 3:16-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/3:16)

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish  
but might have eternal life.  
For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.  
Whoever believes in him will not be condemned,  
but whoever does not believe has already been condemned,  
because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

**Day 198**

# June 16, 2014

### Monday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 365

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 21:1-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/21:1)

Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel  
next to the palace of Ahab, king of Samaria.  
Ahab said to Naboth, “Give me your vineyard to be my vegetable garden,  
since it is close by, next to my house.  
I will give you a better vineyard in exchange, or,  
if you prefer, I will give you its value in money.”  
Naboth answered him, “The LORD forbid  
that I should give you my ancestral heritage.”  
Ahab went home disturbed and angry at the answer  
Naboth the Jezreelite had made to him:  
“I will not give you my ancestral heritage.”  
Lying down on his bed, he turned away from food and would not eat.  
  
His wife Jezebel came to him and said to him,  
“Why are you so angry that you will not eat?”  
He answered her, “Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite  
and said to him, ‘Sell me your vineyard, or,  
if you prefer, I will give you a vineyard in exchange.’  
But he refused to let me have his vineyard.”  
His wife Jezebel said to him,  
“A fine ruler over Israel you are indeed!  
Get up.   
Eat and be cheerful.  
I will obtain the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite for you.”  
  
So she wrote letters in Ahab’s name and,  
having sealed them with his seal,  
sent them to the elders and to the nobles  
who lived in the same city with Naboth.  
This is what she wrote in the letters:  
“Proclaim a fast and set Naboth at the head of the people.  
Next, get two scoundrels to face him  
and accuse him of having cursed God and king.  
Then take him out and stone him to death.”  
His fellow citizens—the elders and nobles who dwelt in his city—  
did as Jezebel had ordered them in writing,  
through the letters she had sent them.  
They proclaimed a fast and placed Naboth at the head of the people.  
Two scoundrels came in and confronted him with the accusation,  
“Naboth has cursed God and king.”  
And they led him out of the city and stoned him to death.  
Then they sent the information to Jezebel  
that Naboth had been stoned to death.  
  
When Jezebel learned that Naboth had been stoned to death,  
she said to Ahab,  
“Go on, take possession of the vineyard  
of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to sell you,  
because Naboth is not alive, but dead.”  
On hearing that Naboth was dead, Ahab started off on his way  
down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite,  
to take possession of it.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 5:2-3AB, 4B-6A, 6B-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/5:2)

R. (2b) **Lord, listen to my groaning.**  
Hearken to my words, O LORD,  
attend to my sighing.  
Heed my call for help,  
my king and my God!  
R.**Lord, listen to my groaning.**  
At dawn I bring my plea expectantly before you.  
For you, O God, delight not in wickedness;  
no evil man remains with you;  
the arrogant may not stand in your sight.   
R. **Lord, listen to my groaning.**You hate all evildoers.  
You destroy all who speak falsehood;  
The bloodthirsty and the deceitful  
the LORD abhors.  
R. **Lord, listen to my groaning.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:38-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:38)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“You have heard that it was said,  
An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.  
But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil.  
When someone strikes you on your right cheek,  
turn the other one to him as well.  
If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic,  
hand him your cloak as well.  
Should anyone press you into service for one mile,  
go with him for two miles.  
Give to the one who asks of you,  
and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow.”

**Day 199**

# June 17, 2014

### Tuesday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 366

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 21:17-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/21:17)

After the death of Naboth the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite:  
“Start down to meet Ahab, king of Israel,  
who rules in Samaria.  
He will be in the vineyard of Naboth,  
of which he has come to take possession.  
This is what you shall tell him,  
‘The LORD says: After murdering, do you also take possession?  
For this, the LORD says:  
In the place where the dogs licked up the blood of Naboth,  
the dogs shall lick up your blood, too.’”  
Ahab said to Elijah, “Have you found me out, my enemy?”  
“Yes,” he answered.  
“Because you have given yourself up to doing evil in the LORD’s sight,  
I am bringing evil upon you: I will destroy you  
and will cut off every male in Ahab’s line,  
whether slave or freeman, in Israel.  
I will make your house like that of Jeroboam, son of Nebat,  
and like that of Baasha, son of Ahijah,  
because of how you have provoked me by leading Israel into sin.”  
(Against Jezebel, too, the LORD declared,  
“The dogs shall devour Jezebel in the district of Jezreel.”)  
“When one of Ahab’s line dies in the city,  
dogs will devour him;  
when one of them dies in the field,  
the birds of the sky will devour him.”  
Indeed, no one gave himself up to the doing of evil  
in the sight of the LORD as did Ahab,  
urged on by his wife Jezebel.  
He became completely abominable by following idols,  
just as the Amorites had done,  
whom the LORD drove out before the children of Israel.  
  
When Ahab heard these words, he tore his garments  
and put on sackcloth over his bare flesh.  
He fasted, slept in the sackcloth, and went about subdued.  
Then the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite,  
“Have you seen that Ahab has humbled himself before me?  
Since he has humbled himself before me,  
I will not bring the evil in his time.  
I will bring the evil upon his house during the reign of his son.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:3-4, 5-6AB, 11 AND 16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:3)

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.**  
Turn away your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my guilt.  
Free me from blood guilt, O God, my saving God;  
then my tongue shall revel in your justice.  
R. **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

#### Gospel [MT 5:43-48](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5:43)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“You have heard that it was said,  
You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.  
But I say to you, love your enemies  
and pray for those who persecute you,  
that you may be children of your heavenly Father,  
for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good,  
and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.  
For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have?  
Do not the tax collectors do the same?  
And if you greet your brothers only,  
what is unusual about that?  
Do not the pagans do the same?  
So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

**Day 200**

# June 18, 2014

### Wednesday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 367

#### Reading 1 [2 KGS 2:1, 6-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2kings/2:1)

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind,  
he and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.  
Elijah said to Elisha, “Please stay here;  
the LORD has sent me on to the Jordan.”  
“As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live,  
I will not leave you,” Elisha replied.  
And so the two went on together.  
Fifty of the guild prophets followed and  
when the two stopped at the Jordan,  
they stood facing them at a distance.  
Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up  
and struck the water, which divided,  
and both crossed over on dry ground.  
  
When they had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha,  
“Ask for whatever I may do for you, before I am taken from you.”  
Elisha answered, “May I receive a double portion of your spirit.”  
“You have asked something that is not easy,” Elijah replied.  
“Still, if you see me taken up from you,  
your wish will be granted; otherwise not.”  
As they walked on conversing,  
a flaming chariot and flaming horses came between them,  
and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind.  
When Elisha saw it happen he cried out,  
“My father! my father! Israel’s chariots and drivers!”  
But when he could no longer see him,  
Elisha gripped his own garment and tore it in two.  
  
Then he picked up Elijah’s mantle that had fallen from him,  
and went back and stood at the bank of the Jordan.  
Wielding the mantle that had fallen from Elijah,  
Elisha struck the water in his turn and said,  
“Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?”  
When Elisha struck the water it divided and he crossed over.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 31:20, 21, 24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/31:20)

R. (25) **Let your hearts take comfort, all who hope in the Lord.**  
How great is the goodness, O LORD,  
which you have in store for those who fear you,  
And which, toward those who take refuge in you,  
you show in the sight of the children of men.  
R. **Let your hearts take comfort, all who hope in the Lord.**  
You hide them in the shelter of your presence  
from the plottings of men;  
You screen them within your abode  
from the strife of tongues.  
R. **Let your hearts take comfort, all who hope in the Lord.**  
Love the LORD, all you his faithful ones!  
The LORD keeps those who are constant,  
but more than requites those who act proudly.  
R. **Let your hearts take comfort, all who hope in the Lord.**

#### Gospel [Mt 6:1-6, 16-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/6:1)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Take care not to perform righteous deeds  
in order that people may see them;  
otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father.  
When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you,  
as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets  
to win the praise of others.  
Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward.  
But when you give alms,  
do not let your left hand know what your right is doing,  
so that your almsgiving may be secret.  
And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.  
  
“When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites,  
who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners  
so that others may see them.  
Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward.  
But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door,  
and pray to your Father in secret.  
And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.  
  
“When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites.  
They neglect their appearance,  
so that they may appear to others to be fasting.  
Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward.  
But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,  
so that you may not appear to others to be fasting,  
except to your Father who is hidden.  
And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.”

**Day 201**

# June 19, 2014

### Thursday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 368

#### Reading 1 [SIR 48:1-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/sirach/48:1)

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 brought a dead man back to life  
from the nether world, by the will of the LORD.  
You sent kings down to destruction,  
and easily broke their power into pieces.  
You brought down nobles, from their beds of sickness.  
You heard threats at Sinai,  
at Horeb avenging judgments.  
You anointed kings who should inflict vengeance,  
and a prophet as your successor.  
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.  
For we live only in our life,  
but after death our name will not be such.  
O Elijah, enveloped in the whirlwind!  
  
Then Elisha, filled with the twofold portion of his spirit,  
wrought many marvels by his mere word.  
During his lifetime he feared no one,  
nor was any man able to intimidate his will.  
Nothing was beyond his power;  
beneath him flesh was brought back into life.  
In life he performed wonders,  
and after death, marvelous deeds.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/97:1)

R. (12a)**Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**  
The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;  
let the many isles be glad.  
Clouds and darkness are round about him,  
justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne.   
R. **Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**  
Fire goes before him  
and consumes his foes round about.  
His lightnings illumine the world;  
the earth sees and trembles.  
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!**  
All who worship graven things are put to shame,  
who glory in the things of nought;  
all gods are prostrate before him.  
R. **Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

#### Gospel [Mt 6:7-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/6:7)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“In praying, do not babble like the pagans,  
who think that they will be heard because of their many words.  
Do not be like them.  
Your Father knows what you need before you ask him.  
  
“This is how you are to pray:  
  
‘Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy Kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.’  
  
“If you forgive others their transgressions,  
your heavenly Father will forgive you.  
But if you do not forgive others,  
neither will your Father forgive your transgressions.”

**Day 202**

# June 20, 2014

### Friday of the Eleventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 369

#### Reading 1 [2 KGS 11:1-4, 9-18, 20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2kings/11:1)

When Athaliah, the mother of Ahaziah,  
saw that her son was dead,  
she began to kill off the whole royal family.  
But Jehosheba, daughter of King Jehoram and sister of Ahaziah,  
took Joash, his son, and spirited him away, along with his nurse,  
from the bedroom where the princes were about to be slain.  
She concealed him from Athaliah, and so he did not die.  
For six years he remained hidden in the temple of the LORD,  
while Athaliah ruled the land.  
  
But in the seventh year,  
Jehoiada summoned the captains of the Carians  
and of the guards.  
He had them come to him in the temple of the LORD,  
exacted from them a sworn commitment,  
and then showed them the king’s son.  
  
The captains did just as Jehoiada the priest commanded.  
Each one with his men, both those going on duty for the sabbath  
and those going off duty that week,  
came to Jehoiada the priest.  
He gave the captains King David’s spears and shields,  
which were in the temple of the LORD.  
And the guards, with drawn weapons,  
lined up from the southern to the northern limit of the enclosure,  
surrounding the altar and the temple on the king’s behalf.  
Then Jehoiada led out the king’s son  
and put the crown and the insignia upon him.  
They proclaimed him king and anointed him,  
clapping their hands and shouting, “Long live the king!”  
  
Athaliah heard the noise made by the people,  
and appeared before them in the temple of the LORD.  
When she saw the king standing by the pillar, as was the custom,  
and the captains and trumpeters near him,  
with all the people of the land rejoicing and blowing trumpets,  
she tore her garments and cried out, “Treason, treason!”  
Then Jehoiada the priest instructed the captains  
in command of the force:  
“Bring her outside through the ranks.  
If anyone follows her,” he added, “let him die by the sword.”  
He had given orders that she  
should not be slain in the temple of the LORD.  
She was led out forcibly to the horse gate of the royal palace,  
where she was put to death.  
  
Then Jehoiada made a covenant between the LORD as one party  
and the king and the people as the other,  
by which they would be the LORD’s people;  
and another covenant, between the king and the people.  
Thereupon all the people of the land went to the temple of Baal  
and demolished it.  
They shattered its altars and images completely,  
and slew Mattan, the priest of Baal, before the altars.  
Jehoiada appointed a detachment for the temple of the LORD.  
All the people of the land rejoiced and the city was quiet,  
now that Athaliah had been slain with the sword  
at the royal palace.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 132:11, 12, 13-14, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/132:11)

R. (13) **The Lord has chosen Zion for his dwelling.**  
The LORD swore to David  
a firm promise from which he will not withdraw:  
“Your own offspring  
I will set upon your throne.”  
R. **The Lord has chosen Zion for his dwelling.**  
“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 has chosen Zion for his dwelling.**  
For the LORD has chosen Zion;  
he prefers her for his dwelling.  
“Zion is my resting place forever;  
in her will I dwell, for I prefer her.”  
R. **The Lord has chosen Zion for his dwelling.**  
“In her will I make a horn to sprout forth for David;  
I will place a lamp for my anointed.  
His enemies I will clothe with shame,  
but upon him my crown shall shine.”  
R. **The Lord has chosen Zion for his dwelling.**

#### Gospel [Mt 6:19-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/6:19)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth,  
where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal.  
But store up treasures in heaven,  
where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal.  
For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.  
  
“The lamp of the body is the eye.  
If your eye is sound, your whole body will be filled with light;  
but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be in darkness.  
And if the light in you is darkness, how great will the darkness be.”

**Day 203**

# June 21, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious Lectionary: 370

#### Reading 1 [2 CHR 24:17-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2chronicles/24:17)

After the death of Jehoiada,  
the princes of Judah came and paid homage to King Joash,  
and the king then listened to them.  
They forsook the temple of the LORD, the God of their fathers,  
and began to serve the sacred poles and the idols;  
and because of this crime of theirs,  
wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem.  
Although prophets were sent to them to convert them to the LORD,  
the people would not listen to their warnings.  
Then the Spirit of God possessed Zechariah,  
son of Jehoiada the priest.  
He took his stand above the people and said to them:  
“God says, ‘Why are you transgressing the LORD’s commands,  
so that you cannot prosper?  
Because you have abandoned the LORD, he has abandoned you.’”  
But they conspired against him,  
and at the king’s order they stoned him to death  
in the court of the LORD’s temple.  
Thus King Joash was unmindful of the devotion shown him  
by Jehoiada, Zechariah’s father, and slew his son.  
And as Zechariah was dying, he said, “May the LORD see and avenge.”  
  
At the turn of the year a force of Arameans came up against Joash.  
They invaded Judah and Jerusalem,  
did away with all the princes of the people,  
and sent all their spoil to the king of Damascus.  
Though the Aramean force came with few men,  
the LORD surrendered a very large force into their power,  
because Judah had abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers.  
So punishment was meted out to Joash.  
After the Arameans had departed from him,  
leaving him in grievous suffering,  
his servants conspired against him  
because of the murder of the son of Jehoiada the priest.  
He was buried in the City of David,  
but not in the tombs of the kings.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/89:4)

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:  
Forever will I confirm your posterity  
and establish your throne for all generations.”  
R.**For ever I will maintain my love for my servant.**  
“Forever I will maintain my kindness toward him,  
and my covenant with him stands firm.  
I will make his posterity endure forever  
and his throne as the days of heaven.”  
R. **For ever I will maintain my love for my servant.**  
“If his sons forsake my law  
and walk not according to my ordinances,  
If they violate my statutes  
and keep not my commands.”  
R. **For ever I will maintain my love for my servant.**  
“I will punish their crime with a rod  
and their guilt with stripes.  
Yet my mercy I will not take from him,  
nor will I belie my faithfulness.”  
R.**For ever I will maintain my love for my servant.**

#### Gospel [Mt 6:24-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/6:24)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“No one can serve two masters.  
He will either hate one and love the other,  
or be devoted to one and despise the other.  
You cannot serve God and mammon.  
  
“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life,  
what you will eat or drink,  
or about your body, what you will wear.  
Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?  
Look at the birds in the sky;  
they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns,  
yet your heavenly Father feeds them.  
Are not you more important than they?  
Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span?  
Why are you anxious about clothes?  
Learn from the way the wild flowers grow.  
They do not work or spin.  
But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor  
was clothed like one of them.  
If God so clothes the grass of the field,  
which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow,  
will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith?  
So do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’  
or ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear?’  
All these things the pagans seek.  
Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.  
But seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be given you besides.  
Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself.  
Sufficient for a day is its own evil.”

**Day 204**

# June 22, 2014

### Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Lectionary: 167

#### Reading 1 [DT 8:2-3, 14B-16A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/8:2)

Moses said to the people:  
"Remember how for forty years now the LORD, your God,  
has directed all your journeying in the desert,  
so as to test you by affliction  
and find out whether or not it was your intention  
to keep his commandments.   
He therefore let you be afflicted with hunger,  
and then fed you with manna,  
a food unknown to you and your fathers,  
in order to show you that not by bread alone does one live,  
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of the LORD.  
  
"Do not forget the LORD, your God,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt,  
that place of slavery;  
who guided you through the vast and terrible desert  
with its saraph serpents and scorpions,  
its parched and waterless ground;  
who brought forth water for you from the flinty rock  
and fed you in the desert with manna,  
a food unknown to your fathers."

#### Reading 2 [1 COR 10:16-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/10:16)

Brothers and sisters:  
The cup of blessing that we bless,  
is it not a participation in the blood of Christ?  
The bread that we break,  
is it not a participation in the body of Christ?  
Because the loaf of bread is one,  
we, though many, are one body,  
for we all partake of the one loaf.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/147:12)

R/ (12) **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.**

#### Gospel [JN 6:51-58](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/6:51)

Jesus said to the Jewish crowds:  
"I am the living bread that came down from heaven;  
whoever eats this bread will live forever;  
and the bread that I will give  
is my flesh for the life of the world."  
  
The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,  
"How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"   
Jesus said to them,  
"Amen, amen, I say to you,  
unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood,  
you do not have life within you.   
Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
has eternal life,  
and I will raise him on the last day.   
For my flesh is true food,  
and my blood is true drink.   
Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
remains in me and I in him.   
Just as the living Father sent me  
and I have life because of the Father,  
so also the one who feeds on me  
will have life because of me.   
This is the bread that came down from heaven.   
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,  
whoever eats this bread will live forever."

**Day 205**

# June 23, 2014

### Monday of the Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 371

#### Reading 1 [2 KGS 17:5-8, 13-15A, 18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2kings/17:5)

Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, occupied the whole land  
and attacked Samaria, which he besieged for three years.  
In the ninth year of Hoshea, king of Israel  
the king of Assyria took Samaria,  
and deported the children of Israel to Assyria,  
setting them in Halah, at the Habor, a river of Gozan,  
and the cities of the Medes.  
  
This came about because the children of Israel sinned against the LORD,  
their God, who had brought them up from the land of Egypt,  
from under the domination of Pharaoh, king of Egypt,  
and because they venerated other gods.  
They followed the rites of the nations  
whom the LORD had cleared out of the way of the children of Israel  
and the kings of Israel whom they set up.  
  
And though the LORD warned Israel and Judah  
by every prophet and seer,  
“Give up your evil ways and keep my commandments and statutes,  
in accordance with the entire law which I enjoined on your fathers  
and which I sent you by my servants the prophets,”  
they did not listen, but were as stiff-necked as their fathers,  
who had not believed in the LORD, their God.  
They rejected his statutes,  
the covenant which he had made with their fathers,  
and the warnings which he had given them, till,  
in his great anger against Israel,  
the LORD put them away out of his sight.  
Only the tribe of Judah was left.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 60:3, 4-5, 12-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/60:3)

R. (7b) **Help us with your right hand, O Lord, and answer us.**  
O God, you have rejected us and broken our defenses;  
you have been angry; rally us!  
R. **Help us with your right hand, O Lord, and answer us.**  
You have rocked the country and split it open;  
repair the cracks in it, for it is tottering.  
You have made your people feel hardships;  
you have given us stupefying wine.   
R. **Help us with your right hand, O Lord, and answer us.**  
Have not you, O God, rejected us,  
so that you go not forth, O God, with our armies?  
Give us aid against the foe,  
for worthless is the help of men.   
R. **Help us with your right hand, O Lord, and answer us.**

#### Gospel [Mt 7:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/7:1)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Stop judging, that you may not be judged.  
For as you judge, so will you be judged,  
and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you.  
Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye,  
but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own eye?  
How can you say to your brother,  
‘Let me remove that splinter from your eye,’  
while the wooden beam is in your eye?  
You hypocrite, remove the wooden beam from your eye first;  
then you will see clearly  
to remove the splinter from your brother’s eye.”

**Day 206**

# June 24, 2014 | Mass During The Day

### Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist Mass during the Day Lectionary: 587

#### Reading 1 [IS 49:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/49:1)

Hear me, O coastlands,  
listen, O distant peoples.  
The LORD called me from birth,  
from my mother’s womb he gave me my name.  
He made of me a sharp-edged sword  
and concealed me in the shadow of his arm.  
He made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me.  
You are my servant, he said to me,  
Israel, through whom I show my glory.  
  
Though I thought I had toiled in vain,  
and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength,  
yet my reward is with the LORD,  
my recompense is with my God.  
For 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, he 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.

#### Reading 2 [ACTS 13:22-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/13:22)

In those days, Paul said:  
“God raised up David as king;   
of him God testified,  
I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart;he will carry out my every wish.  
From this man’s descendants God, according to his promise,  
has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus.  
John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance  
to all the people of Israel;  
and as John was completing his course, he would say,  
‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he.  
Behold, one is coming after me;  
I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.’  
  
“My brothers, sons of the family of Abraham,  
and those others among you who are God-fearing,  
to us this word of salvation has been sent.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 139:1B-3, 13-14AB, 14C-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/139:1)

R. (14) **I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.**  
O LORD, you have probed me, you know me:  
you know when I sit and when I stand;  
you understand my thoughts from afar.  
My journeys and my rest you scrutinize,  
with all my ways you are familiar.  
R. **I praise you for I am wonderfully made.**  
Truly you have formed my inmost being;  
you knit me in my mother’s womb.  
I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made;  
wonderful are your works.  
R. **I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.**  
My soul also you knew full well;  
nor was my frame unknown to you  
When I was made in secret,  
when I was fashioned in the depths of the earth.  
R. **I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.**

#### Gospel [Lk 1:57-66, 80](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/1:57)

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child  
she gave birth to a son.  
Her neighbors and relatives heard  
that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her,  
and they rejoiced with her.  
When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child,  
they were going to call him Zechariah after his father,  
but his mother said in reply,  
“No. He will be called John.”  
But they answered her,  
“There is no one among your relatives who has this name.”  
So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called.  
He asked for a tablet and wrote, “John is his name,”  
and all were amazed.  
Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed,  
and he spoke blessing God.  
Then fear came upon all their neighbors,  
and all these matters were discussed  
throughout the hill country of Judea.  
All who heard these things took them to heart, saying,  
“What, then, will this child be?”  
For surely the hand of the Lord was with him.  
The child grew and became strong in spirit,   
and he was in the desert until the day  
of his manifestation to Israel.

**Day 207**

# June 25, 2014

### Wednesday of the Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 373

#### Reading 1 [2 KGS 22:8-13; 23:1-3](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2kings/22:8)

The high priest Hilkiah informed the scribe Shaphan,  
“I have found the book of the law in the temple of the LORD.”  
Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, who read it.  
Then the scribe Shaphan went to the king and reported,  
“Your servants have smelted down the metals available in the temple  
and have consigned them to the master workmen  
in the temple of the LORD.”  
The scribe Shaphan also informed the king  
that the priest Hilkiah had given him a book,  
and then read it aloud to the king.  
When the king heard the contents of the book of the law,  
he tore his garments and issued this command to Hilkiah the priest,  
Ahikam, son of Shaphan,  
Achbor, son of Micaiah, the scribe Shaphan,  
and the king’s servant Asaiah:  
“Go, consult the LORD for me, for the people, for all Judah,  
about the stipulations of this book that has been found,  
for the anger of the LORD has been set furiously ablaze against us,  
because our fathers did not obey the stipulations of this book,  
nor fulfill our written obligations.”  
  
The king then had all the elders of Judah  
and of Jerusalem summoned together before him.  
The king went up to the temple of the LORD with all the men of Judah  
and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem:  
priests, prophets, and all the people, small and great.  
He had the entire contents of the book of the covenant  
that had been found in the temple of the LORD, read out to them.   
Standing by the column, the king made a covenant before the LORD  
that they would follow him  
and observe his ordinances, statutes and decrees  
with their whole hearts and souls,  
thus reviving the terms of the covenant  
which were written in this book.  
And all the people stood as participants in the covenant.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:33)

R. (33a) **Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.**  
Instruct me, O LORD, in the way of your statutes,  
that I may exactly observe them.  
R. **Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.**  
Give me discernment, that I may observe your law  
and keep it with all my heart.  
R. **Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.**  
Lead me in the path of your commands,  
for in it I delight.   
R. **Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.**  
Incline my heart to your decrees  
and not to gain.  
R. **Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.**  
Turn away my eyes from seeing what is vain:  
by your way give me life.  
R. **Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.**  
Behold, I long for your precepts;  
in your justice give me life.  
R. **Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.**

#### Gospel [Mt 7:15-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/7:15)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing,  
but underneath are ravenous wolves.  
By their fruits you will know them.  
Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?  
Just so, every good tree bears good fruit,  
and a rotten tree bears bad fruit.  
A good tree cannot bear bad fruit,  
nor can a rotten tree bear good fruit.  
Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down  
and thrown into the fire.  
So by their fruits you will know them.”

**Day 208**

# June 26, 2014

### Thursday of the Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 374

#### Reading 1 [2 KGS 24:8-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2kings/24:8)

Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign,  
and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.   
His mother’s name was Nehushta,  
daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.  
He did evil in the sight of the LORD,  
just as his forebears had done.  
  
At that time the officials of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon,  
attacked Jerusalem, and the city came under siege.  
Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon,  
himself arrived at the city  
while his servants were besieging it.  
Then Jehoiachin, king of Judah, together with his mother,  
his ministers, officers, and functionaries,  
surrendered to the king of Babylon, who,  
in the eighth year of his reign, took him captive.  
And he carried off all the treasures  
of the temple of the LORD and those of the palace,  
and broke up all the gold utensils that Solomon, king of Israel,  
had provided in the temple of the LORD, as the LORD had foretold.  
He deported all Jerusalem:  
all the officers and men of the army, ten thousand in number,  
and all the craftsmen and smiths.  
None were left among the people of the land except the poor.  
He deported Jehoiachin to Babylon,  
and also led captive from Jerusalem to Babylon  
the king’s mother and wives,  
his functionaries, and the chief men of the land.  
The king of Babylon also led captive to Babylon  
all seven thousand men of the army,  
and a thousand craftsmen and smiths,  
all of them trained soldiers.  
In place of Jehoiachin,  
the king of Babylon appointed his uncle Mattaniah king,  
and changed his name to Zedekiah.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 79:1B-2, 3-5, 8, 9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/79:1)

R. (9) **For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**  
O God, the nations have come into your inheritance;  
they have defiled your holy temple,  
they have laid Jerusalem in ruins.  
They have given the corpses of your servants  
as food to the birds of heaven,  
the flesh of your faithful ones to the beasts of the earth.  
R.**For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**  
They have poured out their blood like water  
round about Jerusalem,  
and there is no one to bury them.  
We have become the reproach of our neighbors,  
the scorn and derision of those around us.  
O LORD, how long? Will you be angry forever?  
Will your jealousy burn like fire?  
R. **For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**  
Remember not against us the iniquities of the past;  
may your compassion quickly come to us,  
for we are brought very low.  
R.**For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**  
Help us, O God our savior,  
because of the glory of your name;  
Deliver us and pardon our sins  
for your name’s sake.   
R. **For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**

#### Gospel [MT 7:21-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/7:21)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’  
will enter the Kingdom of heaven,  
but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.  
Many will say to me on that day,  
‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name?  
Did we not drive out demons in your name?  
Did we not do mighty deeds in your name?’  
Then I will declare to them solemnly,  
‘I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers.’  
  
“Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them  
will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.  
The rain fell, the floods came,  
and the winds blew and buffeted the house.  
But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.  
And everyone who listens to these words of mine  
but does not act on them  
will be like a fool who built his house on sand.  
The rain fell, the floods came,  
and the winds blew and buffeted the house.  
And it collapsed and was completely ruined.”  
  
When Jesus finished these words,  
the crowds were astonished at his teaching,  
for he taught them as one having authority,  
and not as their scribes.

**Day 209**

# June 27, 2014

### Solemnity of Most Sacred Heart of Jesus  Lectionary: 170

#### Reading 1 [DT 7:6-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/7:6)

Moses said to the people:  
"You are a people sacred to the LORD, your God;  
he has chosen you from all the nations on the face of the earth  
to be a people peculiarly his own.  
It was not because you are the largest of all nations  
that the LORD set his heart on you and chose you,  
for you are really the smallest of all nations.  
It was because the LORD loved you  
and because of his fidelity to the oath he had sworn your fathers,  
that he brought you out with his strong hand  
from the place of slavery,  
and ransomed you from the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt.  
Understand, then, that the LORD, your God, is God indeed,  
the faithful God who keeps his merciful covenant  
down to the thousandth generation  
toward those who love him and keep his commandments,  
but who repays with destruction a person who hates him;  
he does not dally with such a one,  
but makes them personally pay for it.  
You shall therefore carefully observe the commandments,  
the statutes and the decrees that I enjoin on you today."

#### Reading 2 [1 JN 4:7-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/4:7)

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 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.  
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.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/103:1)

R/ (cf. 17) **The Lord's kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.**  
Bless the LORD, O my soul;  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul;  
and forget not all his benefits.  
R/ **The Lord's kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.**  
He pardons all your iniquities,  
heals all your ills.  
He redeems your life from destruction,  
crowns you with kindness and compassion.  
R/ **The Lord's kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.**  
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's kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.**

#### Gospel [MT 11:25-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/11:25)

At that time Jesus exclaimed:  
"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for although you have hidden these things  
from the wise and the learned  
you have revealed them to little ones.  
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.  
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.   
No one knows the Son except the Father,  
and no one knows the Father except the Son  
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.  
  
"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,  
and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am meek and humble of heart;  
and you will find rest for yourselves.   
For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

**Day 210**

# June 28, 2014

### Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lectionary: 376/573

#### Reading 1 [LAM 2:2, 10-14, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/lamentations/2:2)

The Lord has consumed without pity  
all the dwellings of Jacob;  
He has torn down in his anger  
the fortresses of daughter Judah;  
He has brought to the ground in dishonor  
her king and her princes.  
  
On the ground in silence sit  
the old men of daughter Zion;  
They strew dust on their heads  
and gird themselves with sackcloth;  
The maidens of Jerusalem  
bow their heads to the ground.  
  
Worn out from weeping are my eyes,  
within me all is in ferment;  
My gall is poured out on the ground  
because of the downfall of the daughter of my people,  
As child and infant faint away  
in the open spaces of the town.  
  
In vain they ask their mothers,  
“Where is the grain?”  
As they faint away like the wounded  
in the streets of the city,  
And breathe their last  
in their mothers’ arms.  
  
To what can I liken or compare you,  
O daughter Jerusalem?  
What example can I show you for your comfort,  
virgin daughter Zion?  
For great as the sea is your downfall;  
who can heal you?  
  
Your prophets had for you  
false and specious visions;  
They did not lay bare your guilt,  
to avert your fate;  
They beheld for you in vision  
false and misleading portents.  
  
Cry out to the Lord;  
moan, O daughter Zion!  
Let your tears flow like a torrent  
day and night;  
Let there be no respite for you,  
no repose for your eyes.  
  
Rise up, shrill in the night,  
at the beginning of every watch;  
Pour out your heart like water  
in the presence of the Lord;  
Lift up your hands to him  
for the lives of your little ones  
Who faint from hunger  
at the corner of every street.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 74:1B-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/74:1)

R. (19b) **Lord, forget not the souls of your poor ones.**  
Why, O God, have you cast us off forever?  
Why does your anger smolder against the sheep of your pasture?  
Remember your flock which you built up of old,  
the tribe you redeemed as your inheritance,  
Mount Zion, where you took up your abode.  
R. **Lord, forget not the souls of your poor ones.**  
Turn your steps toward the utter ruins;  
toward all the damage the enemy has done in the sanctuary.  
Your foes roar triumphantly in your shrine;  
they have set up their tokens of victory.  
They are like men coming up with axes to a clump of trees.   
R.**Lord, forget not the souls of your poor ones.**  
With chisel and hammer they hack at all the paneling of the sanctuary.  
They set your sanctuary on fire;  
the place where your name abides they have razed and profaned.   
R.**Lord, forget not the souls of your poor ones.**  
Look to your covenant,  
for the hiding places in the land and the plains are full of violence.  
May the humble not retire in confusion;  
may the afflicted and the poor praise your name.  
R. **Lord, forget not the souls of your poor ones.**

#### Gospel [LK 2:41-51](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/2:41)

Each year Jesus’ parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover,  
and when he was twelve years old,  
they went up according to festival custom.  
After they had completed its days, as they were returning,  
the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem,  
but his parents did not know it.  
Thinking that he was in the caravan,  
they journeyed for a day  
and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances,  
but not finding him,  
they returned to Jerusalem to look for him.  
After three days they found him in the temple,  
sitting in the midst of the teachers,  
listening to them and asking them questions,  
and all who heard him were astounded  
at his understanding and his answers.  
When his parents saw him,  
they were astonished,  
and his mother said to him,  
“Son, why have you done this to us?  
Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety.”  
And he said to them,  
“Why were you looking for me?  
Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”  
But they did not understand what he said to them.  
He went down with them and came to Nazareth,  
and was obedient to them;  
and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

**Day 211**

# June 29, 2014 | Mass During The Day

### Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles Mass during the Day Lectionary: 591

#### Reading 1 [ACTS 12:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/acts/12:1)

In those days, King Herod laid hands upon some members of the Church to harm them.  
He had James, the brother of John, killed by the sword,  
and when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews  
he proceeded to arrest Peter also.  
–It was the feast of Unleavened Bread.–  
He had him taken into custody and put in prison  
under the guard of four squads of four soldiers each.  
He intended to bring him before the people after Passover.  
Peter thus was being kept in prison,  
but prayer by the Church was fervently being made  
to God on his behalf.  
  
On the very night before Herod was to bring him to trial,  
Peter, secured by double chains,  
was sleeping between two soldiers,  
while outside the door guards kept watch on the prison.  
Suddenly the angel of the Lord stood by him  
and a light shone in the cell.  
He tapped Peter on the side and awakened him, saying,  
“Get up quickly.”  
The chains fell from his wrists.  
The angel said to him, “Put on your belt and your sandals.”  
He did so.  
Then he said to him, “Put on your cloak and follow me.”  
So he followed him out,  
not realizing that what was happening through the angel was real;  
he thought he was seeing a vision.  
They passed the first guard, then the second,  
and came to the iron gate leading out to the city,  
which opened for them by itself.  
They emerged and made their way down an alley,  
and suddenly the angel left him.   
Then Peter recovered his senses and said,  
“Now I know for certain   
that the Lord sent his angel   
and rescued me from the hand of Herod  
and from all that the Jewish people had been expecting.”

#### Reading 2 [2 TM 4:6-8, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2timothy/4:6)

I, Paul, am already being poured out like a libation,  
and the time of my departure is at hand.  
I have competed well; I have finished the race;  
I have kept the faith.  
From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me,  
which the Lord, the just judge,  
will award to me on that day, and not only to me,  
but to all who have longed for his appearance.  
  
The Lord stood by me and gave me strength,  
so that through me the proclamation might be completed  
and all the Gentiles might hear it.  
And I was rescued from the lion’s mouth.  
The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat  
and will bring me safe to his heavenly Kingdom.  
To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/34:2)

R. (5) **The angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him.**  
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 angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him.**  
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 angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him.**  
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 angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him.**  
The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him, and delivers them.  
Taste and see how good the LORD is;  
blessed the man who takes refuge in him.  
R. **The angel of the Lord will rescue those who fear him.**

#### Gospel [Mt 16:13-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/16:13)

When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi  
he asked his disciples,  
“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”  
They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah,  
still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”  
He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”  
Simon Peter said in reply,  
“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”  
Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah.  
For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.  
And so I say to you, you are Peter,  
and upon this rock I will build my Church,  
and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.  
I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven.   
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;  
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

**Day 212**

# June 30, 2014

### Monday of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 377

#### Reading 1 [AM 2:6-10, 13-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/amos/2:6)

Thus says the LORD:  
For three crimes of Israel, and for four,  
I will not revoke my word;  
Because they sell the just man for silver,  
and the poor man for a pair of sandals.  
They trample the heads of the weak  
into the dust of the earth,  
and force the lowly out of the way.  
Son and father go to the same prostitute,  
profaning my holy name.  
Upon garments taken in pledge  
they recline beside any altar;  
And the wine of those who have been fined  
they drink in the house of their god.  
  
Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorites before them,  
who were as tall as the cedars,  
and as strong as the oak trees.  
I destroyed their fruit above,  
and their roots beneath.  
It was I who brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and who led you through the desert for forty years,  
to occupy the land of the Amorites.  
  
Beware, I will crush you into the ground  
as a wagon crushes when laden with sheaves.  
Flight shall perish from the swift,  
and the strong man shall not retain his strength;  
The warrior shall not save his life,  
nor the bowman stand his ground;  
The swift of foot shall not escape,  
nor the horseman save his life.  
And the most stouthearted of warriors  
shall flee naked on that day, says the LORD.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 50:16BC-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/50:16)

R. (22a) **Remember this, you who never think 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. **Remember this, you who never think of God.**  
“When you see a thief, you keep pace with him,  
and with adulterers you throw in your lot.  
To your mouth you give free rein for evil,  
you harness your tongue to deceit.”  
R. **Remember this, you who never think of God.**  
“You sit speaking against your brother;  
against your mother’s son you spread rumors.  
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.”  
R. **Remember this, you who never think of God.**  
“Consider this, you who forget God,  
lest I rend you and there be no one to rescue you.  
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. **Remember this, you who never think of God.**

#### Gospel [MT 8:18-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/8:18)

When Jesus saw a crowd around him,  
he gave orders to cross to the other shore.  
A scribe approached and said to him,  
“Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.”  
Jesus answered him, “Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests,  
but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head.”  
Another of his disciples said to him,  
“Lord, let me go first and bury my father.”  
But Jesus answered him, “Follow me,  
and let the dead bury their dead.”

**Day 213**

# July 1, 2014

### Tuesday of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 378

#### Reading 1 [AM 3:1-8; 4:11-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/amos/3:1)

Hear this word, O children of Israel, that the LORD pronounces over you,  
over the whole family that I brought up from the land of Egypt:  
  
You alone have I favored,   
more than all the families of the earth;  
Therefore I will punish you  
for all your crimes.  
  
Do two walk together  
unless they have agreed?  
Does a lion roar in the forest  
when it has no prey?  
Does a young lion cry out from its den  
unless it has seized something?  
Is a bird brought to earth by a snare  
when there is no lure for it?  
Does a snare spring up from the ground  
without catching anything?  
If the trumpet sounds in a city,  
will the people not be frightened?  
If evil befalls a city,  
has not the LORD caused it?  
Indeed, the Lord GOD does nothing  
without revealing his plan  
to his servants, the prophets.  
  
The lion roars—  
who will not be afraid!  
The Lord GOD speaks—  
who will not prophesy!  
  
I brought upon you such upheaval  
as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah:  
you were like a brand plucked from the fire;  
Yet you returned not to me,  
says the LORD.  
  
So now I will deal with you in my own way, O Israel!  
and since I will deal thus with you,  
prepare to meet your God, O Israel.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 5:4B-6A, 6B-7, 8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/5:4)

R. (9a) **Lead me in your justice, Lord.**  
At dawn I bring my plea expectantly before you.  
For you, O God, delight not in wickedness;  
no evil man remains with you;  
the arrogant may not stand in your sight.  
R. **Lead me in your justice, Lord.**  
You hate all evildoers;  
you destroy all who speak falsehood;  
The bloodthirsty and the deceitful  
the LORD abhors.  
R. **Lead me in your justice, Lord.**  
But I, because of your abundant mercy,  
will enter your house;  
I will worship at your holy temple  
in fear of you, O LORD.  
R.**Lead me in your justice, Lord.**

#### Gospel [MT 8:23-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/8:23)

As Jesus got into a boat, his disciples followed him.  
Suddenly a violent storm came up on the sea,  
so that the boat was being swamped by waves;  
but he was asleep.  
They came and woke him, saying,  
“Lord, save us! We are perishing!”  
He said to them, “Why are you terrified, O you of little faith?”  
Then he got up, rebuked the winds and the sea,  
and there was great calm.  
The men were amazed and said, “What sort of man is this,  
whom even the winds and the sea obey?”

**Day 214**

# July 2, 2014

### Wednesday of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 379

#### Reading 1 [AM 5:14-15, 21-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/amos/5:14)

Seek good and not evil,  
that you may live;  
Then truly will the LORD, the God of hosts,  
be with you as you claim!  
Hate evil and love good,  
and let justice prevail at the gate;  
Then it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,  
will have pity on the remnant of Joseph.  
  
I hate, I spurn your feasts, says the LORD,  
I take no pleasure in your solemnities;  
Your cereal offerings I will not accept,  
nor consider your stall-fed peace offerings.  
Away with your noisy songs!  
I will not listen to the melodies of your harps.  
But if you would offer me burnt offerings,  
then let justice surge like water,  
and goodness like an unfailing stream.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16BC-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/50:7)

R. (23b) **To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**  
“Hear, my people, and I will speak;  
Israel, I will testify against you;  
God, your God, am I.”  
R.**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.**  
“For mine are all the animals of the forests,  
beasts by the thousand on my mountains.  
I know all the birds of the air,  
and whatever stirs in the plains, belongs to me.”  
R. **To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**  
“If I were hungry, I should not tell you,  
for mine are the world and its fullness.  
Do I eat the flesh of strong bulls,  
or is the blood of goats my drink?”  
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.**

#### Gospel [MT 8:28-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/8:28)

When Jesus came to the territory of the Gadarenes,  
two demoniacs who were coming from the tombs met him.  
They were so savage that no one could travel by that road.  
They cried out, “What have you to do with us, Son of God?  
Have you come here to torment us before the appointed time?”  
Some distance away a herd of many swine was feeding.  
The demons pleaded with him,  
“If you drive us out, send us into the herd of swine.”  
And he said to them, “Go then!”  
They came out and entered the swine,  
and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea  
where they drowned.  
The swineherds ran away,  
and when they came to the town they reported everything,  
including what had happened to the demoniacs.  
Thereupon the whole town came out to meet Jesus,  
and when they saw him they begged him to leave their district.

**Day 215**

# July 3, 2014

### Feast of Saint Thomas, Apostle Lectionary: 593

#### Reading 1 [EPH 2:19-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/2:19)

Brothers and sisters:  
You are no longer strangers and sojourners,  
but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones  
and members of the household of God,   
built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets,  
with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone.  
Through him the whole structure is held together  
and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord;  
in him you also are being built together  
into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 117:1BC, 2](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/117:1)

R. (Mark 16:15) **Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**  
Praise the LORD, all you nations;  
glorify him, all you peoples!  
R. **Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**  
For steadfast is his kindness for us,  
and the fidelity of the LORD endures forever.   
R. **Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**

#### Gospel [JN 20:24-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/20:24)

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve,  
was not with them when Jesus came.  
So the other disciples said to him, “We have seen the Lord.”  
But Thomas said to them,  
“Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands  
and put my finger into the nailmarks  
and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”  
Now a week later his disciples were again inside  
and Thomas was with them.  
Jesus came, although the doors were locked,  
and stood in their midst and said, “Peace be with you.”  
Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands,  
and bring your hand and put it into my side,  
and do not be unbelieving, but believe.”  
Thomas answered and said to him, “My Lord and my God!”  
Jesus said to him, “Have you come to believe because you have seen me?  
Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

**Day 216**

# July 4, 2014

### Friday of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 381

#### Reading 1 [AM 8:4-6, 9-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/amos/8:4)

Hear this, you who trample upon the needy  
and destroy the poor of the land!  
“When will the new moon be over,” you ask,  
“that we may sell our grain,  
and the sabbath, that we may display the wheat?”  
We will diminish the containers for measuring,  
add to the weights,  
and fix our scales for cheating!  
We will buy the lowly man for silver,  
and the poor man for a pair of sandals;  
even the refuse of the wheat we will sell!”  
  
On that day, says the Lord GOD,  
I will make the sun set at midday  
and cover the earth with darkness in broad daylight.  
I will turn your feasts into mourning  
and all your songs into lamentations.  
I will cover the loins of all with sackcloth  
and make every head bald.  
I will make them mourn as for an only son,  
and bring their day to a bitter end.  
  
Yes, days are coming, says the Lord GOD,  
when I will send famine upon the land:  
Not a famine of bread, or thirst for water,  
but for hearing the word of the LORD.  
Then shall they wander from sea to sea  
and rove from the north to the east  
In search of the word of the LORD,  
but they shall not find it.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:2, 10, 20, 30, 40, 131](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:2)

R.    (Matthew 4:4) **One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**  
Blessed are they who observe his decrees,  
who seek him with all their heart.   
R. **One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**  
With all my heart I seek you;  
let me not stray from your commands.  
R. **One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**  
My soul is consumed with longing  
for your ordinances at all times.   
R. **One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**  
The way of truth I have chosen;  
I have set your ordinances before me.  
R. **One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**  
Behold, I long for your precepts;  
in your justice give me life.  
R. **One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**  
I gasp with open mouth  
in my yearning for your commands.  
R.**One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**

#### Gospel [MT 9:9-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/9:9)

As Jesus passed by,  
he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post.  
He said to him, “Follow me.”  
And he got up and followed him.  
While he was at table in his house,  
many tax collectors and sinners came  
and sat with Jesus and his disciples.  
The Pharisees saw this and said to his disciples,  
“Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”  
He heard this and said,  
“Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do.  
Go and learn the meaning of the words,  
I desire mercy, not sacrifice.  
I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.”

**Day 217**

# July 5, 2014

### Saturday of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 382

#### Reading 1 [AM 9:11-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/amos/9:11)

Thus says the LORD:  
On that day I will raise up  
the fallen hut of David;  
I will wall up its breaches,  
raise up its ruins,  
and rebuild it as in the days of old,  
That they may conquer what is left of Edom  
and all the nations that shall bear my name,  
say I, the LORD, who will do this.  
Yes, days are coming,  
says the LORD,  
When the plowman shall overtake the reaper,  
and the vintager, him who sows the seed;  
The juice of grapes shall drip down the mountains,  
and all the hills shall run with it.  
I will bring about the restoration of my people Israel;  
they shall rebuild and inhabit their ruined cities,  
Plant vineyards and drink the wine,  
set out gardens and eat the fruits.  
I will plant them upon their own ground;  
never again shall they be plucked  
From the land I have given them,  
say I, the LORD, your God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 85:9AB AND 10, 11-12, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/85:9)

R. (see 9b) **The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**  
I will hear what God proclaims;  
the LORD–for he proclaims peace to his people.  
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,  
glory dwelling in our land.  
R. **The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**  
Kindness and truth shall meet;  
justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth,  
and justice shall look down from heaven.   
R. **The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**  
The LORD himself will give his benefits;  
our land shall yield its increase.  
Justice shall walk before him,  
and salvation, along the way of his steps.  
R. **The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

#### Gospel [MT 9:14-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/9:14)

The disciples of John approached Jesus and said,  
“Why do we and the Pharisees fast much,  
but your disciples do not fast?”  
Jesus answered them, “Can the wedding guests mourn  
as long as the bridegroom is with them?  
The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them,  
and then they will fast.  
No one patches an old cloak with a piece of unshrunken cloth,  
for its fullness pulls away from the cloak and the tear gets worse.  
People do not put new wine into old wineskins.  
Otherwise the skins burst, the wine spills out, and the skins are ruined.  
Rather, they pour new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved.”

**Day 218**

# July 6, 2014

### Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 100

#### Reading 1 [ZEC 9:9-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/zechariah/9:9)

Thus says the LORD:  
Rejoice heartily, O daughter Zion,  
shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem!  
See, your king shall come to you;  
a just savior is he,  
meek, and riding on an ass,  
on a colt, the foal of an ass.  
He shall banish the chariot from Ephraim,  
and the horse from Jerusalem;  
the warrior’s bow shall be banished,  
and he shall proclaim peace to the nations.  
His dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

#### Reading 2 [ROM 8:9, 11-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/8:9)

Brothers and sisters:  
You are not in the flesh;  
on the contrary, you are in the spirit,  
if only the Spirit of God dwells in you.   
Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.   
If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you,  
the one who raised Christ from the dead  
will give life to your mortal bodies also,  
through his Spirit that dwells in you.  
Consequently, brothers and sisters,  
we are not debtors to the flesh,  
to live according to the flesh.   
For if you live according to the flesh, you will die,  
but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body,  
you will live.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:1)

R/ (cf. 1) **I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
I will extol you, O my God and King,  
and I will bless your name forever and ever.  
Every day will I bless you,  
and I will praise your name forever and ever.  
R/ **I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
The LORD is good to all  
and compassionate toward all his works.  
R/**I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**  
Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD,  
and let your faithful ones bless you.  
Let them discourse of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your might.  
R/ **I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**  
or:  
R/  **Alleluia.**  
The LORD is faithful in all his words  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD lifts up all who are falling  
and raises up all who are bowed down.  
R/ **I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**  
or:  
R/ **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MT 11:25-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/11:25)

At that time Jesus exclaimed:   
“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for although you have hidden these things  
from the wise and the learned  
you have revealed them to little ones.  
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.  
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.   
No one knows the Son except the Father,  
and no one knows the Father except the Son  
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.”  
  
“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,  
and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am meek and humble of heart;  
and you will find rest for yourselves.   
For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

**Day 219**

# July 7, 2014

### Monday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 383

#### Reading 1 [HOS 2:16, 17C-18, 21-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hosea/2:16)

Thus says the LORD:  
I will allure her;  
I will lead her into the desert  
and speak to her heart.  
She shall respond there as in the days of her youth,  
when she came up from the land of Egypt.  
  
On that day, says the LORD,  
She shall call me “My husband,”  
and never again “My baal.”  
  
I will espouse you to me forever:  
I will espouse you in right and in justice,  
in love and in mercy;  
I will espouse you in fidelity,  
and you shall know the LORD.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:2)

R. (8a) **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**  
Every day will I bless you,  
and I will praise your name forever and ever.  
Great is the LORD and highly to be praised;  
his greatness is unsearchable.  
R. **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**  
Generation after generation praises your works  
and proclaims your might.  
They speak of the splendor of your glorious majesty  
and tell of your wondrous works.   
R. **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**  
They discourse of the power of your terrible deeds  
and declare your greatness.  
They publish the fame of your abundant goodness  
and joyfully sing of your justice.   
R. **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**  
The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
The LORD is good to all  
and compassionate toward all his works.  
R. **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**

#### Gospel [MT 9:18-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/9:18)

While Jesus was speaking, an official came forward,  
knelt down before him, and said,  
“My daughter has just died.  
But come, lay your hand on her, and she will live.”  
Jesus rose and followed him, and so did his disciples.  
A woman suffering hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him  
and touched the tassel on his cloak.  
She said to herself, “If only I can touch his cloak, I shall be cured.”  
Jesus turned around and saw her, and said,  
“Courage, daughter! Your faith has saved you.”  
And from that hour the woman was cured.  
  
When Jesus arrived at the official’s house  
and saw the flute players and the crowd who were making a commotion,  
he said, “Go away! The girl is not dead but sleeping.”  
And they ridiculed him.  
When the crowd was put out, he came and took her by the hand,  
and the little girl arose.  
And news of this spread throughout all that land.

**Day 220**

# July 8, 2014

### Tuesday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 384

#### Reading 1 [HOS 8:4-7, 11-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hosea/8:4)

Thus says the LORD:  
They made kings in Israel, but not by my authority;  
they established princes, but without my approval.  
With their silver and gold they made  
idols for themselves, to their own destruction.  
Cast away your calf, O Samaria!  
my wrath is kindled against them;  
How long will they be unable to attain  
innocence in Israel?  
The work of an artisan,  
no god at all,  
Destined for the flames—  
such is the calf of Samaria!  
  
When they sow the wind,   
they shall reap the whirlwind;  
The stalk of grain that forms no ear  
can yield no flour;  
Even if it could,  
strangers would swallow it.  
  
When Ephraim made many altars to expiate sin,  
his altars became occasions of sin.  
Though I write for him my many ordinances,  
they are considered as a stranger’s.  
Though they offer sacrifice,  
immolate flesh and eat it,  
the LORD is not pleased with them.  
He shall still remember their guilt  
and punish their sins;  
they shall return to Egypt.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 115:3-4, 5-6, 7AB-8, 9-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/115:3)

R. (9a) **The house of Israel trusts in the Lord.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
Our God is in heaven;  
whatever he wills, he does.  
Their idols are silver and gold,  
the handiwork of men.  
R. **The house of Israel trusts in the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
They have mouths but speak not;  
they have eyes but see not;  
They have ears but hear not;  
they have noses but smell not.  
R. **The house of Israel trusts in the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
They have hands but feel not;  
they have feet but walk not.  
Their makers shall be like them,  
everyone that trusts in them.  
R. **The house of Israel trusts in the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MT 9:32-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/9:32)

A demoniac who could not speak was brought to Jesus,  
and when the demon was driven out the mute man spoke.  
The crowds were amazed and said,  
“Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel.”  
But the Pharisees said,  
“He drives out demons by the prince of demons.”  
  
Jesus went around to all the towns and villages,  
teaching in their synagogues,  
proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom,  
and curing every disease and illness.  
At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them  
because they were troubled and abandoned,  
like sheep without a shepherd.  
Then he said to his disciples,  
“The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few;  
so ask the master of the harvest  
to send out laborers for his harvest.”

**Day 221**

# July 9, 2014

### Wednesday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 385

#### Reading 1 [HOS 10:1-3, 7-8, 12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hosea/10:1)

Israel is a luxuriant vine  
whose fruit matches its growth.  
The more abundant his fruit,  
the more altars he built;  
The more productive his land,  
the more sacred pillars he set up.  
Their heart is false,  
now they pay for their guilt;  
God shall break down their altars  
and destroy their sacred pillars.  
If they would say,  
“We have no king”—  
Since they do not fear the LORD,  
what can the king do for them?  
  
The king of Samaria shall disappear,  
like foam upon the waters.  
The high places of Aven shall be destroyed,  
the sin of Israel;  
thorns and thistles shall overgrow their altars.  
Then they shall cry out to the mountains, “Cover us!”  
and to the hills, “Fall upon us!”  
  
“Sow for yourselves justice,  
reap the fruit of piety;  
break up for yourselves a new field,  
for it is time to seek the LORD,  
till he come and rain down justice upon you.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/105:2)

R. (4b) **Seek always the face of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Sing to him, sing his praise,  
proclaim all his wondrous deeds.  
Glory in his holy name;  
rejoice, O hearts that seek the LORD!  
R. **Seek always the face of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Look to the LORD in his strength;  
seek to serve him constantly.  
Recall the wondrous deeds that he has wrought,  
his portents, and the judgments he has uttered.  
R. **Seek always the face of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
You descendants of Abraham, his servants,  
sons of Jacob, his chosen ones!  
He, the LORD, is our God;  
throughout the earth his judgments prevail.  
R. **Seek always the face of the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MT 10:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/10:1)

Jesus summoned his Twelve disciples  
and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out  
and to cure every disease and every illness.  
The names of the Twelve Apostles are these:  
first, Simon called Peter, and his brother Andrew;  
James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John;  
Philip and Bartholomew,  
Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;  
James, the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus;  
Simon the Cananean, and Judas Iscariot  
who betrayed Jesus.  
  
Jesus sent out these Twelve after instructing them thus,  
“Do not go into pagan territory or enter a Samaritan town.  
Go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.  
As you go, make this proclamation: ‘The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”

**Day 222**

# July 10, 2014

### Thursday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 386

#### Reading 1 [HOS 11:1-4, 8E-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hosea/11:1)

Thus says the LORD:  
When Israel was a child I loved him,   
out of Egypt I called my son.  
The more I called them,  
the farther they went from me,  
Sacrificing to the Baals  
and burning incense to idols.  
Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk,  
who took them in my arms;  
I drew them with human cords,  
with bands of love;  
I fostered them like one  
who raises an infant to his cheeks;  
Yet, though I stooped to feed my child,  
they did not know that I was their healer.  
  
My heart is overwhelmed,  
my pity is stirred.  
I will not give vent to my blazing anger,  
I will not destroy Ephraim again;  
For I am God and not man,  
the Holy One present among you;  
I will not let the flames consume you.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 80:2AC AND 3B, 15-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/80:2)

R. (4b) **Let us see your face, Lord, and we shall be saved.**  
O shepherd of Israel, hearken.  
From your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth.  
Rouse your power.  
R.**Let us see your face, Lord, 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. **Let us see your face, Lord, and we shall be saved.**

#### Gospel [MT 10:7-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/10:7)

Jesus said to his Apostles:  
“As you go, make this proclamation:  
‘The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.’  
Cure the sick, raise the dead,  
cleanse the lepers, drive out demons.  
Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.  
Do not take gold or silver or copper for your belts;  
no sack for the journey, or a second tunic,  
or sandals, or walking stick.  
The laborer deserves his keep.  
Whatever town or village you enter, look for a worthy person in it,  
and stay there until you leave.  
As you enter a house, wish it peace.  
If the house is worthy,  
let your peace come upon it;  
if not, let your peace return to you.  
Whoever will not receive you or listen to your words --  
go outside that house or town and shake the dust from your feet.  
Amen, I say to you, it will be more tolerable  
for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment  
than for that town.”

**Day 223**

# July 11, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Benedict, Abbot Lectionary: 387

#### Reading 1 [HOS 14:2-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/hosea/14:2)

Thus says the LORD:  
Return, O Israel, to the LORD, your God;  
you have collapsed through your guilt.  
Take with you words,  
and return to the LORD;  
Say to him, “Forgive all iniquity,  
and receive what is good, that we may render  
as offerings the bullocks from our stalls.  
Assyria will not save us,  
nor shall we have horses to mount;  
We shall say no more, ‘Our god,’  
to the work of our hands;  
for in you the orphan finds compassion.”  
I will heal their defection, says the LORD,  
I will love them freely;  
for my wrath is turned away from them.  
I will be like the dew for Israel:  
he shall blossom like the lily;  
He shall strike root like the Lebanon cedar,  
and put forth his shoots.  
His splendor shall be like the olive tree  
and his fragrance like the Lebanon cedar.  
Again they shall dwell in his shade  
and raise grain;  
They shall blossom like the vine,  
and his fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon.  
  
Ephraim! What more has he to do with idols?  
I have humbled him, but I will prosper him.  
“I am like a verdant cypress tree”—  
because of me you bear fruit!  
  
Let him who is wise understand these things;  
let him who is prudent know them.  
Straight are the paths of the LORD,  
in them the just walk,  
but sinners stumble in them.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 AND 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:3)

R. (17b) **My mouth will declare your praise.**  
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. **My mouth will declare your praise.**  
Behold, you are pleased with sincerity of heart,  
and in my inmost being you teach me wisdom.  
Cleanse me of sin with hyssop, that I may be purified;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.   
R. **My mouth will declare your praise.**  
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. **My mouth will declare your praise.**  
Give me back the joy of your salvation,  
and a willing spirit sustain in me.  
O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
R. **My mouth will declare your praise.**

#### Gospel [MT 10:16-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/10:16)

Jesus said to his Apostles:  
“Behold, I am sending you like sheep in the midst of wolves;  
so be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves.  
But beware of men,   
for they will hand you over to courts  
and scourge you in their synagogues,  
and you will be led before governors and kings for my sake  
as a witness before them and the pagans.  
When they hand you over,  
do not worry about how you are to speak  
or what you are to say.  
You will be given at that moment what you are to say.  
For it will not be you who speak  
but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.  
Brother will hand over brother to death,  
and the father his child;  
children will rise up against parents and have them put to death.  
You will be hated by all because of my name,  
but whoever endures to the end will be saved.  
When they persecute you in one town, flee to another.  
Amen, I say to you, you will not finish the towns of Israel  
before the Son of Man comes.”

**Day 224**

# July 12, 2014

### Saturday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 388

#### Reading 1 [IS 6:1-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/6:1)

In the year King Uzziah died,  
I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne,  
with the train of his garment filling the temple.  
Seraphim were stationed above; each of them had six wings:  
with two they veiled their faces,  
with two they veiled their feet,  
and with two they hovered aloft.  
  
They cried one to the other,  
“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts!  
All the earth is filled with his glory!”  
At the sound of that cry, the frame of the door shook  
and the house was filled with smoke.  
  
Then I said, “Woe is me, I am doomed!  
For I am a man of unclean lips,  
living among a people of unclean lips;  
yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”  
Then one of the seraphim flew to me,  
holding an ember that he had taken with tongs from the altar.  
  
He touched my mouth with it and said,  
“See, now that this has touched your lips,  
your wickedness is removed, your sin purged.”  
  
Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,  
“Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?”  
“Here I am,” I said; “send me!”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 93:1AB, 1CD-2, 5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/93:1)

R. (1a) **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**  
The LORD is king, in splendor robed;  
robed is the LORD and girt about with strength.  
R. **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**  
And he has made the world firm,   
not to be moved.  
Your throne stands firm from of old;  
from everlasting you are, O LORD.  
R.**The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**  
Your decrees are worthy of trust indeed:  
holiness befits your house,  
O LORD, for length of days.  
R. **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**

#### Gospel [MT 10:24-33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/10:24)

Jesus said to his Apostles:   
“No disciple is above his teacher,  
no slave above his master.  
It is enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher,  
for the slave that he become like his master.  
If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul,  
how much more those of his household!  
  
“Therefore do not be afraid of them.  
Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed,  
nor secret that will not be known.  
What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light;  
what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.  
And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul;  
rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy  
both soul and body in Gehenna.  
Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin?  
Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father’s knowledge.  
Even all the hairs of your head are counted.  
So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.  
Everyone who acknowledges me before others  
I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.  
But whoever denies me before others,  
I will deny before my heavenly Father.”

**Day 225**

# July 13, 2014

### Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 103

#### Reading 1 [IS 55:10-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/55:10)

Thus says the LORD:  
Just as from the heavens  
the rain and snow come down  
and do not return there  
till they have watered the earth,  
making it fertile and fruitful,  
giving seed to the one who sows  
and bread to the one who eats,  
so shall my word be  
that goes forth from my mouth;  
my word shall not return to me void,  
but shall do my will,  
achieving the end for which I sent it.

#### Reading 2[ROM 8:18-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/8:18)

Brothers and sisters:  
I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing  
compared with the glory to be revealed for us.   
For creation awaits with eager expectation  
the revelation of the children of God;  
for creation was made subject to futility,  
not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it,  
in hope that creation itself  
would be set free from slavery to corruption  
and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.   
We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now;  
and not only that, but we ourselves,  
who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,  
we also groan within ourselves  
as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/65:10)

R/ (Lk 8:8) **The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**  
You have visited the land and watered it;  
greatly have you enriched it.  
God’s watercourses are filled;  
you have prepared the grain.  
R/ **The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**  
Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows,  
breaking up its clods,  
Softening it with showers,  
blessing its yield.  
R/ **The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**  
You have crowned the year with your bounty,  
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;  
The untilled meadows overflow with it,  
and rejoicing clothes the hills.  
R/ **The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**  
The fields are garmented with flocks  
and the valleys blanketed with grain.  
They shout and sing for joy.  
R/ **The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

#### Gospel [MT 13:1-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:1)

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea.  
Such large crowds gathered around him  
that he got into a boat and sat down,  
and the whole crowd stood along the shore.   
And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying:  
“A sower went out to sow.   
And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path,  
and birds came and ate it up.   
Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil.   
It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep,  
and when the sun rose it was scorched,  
and it withered for lack of roots.   
Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it.   
But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit,  
a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.   
Whoever has ears ought to hear.”  
  
The disciples approached him and said,  
“Why do you speak to them in parables?”   
He said to them in reply,  
“Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven  
has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted.   
To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich;  
from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away.   
This is why I speak to them in parables, because  
they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.   
Isaiah’s prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says:  
You shall indeed hear but not understand,you shall indeed look but never see.Gross is the heart of this people,they will hardly hear with their ears,they have closed their eyes,lest they see with their eyesand hear with their earsand understand with their hearts and be converted,and I heal them.   
  
“But blessed are your eyes, because they see,  
and your ears, because they hear.   
Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people  
longed to see what you see but did not see it,  
and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.  
  
“Hear then the parable of the sower.  
The seed sown on the path is the one  
who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it,  
and the evil one comes and steals away  
what was sown in his heart.  
The seed sown on rocky ground  
is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy.   
But he has no root and lasts only for a time.   
When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word,  
he immediately falls away.   
The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word,  
but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word  
and it bears no fruit.   
But the seed sown on rich soil  
is the one who hears the word and understands it,  
who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”

**Day 226**

# July 14, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin Lectionary: 389

#### Reading 1 [IS 1:10-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/1:10)

Hear the word of the LORD,  
princes of Sodom!  
Listen to the instruction of our God,  
people of Gomorrah!  
What care I for the number of your sacrifices?  
says the LORD.  
I have had enough of whole-burnt rams  
and fat of fatlings;  
In the blood of calves, lambs and goats  
I find no pleasure.  
  
When you come in to visit me,  
who asks these things of you?  
Trample my courts no more!  
Bring no more worthless offerings;  
your incense is loathsome to me.  
New moon and sabbath, calling of assemblies,  
octaves with wickedness: these I cannot bear.  
Your new moons and festivals I detest;  
they weigh me down, I tire of the load.  
When you spread out your hands,  
I close my eyes to you;  
Though you pray the more,  
I will not listen.  
Your hands are full of blood!  
Wash yourselves clean!  
Put away your misdeeds from before my eyes;  
cease doing evil; learn to do good.  
Make justice your aim: redress the wronged,  
hear the orphan’s plea, defend the widow.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 50:8-9, 16BC-17, 21 AND 23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/50:8)

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 you 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.**

#### Gospel [MT 10:34-11:1](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/10:34)

Jesus said to his Apostles:  
“Do not think that I have come to bring peace upon the earth.  
I have come to bring not peace but the sword.  
For I have come to set  
a man against his father,  
a daughter against her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;  
and one’s enemies will be those of his household.  
  
“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me,  
and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me;  
and whoever does not take up his cross  
and follow after me is not worthy of me.  
Whoever finds his life will lose it,  
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.  
  
“Whoever receives you receives me,  
and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.  
Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet  
will receive a prophet’s reward,  
and whoever receives a righteous man  
because he is righteous   
will receive a righteous man’s reward.  
And whoever gives only a cup of cold water  
to one of these little ones to drink  
because he is a disciple–  
amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.”  
  
When Jesus finished giving these commands to his Twelve disciples,  
he went away from that place to teach and to preach in their towns.

**Day 227**

# July 15, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 390

#### Reading 1 [IS 7:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/7:1)

In the days of Ahaz, king of Judah, son of Jotham, son of Uzziah,  
Rezin, king of Aram,  
and Pekah, king of Israel, son of Remaliah,  
went up to attack Jerusalem,  
but they were not able to conquer it.  
When word came to the house of David that Aram  
was encamped in Ephraim,  
the heart of the king and the heart of the people trembled,  
as the trees of the forest tremble in the wind.  
  
Then the LORD said to Isaiah: Go out to meet Ahaz,  
you and your son Shear-jashub,  
at the end of the conduit of the upper pool,  
on the highway of the fuller’s field, and say to him:  
Take care you remain tranquil and do not fear;  
let not your courage fail  
before these two stumps of smoldering brands  
the blazing anger of Rezin and the Arameans,  
and of the son Remaliah,  
because of the mischief that  
Aram, Ephraim and the son of Remaliah,  
plots against you, saying,  
“Let us go up and tear Judah asunder, make it our own by force,  
and appoint the son of Tabeel king there.”  
  
Thus says the LORD:  
This shall not stand, it shall not be!  
Damascus is the capital of Aram,  
and Rezin is the head of Damascus;  
Samaria is the capital of Ephraim,  
and Remaliah’s son the head of Samaria.  
  
But within sixty years and five,  
Ephraim shall be crushed, no longer a nation.  
Unless your faith is firm  
you shall not be firm!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 48:2-3A, 3B-4, 5-6, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/48:2)

R. (see 9d) **God upholds his city for ever.**  
Great is the LORD and wholly to be praised  
in the city of our God.  
His holy mountain, fairest of heights,  
is the joy of all the earth.  
R. **God upholds his city for ever.**  
Mount Zion, “the recesses of the North,”  
is the city of the great King.  
God is with her castles;  
renowned is he as a stronghold.   
R. **God upholds his city for ever.**  
For lo! the kings assemble,  
they come on together;  
They also see, and at once are stunned,  
terrified, routed.  
R. **God upholds his city for ever.**  
Quaking seizes them there;  
anguish, like a woman’s in labor,  
As though a wind from the east  
were shattering ships of Tarshish.   
R. **God upholds his city for ever.**

#### Gospel [MT 11:20-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/11:20)

Jesus began to reproach the towns  
where most of his mighty deeds had been done,  
since they had not repented.  
“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!  
For if the mighty deeds done in your midst  
had been done in Tyre and Sidon,  
they would long ago have repented in sackcloth and ashes.  
But I tell you, it will be more tolerable  
for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you.  
And as for you, Capernaum:  
  
Will you be exalted to heaven?You will go down to the nether world.  
  
For if the mighty deeds done in your midst had been done in Sodom,  
it would have remained until this day.  
But I tell you, it will be more tolerable  
for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment than for you.”

**Day 228**

# July 16, 2014

### Wednesday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 391

#### Reading 1 [IS 10:5-7, 13B-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/10:5)

Thus says the LORD:  
Woe to Assyria! My rod in anger,  
my staff in wrath.  
Against an impious nation I send him,  
and against a people under my wrath I order him  
To seize plunder, carry off loot,  
and tread them down like the mud of the streets.  
But this is not what he intends,  
nor does he have this in mind;  
Rather, it is in his heart to destroy,  
to make an end of nations not a few.  
  
For he says:  
“By my own power I have done it,  
and by my wisdom, for I am shrewd.  
I have moved the boundaries of peoples,  
their treasures I have pillaged,  
and, like a giant, I have put down the enthroned.  
My hand has seized like a nest  
the riches of nations;  
As one takes eggs left alone,  
so I took in all the earth;  
No one fluttered a wing,  
or opened a mouth, or chirped!”  
  
Will the axe boast against him who hews with it?  
Will the saw exalt itself above him who wields it?  
As if a rod could sway him who lifts it,  
or a staff him who is not wood!  
Therefore the Lord, the LORD of hosts,  
will send among his fat ones leanness,  
And instead of his glory there will be kindling  
like the kindling of fire.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/94:5)

R. (14a) **The Lord will not abandon his people.**  
Your people, O LORD, they trample down,  
your inheritance they afflict.  
Widow and stranger they slay,  
the fatherless they murder.   
R. **The Lord will not abandon his people.**  
And they say, “The LORD sees not;  
the God of Jacob perceives not.”  
Understand, you senseless ones among the people;  
and, you fools, when will you be wise?  
R. **The Lord will not abandon his people.**  
Shall he who shaped the ear not hear?  
or he who formed the eye not see?  
Shall he who instructs nations not chastise,  
he who teaches men knowledge?  
R.**The Lord will not abandon his people.**  
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.**The Lord will not abandon his people.**

#### Gospel [MT 11:20-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/11:20)

Jesus began to reproach the towns  
where most of his mighty deeds had been done,  
since they had not repented.  
“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!  
For if the mighty deeds done in your midst  
had been done in Tyre and Sidon,  
they would long ago have repented in sackcloth and ashes.  
But I tell you, it will be more tolerable  
for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you.  
And as for you, Capernaum:  
  
Will you be exalted to heaven?You will go down to the nether world.  
  
For if the mighty deeds done in your midst had been done in Sodom,  
it would have remained until this day.  
But I tell you, it will be more tolerable  
for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment than for you.”

**Day 229**

# July 16, 2014

### Wednesday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 391

#### Reading 1 [IS 10:5-7, 13B-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/10:5)

Thus says the LORD:  
Woe to Assyria! My rod in anger,  
my staff in wrath.  
Against an impious nation I send him,  
and against a people under my wrath I order him  
To seize plunder, carry off loot,  
and tread them down like the mud of the streets.  
But this is not what he intends,  
nor does he have this in mind;  
Rather, it is in his heart to destroy,  
to make an end of nations not a few.  
  
For he says:  
“By my own power I have done it,  
and by my wisdom, for I am shrewd.  
I have moved the boundaries of peoples,  
their treasures I have pillaged,  
and, like a giant, I have put down the enthroned.  
My hand has seized like a nest  
the riches of nations;  
As one takes eggs left alone,  
so I took in all the earth;  
No one fluttered a wing,  
or opened a mouth, or chirped!”  
  
Will the axe boast against him who hews with it?  
Will the saw exalt itself above him who wields it?  
As if a rod could sway him who lifts it,  
or a staff him who is not wood!  
Therefore the Lord, the LORD of hosts,  
will send among his fat ones leanness,  
And instead of his glory there will be kindling  
like the kindling of fire.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/94:5)

R. (14a) **The Lord will not abandon his people.**  
Your people, O LORD, they trample down,  
your inheritance they afflict.  
Widow and stranger they slay,  
the fatherless they murder.   
R. **The Lord will not abandon his people.**  
And they say, “The LORD sees not;  
the God of Jacob perceives not.”  
Understand, you senseless ones among the people;  
and, you fools, when will you be wise?  
R. **The Lord will not abandon his people.**  
Shall he who shaped the ear not hear?  
or he who formed the eye not see?  
Shall he who instructs nations not chastise,  
he who teaches men knowledge?  
R.**The Lord will not abandon his people.**  
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.**The Lord will not abandon his people.**

#### Gospel [MT 11:25-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/11:25)

At that time Jesus exclaimed:   
“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for although you have hidden these things  
from the wise and the learned  
you have revealed them to the childlike.  
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.  
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.  
No one knows the Son except the Father,  
and no one knows the Father except the Son  
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.”

**Day 230**

# July 17, 2014

### Thursday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 392

#### Reading 1 [IS 26:7-9, 12, 16-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/26:7)

The way of the just is smooth;  
the path of the just you make level.  
Yes, for your way and your judgments, O LORD,  
we look to you;  
Your name and your title  
are the desire of our souls.  
My soul yearns for you in the night,  
yes, my spirit within me keeps vigil for you;  
When your judgment dawns upon the earth,  
the world’s inhabitants learn justice.  
O LORD, you mete out peace to us,  
for it is you who have accomplished all we have done.  
  
O LORD, oppressed by your punishment,  
we cried out in anguish under your chastising.  
As a woman about to give birth  
writhes and cries out in her pains,  
so were we in your presence, O LORD.  
We conceived and writhed in pain,  
giving birth to wind;  
Salvation we have not achieved for the earth,  
the inhabitants of the world cannot bring it forth.  
But your dead shall live, their corpses shall rise;  
awake and sing, you who lie in the dust.  
For your dew is a dew of light,  
and the land of shades gives birth.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 102:13-14AB AND 15, 16-18, 19-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/102:13)

R. (20b) **From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.**  
You, O LORD, abide forever,  
and your name through all generations.  
You will arise and have mercy on Zion,  
for it is time to pity her.  
For her stones are dear to your servants,  
and her dust moves them to pity.   
R.**From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.**  
The nations shall revere your name, O LORD,  
and all the kings of the earth your glory,  
When the LORD has rebuilt Zion  
and appeared in his glory;  
When he has regarded the prayer of the destitute,  
and not despised their prayer.  
R. **From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.**  
Let this be written for the generation to come,  
and let his future creatures praise the LORD:  
“The LORD looked down from his holy height,  
from heaven he beheld the earth,  
To hear the groaning of the prisoners,  
to release those doomed to die.”  
R.**From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.**

#### Gospel [MT 11:28-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/11:28)

Jesus said:  
“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,  
and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,  
for I am meek and humble of heart;  
and you will find rest for yourselves.  
For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

**Day 231**

# July 18, 2014

### Friday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 393

#### Reading 1 [IS 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/38:1)

When Hezekiah was mortally ill,  
the prophet Isaiah, son of Amoz, came and said to him:  
“Thus says the LORD: Put your house in order,  
for you are about to die; you shall not recover.”  
Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD:  
  
“O LORD, remember how faithfully and wholeheartedly  
I conducted myself in your presence,  
doing what was pleasing to you!”  
And Hezekiah wept bitterly.  
  
Then the word of the LORD came to Isaiah: “Go, tell Hezekiah:  
Thus says the LORD, the God of your father David:  
I have heard your prayer and seen your tears.  
I will heal you: in three days you shall go up to the LORD’s temple;  
I will add fifteen years to your life.  
I will rescue you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria;  
I will be a shield to this city.”  
  
Isaiah then ordered a poultice of figs to be taken  
and applied to the boil, that he might recover.  
Then Hezekiah asked,  
“What is the sign that I shall go up to the temple of the LORD?”  
  
Isaiah answered:  
“This will be the sign for you from the LORD  
that he will do what he has promised:  
See, I will make the shadow cast by the sun  
on the stairway to the terrace of Ahaz  
go back the ten steps it has advanced.”  
So the sun came back the ten steps it had advanced.

#### Responsorial Psalm [IS 38:10, 11, 12ABCD, 16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/38:10)

R. (see 17b) **You saved my life, O Lord; I shall not die.**  
Once I said,  
“In the noontime of life I must depart!  
To the gates of the nether world I shall be consigned  
for the rest of my years.”   
R. **You saved my life, O Lord; I shall not die.**  
I said, “I shall see the LORD no more  
in the land of the living.  
No longer shall I behold my fellow men  
among those who dwell in the world.”  
R. **You saved my life, O Lord; I shall not die.**  
My dwelling, like a shepherd’s tent,  
is struck down and borne away from me;  
You have folded up my life, like a weaver  
who severs the last thread.  
R. **You saved my life, O Lord; I shall not die.**  
Those live whom the LORD protects;  
yours is the life of my spirit.  
You have given me health and life.  
R. **You saved my life, O Lord; I shall not die.**

#### Gospel [MT 12:1-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/12:1)

Jesus was going through a field of grain on the sabbath.  
His disciples were hungry  
and began to pick the heads of grain and eat them.  
When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him,  
“See, your disciples are doing what is unlawful to do on the sabbath.”  
He said to the them, “Have you not read what David did  
when he and his companions were hungry,  
how he went into the house of God and ate the bread of offering,  
which neither he nor his companions  
but only the priests could lawfully eat?  
Or have you not read in the law that on the sabbath  
the priests serving in the temple violate the sabbath  
and are innocent?  
I say to you, something greater than the temple is here.  
If you knew what this meant, I desire mercy, not sacrifice,  
you would not have condemned these innocent men.  
For the Son of Man is Lord of the sabbath.”

**Day 232**

# July 19, 2014

### Saturday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 394

#### Reading 1 [MI 2:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/micah/2:1)

Woe to those who plan iniquity,  
and work out evil on their couches;  
In the morning light they accomplish it  
when it lies within their power.  
They covet fields, and seize them;  
houses, and they take them;  
They cheat an owner of his house,  
a man of his inheritance.  
Therefore thus says the LORD:  
Behold, I am planning against this race an evil  
from which you shall not withdraw your necks;  
Nor shall you walk with head high,  
for it will be a time of evil.  
  
On that day a satire shall be sung over you,  
and there shall be a plaintive chant:  
“Our ruin is complete,  
our fields are portioned out among our captors,  
The fields of my people are measured out,  
and no one can get them back!”  
Thus you shall have no one  
to mark out boundaries by lot  
in the assembly of the LORD.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/10:1)

R. (12b) **Do not forget the poor, O Lord!**  
Why, O LORD, do you stand aloof?  
Why hide in times of distress?  
Proudly the wicked harass the afflicted,  
who are caught in the devices the wicked have contrived.   
R. **Do not forget the poor, O Lord!**  
For the wicked man glories in his greed,  
and the covetous blasphemes, sets the LORD at nought.  
The wicked man boasts, “He will not avenge it”;  
“There is no God,” sums up his thoughts.   
R.**Do not forget the poor, O Lord!**  
His mouth is full of cursing, guile and deceit;  
under his tongue are mischief and iniquity.  
He lurks in ambush near the villages;  
in hiding he murders the innocent;  
his eyes spy upon the unfortunate.   
R. **Do not forget the poor, O Lord!**  
You do see, for you behold misery and sorrow,  
taking them in your hands.  
On you the unfortunate man depends;  
of the fatherless you are the helper.  
R. **Do not forget the poor, O Lord!**

#### Gospel [MT 12:14-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/12:14)

The Pharisees went out and took counsel against Jesus  
to put him to death.  
  
When Jesus realized this, he withdrew from that place.  
Many people followed him, and he cured them all,  
but he warned them not to make him known.  
This was to fulfill what had been spoken through Isaiah the prophet:  
  
Behold, my servant whom I have chosen,my beloved in whom I delight;I shall place my Spirit upon him,and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.He will not contend or cry out,nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets.A bruised reed he will not break,a smoldering wick he will not quench,until he brings justice to victory.And in his name the Gentiles will hope.

# **Day 233**

# July 20, 2014

### Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 106

#### Reading 1[WIS 12:13, 16-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/wisdom/12:13)

There is no god besides you who have the care of all,  
that you need show you have not unjustly condemned.  
For your might is the source of justice;  
your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all.  
For you show your might when the perfection of your power is disbelieved;  
and in those who know you, you rebuke temerity.  
But though you are master of might, you judge with clemency,  
and with much lenience you govern us;  
for power, whenever you will, attends you.  
And you taught your people, by these deeds,  
that those who are just must be kind;  
and you gave your children good ground for hope  
that you would permit repentance for their sins.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/86:5)

R/ (5a) **Lord, you are good and forgiving.**  
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/ **Lord, you are good and forgiving.**  
All the nations you have made shall come  
and worship you, O LORD,  
and glorify your name.  
For you are great, and you do wondrous deeds;  
you alone are God.  
R/**Lord, you are good and forgiving.**  
You, O LORD, are a God merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in kindness and fidelity.  
Turn toward me, and have pity on me;  
give your strength to your servant.  
R/ **Lord, you are good and forgiving.**

#### Reading 2[ROM 8:26-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/8:26)

Brothers and sisters:  
The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness;  
for we do not know how to pray as we ought,  
but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.   
And the one who searches hearts  
knows what is the intention of the Spirit,  
because he intercedes for the holy ones  
according to God’s will.

#### Gospel [MT 13:24-43](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:24)

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying:  
“The kingdom of heaven may be likened  
to a man who sowed good seed in his field.   
While everyone was asleep his enemy came  
and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off.   
When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well.   
The slaves of the householder came to him and said,  
‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field?   
Where have the weeds come from?’  
He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’  
His slaves said to him,  
‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’  
He replied, ‘No, if you pull up the weeds  
you might uproot the wheat along with them.   
Let them grow together until harvest;  
then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters,  
“First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning;  
but gather the wheat into my barn.”’”  
  
He proposed another parable to them.   
“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed  
that a person took and sowed in a field.   
It is the smallest of all the seeds,  
yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.   
It becomes a large bush,  
and the ‘birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.’”  
  
He spoke to them another parable.   
“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast  
that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour  
until the whole batch was leavened.”  
  
All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables.   
He spoke to them only in parables,  
to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:  
I will open my mouth in parables,I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundationof the world.  
  
Then, dismissing the crowds, he went into the house.   
His disciples approached him and said,  
“Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”   
He said in reply, “He who sows good seed is the Son of Man,  
the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom.   
The weeds are the children of the evil one,  
and the enemy who sows them is the devil.  
The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.   
Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire,  
so will it be at the end of the age.   
The Son of Man will send his angels,  
and they will collect out of his kingdom  
all who cause others to sin and all evildoers.   
They will throw them into the fiery furnace,  
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.   
Then the righteous will shine like the sun   
in the kingdom of their Father.   
Whoever has ears ought to hear.”

**Day 234**

# July 21, 2014

### Monday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 395

#### Reading 1 [MI 6:1-4, 6-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/micah/6:1)

Hear what the LORD says:  
Arise, present your plea before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice!  
Hear, O mountains, the plea of the LORD,  
pay attention, O foundations of the earth!  
For the LORD has a plea against his people,  
and he enters into trial with Israel.  
  
O my people, what have I done to you,  
or how have I wearied you? Answer me!  
For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
from the place of slavery I released you;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.  
  
With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow before God most high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with myriad streams of oil?  
Shall I give my first-born for my crime,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?  
You have been told, O man, what is good,  
and what the LORD requires of you:  
Only to do the right and to love goodness,  
and to walk humbly with your God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 50:5-6, 8-9, 16BC-17, 21 AND 23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/50:5)

R. (23b) **To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**  
“Gather my faithful ones before me,  
those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”  
And the heavens proclaim his justice;  
for God himself is the judge.  
R. **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.**

#### Gospel [MT 12:38-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/12:38)

Some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Jesus,  
“Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.”  
He said to them in reply,  
“An evil and unfaithful generation seeks a sign,  
but no sign will be given it  
except the sign of Jonah the prophet.  
Just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights,   
so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth  
three days and three nights.  
At the judgment, the men of Nineveh will arise with this generation  
and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah;  
and there is something greater than Jonah here.  
At the judgment the queen of the south will arise with this generation  
and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth  
to hear the wisdom of Solomon;  
and there is something greater than Solomon here.”

**Day 235**

# July 22, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Mary Magdalene Lectionary: 396/603

#### Reading 1 [MI 7:14-15, 18-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/micah/7:14)

Shepherd your people with your staff,  
the flock of your inheritance,  
That dwells apart in a woodland,  
in the midst of Carmel.  
Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead,  
as in the days of old;  
As in the days when you came from the land of Egypt,  
show us wonderful signs.  
  
Who is there like you, the God who removes guilt  
and pardons sin for the remnant of his inheritance;  
Who does not persist in anger forever,  
but delights rather in clemency,  
And will again have compassion on us,  
treading underfoot our guilt?  
You will cast into the depths of the sea  
all our sins;  
You will show faithfulness to Jacob,  
and grace to Abraham,  
As you have sworn to our fathers  
from days of old.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/85:2)

R. (8a) **Lord, show us your mercy and love.**  
You have favored, O LORD, your land;  
you have brought back the captives of Jacob.  
You have forgiven the guilt of your people;  
you have covered all their sins.  
You have withdrawn all your wrath;  
you have revoked your burning anger.   
R. **Lord, show us your mercy and love.**  
Restore us, O God our savior,  
and abandon your displeasure against us.  
Will you be ever angry with us,  
prolonging your anger to all generations?  
R. **Lord, show us your mercy and love.**  
Will you not instead give us life;  
and shall not your people rejoice in you?  
Show us, O LORD, your kindness,  
and grant us your salvation.   
R. **Lord, show us your mercy and love.**

#### Gospel [JN 20:1-2, 11-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/20:1)

On the first day of the week,  
Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early in the morning,  
while it was still dark,  
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.  
So she ran and went to Simon Peter  
and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them,  
“They have taken the Lord from the tomb,  
and we don’t know where they put him.”   
  
Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping.  
And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb  
and saw two angels in white sitting there,  
one at the head and one at the feet  
where the Body of Jesus had been.  
And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?”  
She said to them, “They have taken my Lord,  
and I don’t know where they laid him.”  
When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there,  
but did not know it was Jesus.  
Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?  
Whom are you looking for?”  
She thought it was the gardener and said to him,  
“Sir, if you carried him away,  
tell me where you laid him,  
and I will take him.”  
Jesus said to her, “Mary!”  
She turned and said to him in Hebrew,  
“Rabbouni,” which means Teacher.  
Jesus said to her,  
“Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father.  
But go to my brothers and tell them,  
‘I am going to my Father and your Father,  
to my God and your God.’”  
Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples,  
“I have seen the Lord,”  
and then reported what he told her.

**Day 236**

# July 23, 2014

### Wednesday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 397

#### Reading 1 [JER 1:1, 4-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/1:1)

The words of Jeremiah, son of Hilkiah,  
of a priestly family in Anathoth, in the land of Benjamin.  
  
The word of the LORD came to me thus:  
  
Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
before you were born I dedicated you,  
a prophet to the nations I appointed you.  
“Ah, Lord GOD!” I said,  
"I know not how to speak; I am too young.”  
  
But the LORD answered me,  
Say not, “I am too young.”  
To whomever I send you, you shall go;  
whatever I command you, you shall speak.  
Have no fear before them,  
because I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.  
  
Then the LORD extended his hand and touched my mouth, saying,  
  
See, I place my words in your mouth!  
This day I set you  
over nations and over kingdoms,  
To root up and to tear down,  
to destroy and to demolish,  
to build and to plant.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 71:1-2, 3-4A, 5-6AB, 15 AND 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/71:1)

R. (see 15ab)**I will sing of your salvation.**  
In you, O LORD, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice rescue me, and deliver me;  
incline your ear to me, and save me.  
R.**I will sing of your salvation.**  
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. **I will sing of your salvation.**  
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. **I will sing of your salvation.**  
My mouth shall declare your justice,  
day by day your salvation.  
O God, you have taught me from my youth,  
and till the present I proclaim your wondrous deeds.  
R. **I will sing of your salvation.**

#### Gospel [MT 13:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:1)

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea.  
Such large crowds gathered around him  
that he got into a boat and sat down,  
and the whole crowd stood along the shore.  
And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying:  
“A sower went out to sow.  
And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path,  
and birds came and ate it up.  
Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil.  
It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep,  
and when the sun rose it was scorched,  
and it withered for lack of roots.  
Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it.  
But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit,  
a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.  
Whoever has ears ought to hear.”

**Day 237**

# July 24, 2014

### Thursday of the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 398

#### Reading 1 [JER 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/2:1)

This word of the LORD came to me:  
Go, cry out this message for Jerusalem to hear!  
  
I remember the devotion of your youth,  
how you loved me as a bride,  
Following me in the desert,  
in a land unsown.  
Sacred to the LORD was Israel,  
the first fruits of his harvest;  
Should any presume to partake of them,  
evil would befall them, says the LORD.  
  
When I brought you into the garden land   
to eat its goodly fruits,  
You entered and defiled my land,  
you made my heritage loathsome.  
The priests asked not,  
“Where is the LORD?”  
Those who dealt with the law knew me not:  
the shepherds rebelled against me.  
The prophets prophesied by Baal,  
and went after useless idols.  
  
Be amazed at this, O heavens,  
and shudder with sheer horror, says the LORD.  
Two evils have my people done:  
they have forsaken me, the source of living waters;  
They have dug themselves cisterns,  
broken cisterns, that hold no water.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 36:6-7AB, 8-9, 10-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/36:6)

R. (10a) **With you is the fountain of life, O Lord.**  
O LORD, your mercy reaches to heaven;  
your faithfulness, to the clouds.  
Your justice is like the mountains of God;  
your judgments, like the mighty deep.  
R. **With you is the fountain of life, O Lord.**  
How precious is your mercy, O God!  
The children of men take refuge in the shadow of your wings.  
They have their fill of the prime gifts of your house;  
from your delightful stream you give them to drink.  
R. **With you is the fountain of life, O Lord.**  
For with you is the fountain of life,  
and in your light we see light.  
Keep up your mercy toward your friends,  
your just defense of the upright of heart.  
R. **With you is the fountain of life, O Lord.**

#### Gospel [MT 13:10-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:10)

The disciples approached Jesus and said,  
“Why do you speak to the crowd in parables?”  
He said to them in reply,  
“Because knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of heaven  
has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted.  
To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich;  
from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away.  
This is why I speak to them in parables, because  
they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.  
Isaiah’s prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says:  
  
You shall indeed hear but not understand,you shall indeed look but never see.Gross is the heart of this people,they will hardly hear with their ears,they have closed their eyes,lest they see with their eyesand hear with their earsand understand with their hearts and be convertedand I heal them.  
  
“But blessed are your eyes, because they see,  
and your ears, because they hear.  
Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people  
longed to see what you see but did not see it,  
and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”

**Day 238**

# July 25, 2014

### Feast of Saint James, Apostle Lectionary: 605

#### Reading 1 [2 COR 4:7-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2corinthians/4:7)

Brothers and sisters:  
We hold this treasure in earthen vessels,  
that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us.  
We are afflicted in every way, but not constrained;  
perplexed, but not driven to despair;  
persecuted, but not abandoned;  
struck down, but not destroyed;  
always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus,  
so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body.  
For we who live are constantly being given up to death  
for the sake of Jesus,  
so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh.  
  
So death is at work in us, but life in you.  
Since, then, we have the same spirit of faith,  
according to what is written, I believed, therefore I spoke,  
we too believe and therefore speak,   
knowing that the one who raised the Lord Jesus  
will raise us also with Jesus  
and place us with you in his presence.  
Everything indeed is for you,  
so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people  
may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 126:1BC-2AB, 2CD-3, 4-5, 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/126:1)

R. (5) **Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.**  
When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion,  
we were like men dreaming.  
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with rejoicing.   
R.**Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.**  
Then they said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”  
The LORD has done great things for us;  
we are glad indeed.  
R. **Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.**  
Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the torrents in the southern desert.  
Those that sow in tears  
shall reap rejoicing.  
R.**Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.**  
Although they go forth weeping,  
carrying the seed to be sown,  
They shall come back rejoicing,  
carrying their sheaves.   
R. **Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.**

#### Gospel [MT 20:20-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/20:20)

The mother of the sons of Zebedee approached Jesus with her sons  
and did him homage, wishing to ask him for something.  
He said to her,  
“What do you wish?”  
She answered him,  
“Command that these two sons of mine sit,  
one at your right and the other at your left, in your Kingdom.”  
Jesus said in reply,  
“You do not know what you are asking.  
Can you drink the chalice that I am going to drink?”  
They said to him, “We can.”  
He replied,  
“My chalice you will indeed drink,  
but to sit at my right and at my left, this is not mine to give  
but is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.”  
When the ten heard this,  
they became indignant at the two brothers.  
But Jesus summoned them and said,  
“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them,  
and the great ones make their authority over them felt.  
But it shall not be so among you.  
Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant;  
whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave.  
Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served  
but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

**Day 239**

# July 26, 2014

### Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lectionary: 400

#### Reading 1 [JER 7:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/7:1)

The following message came to Jeremiah from the LORD:  
Stand at the gate of the house of the LORD,  
and there proclaim this message:  
Hear the word of the LORD, all you of Judah  
who enter these gates to worship the LORD!  
Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:  
Reform your ways and your deeds,  
so that I may remain with you in this place.  
Put not your trust in the deceitful words:  
“This is the temple of the LORD!  
The temple of the LORD! The temple of the LORD!”  
Only if you thoroughly reform your ways and your deeds;  
if each of you deals justly with his neighbor;  
if you no longer oppress the resident alien,  
the orphan, and the widow;  
if you no longer shed innocent blood in this place,  
or follow strange gods to your own harm,  
will I remain with you in this place,  
in the land I gave your fathers long ago and forever.  
  
But here you are, putting your trust in deceitful words to your own loss!  
Are you to steal and murder, commit adultery and perjury,  
burn incense to Baal,  
go after strange gods that you know not,  
and yet come to stand before me  
in this house which bears my name, and say:  
“We are safe; we can commit all these abominations again”?  
Has this house which bears my name  
become in your eyes a den of thieves?  
I too see what is being done, says the LORD.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 84:3, 4, 5-6A AND 8A, 11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/84:3)

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.  
Blessed the men whose strength you are!  
They go from strength to strength.  
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!**

#### Gospel [MT 13:24-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:24)

Jesus proposed a parable to the crowds.  
“The Kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man  
who sowed good seed in his field.  
While everyone was asleep his enemy came  
and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off.  
When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well.  
The slaves of the householder came to him and said,  
‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field?  
Where have the weeds come from?’  
He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’  
His slaves said to him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’  
He replied, ‘No, if you pull up the weeds  
you might uproot the wheat along with them.  
Let them grow together until harvest;  
then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters,  
“First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning;  
but gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

**Day 240**

# July 27, 2014

### Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 109

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 3:5, 7-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/3:5)

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:  
“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.”

#### Reading 2 [ROM 8:28-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/8:28)

Brothers and sisters:  
We know that all things work for good for those who love God,  
who are called according to his purpose.   
For those he foreknew he also predestined  
to be conformed to the image of his Son,  
so that he might be the firstborn  
among many brothers and sisters.  
And those he predestined he also called;  
and those he called he also justified;  
and those he justified he also glorified.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:57)

R/ (97a) **Lord, I love your commands.**  
I have said, O LORD, that my part  
is to keep your words.  
The law of your mouth is to me more precious  
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.  
R/ **Lord, I love your commands.**  
Let your kindness comfort me  
according to your promise to your servants.  
Let your compassion come to me that I may live,  
for your law is my delight.  
R/**Lord, I love your commands.**  
For I love your command  
more than gold, however fine.  
For in all your precepts I go forward;  
every false way I hate.  
R/**Lord, I love your commands.**  
Wonderful are your decrees;  
therefore I observe them.  
The revelation of your words sheds light,  
giving understanding to the simple.  
R/ **Lord, I love your commands.**

#### Gospel [MT 13:44-52](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:44)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field,  
which a person finds and hides again,  
and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.   
Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant  
searching for fine pearls.   
When he finds a pearl of great price,  
he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.   
Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea,  
which collects fish of every kind.   
When it is full they haul it ashore  
and sit down to put what is good into buckets.   
What is bad they throw away.   
Thus it will be at the end of the age.   
The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous  
and throw them into the fiery furnace,  
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.  
  
“Do you understand all these things?”   
They answered, “Yes.”   
And he replied,  
“Then every scribe who has been instructed in the kingdom of heaven  
is like the head of a household  
who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old.”

**Day 241**

# July 28, 2014

### Monday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 401

#### Reading 1 [JER 13:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/13:1)

The LORD said to me: Go buy yourself a linen loincloth;  
wear it on your loins, but do not put it in water.  
I bought the loincloth, as the LORD commanded, and put it on.  
A second time the word of the LORD came to me thus:  
Take the loincloth which you bought and are wearing,  
and go now to the Parath;  
there hide it in a cleft of the rock.  
Obedient to the LORD’s command, I went to the Parath  
and buried the loincloth.  
After a long interval, the LORD said to me:   
Go now to the Parath and fetch the loincloth  
which I told you to hide there.  
Again I went to the Parath, sought out and took the loincloth  
from the place where I had hid it.  
But it was rotted, good for nothing!  
Then the message came to me from the LORD:   
Thus says the LORD:  
So also I will allow the pride of Judah to rot,  
the great pride of Jerusalem.  
This wicked people who refuse to obey my words,  
who walk in the stubbornness of their hearts,  
and follow strange gods to serve and adore them,  
shall be like this loincloth which is good for nothing.  
For, as close as the loincloth clings to a man’s loins,  
so had I made the whole house of Israel  
and the whole house of Judah cling to me, says the LORD;  
to be my people, my renown, my praise, my beauty.  
But they did not listen.

#### Responsorial Psalm [DT 32:18-19, 20, 21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/32:18)

R. (see 18a) **You have forgotten God who gave you birth.**  
You were unmindful of the Rock that begot you,  
You forgot the God who gave you birth.  
When the LORD saw this, he was filled with loathing  
and anger toward his sons and daughters.  
R.**You have forgotten God who gave you birth.**  
“I will hide my face from them,” he said,  
“and see what will then become of them.  
What a fickle race they are,  
sons with no loyalty in them!”  
R. **You have forgotten God who gave you birth.**  
“Since they have provoked me with their ‘no-god’  
and angered me with their vain idols,  
I will provoke them with a ‘no-people’;  
with a foolish nation I will anger them.”  
R.**You have forgotten God who gave you birth.**

#### Gospel [MT 13:31-35](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:31)

Jesus proposed a parable to the crowds.  
“The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed  
that a person took and sowed in a field.  
It is the smallest of all the seeds,  
yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.  
It becomes a large bush,  
and the ‘birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.’”  
  
He spoke to them another parable.  
“The Kingdom of heaven is like yeast  
that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour  
until the whole batch was leavened.”  
  
All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables.  
He spoke to them only in parables,   
to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:  
  
I will open my mouth in parables,I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundationof the world.

**Day 242**

# July 29, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Martha Lectionary: 402/607

#### Reading 1 [JER 14:17-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/14:17)

Let my eyes stream with tears  
day and night, without rest,  
Over the great destruction which overwhelms  
the virgin daughter of my people,  
over her incurable wound.  
If I walk out into the field,  
look! those slain by the sword;  
If I enter the city,  
look! those consumed by hunger.  
Even the prophet and the priest  
forage in a land they know not.  
  
Have you cast Judah off completely?  
Is Zion loathsome to you?  
Why have you struck us a blow  
that cannot be healed?  
We wait for peace, to no avail;  
for a time of healing, but terror comes instead.  
We recognize, O LORD, our wickedness,  
the guilt of our fathers;  
that we have sinned against you.  
For your name’s sake spurn us not,  
disgrace not the throne of your glory;  
remember your covenant with us, and break it not.  
Among the nations’ idols is there any that gives rain?  
Or can the mere heavens send showers?  
Is it not you alone, O LORD,  
our God, to whom we look?  
You alone have done all these things.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 79:8, 9, 11 AND 13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/79:8)

R. (9) **For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**  
Remember not against us the iniquities of the past;  
may your compassion quickly come to us,  
for we are brought very low.  
R. **For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**  
Help us, O God our savior,  
because of the glory of your name;  
Deliver us and pardon our sins  
for your name’s sake.  
R. **For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**  
Let the prisoners’ sighing come before you;  
with your great power free those doomed to death.  
Then we, your people and the sheep of your pasture,  
will give thanks to you forever;  
through all generations we will declare your praise.  
R. **For the glory of your name, O Lord, deliver us.**

#### Gospel [JN 11:19-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/11:19)

Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary  
to comfort them about their brother [Lazarus, who had died].  
When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,  
she went to meet him;  
but Mary sat at home.  
Martha said to Jesus,  
“Lord, if you had been here,  
my brother would not have died.  
But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,  
God will give you.”  
Jesus said to her,  
“Your brother will rise.”  
Martha said to him,  
“I know he will rise,  
in the resurrection on the last day.”  
Jesus told her,  
“I am the resurrection and the life;  
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,  
and anyone who lives and believes in me will never die.  
Do you believe this?”  
She said to him, “Yes, Lord.  
I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God,  
the one who is coming into the world.”

**Day 243**

# July 30, 2014

### Wednesday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 403

#### Reading 1 [JER 15:10, 16-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/15:10)

Woe to me, mother, that you gave me birth!  
a man of strife and contention to all the land!  
I neither borrow nor lend,  
yet all curse me.  
When I found your words, I devoured them;  
they became my joy and the happiness of my heart,  
Because I bore your name,  
O LORD, God of hosts.  
I did not sit celebrating  
in the circle of merrymakers;  
Under the weight of your hand I sat alone  
because you filled me with indignation.  
Why is my pain continuous,  
my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?  
You have indeed become for me a treacherous brook,  
whose waters do not abide!  
Thus the LORD answered me:  
If you repent, so that I restore you,  
in my presence you shall stand;  
If you bring forth the precious without the vile,  
you shall be my mouthpiece.  
Then it shall be they who turn to you,  
and you shall not turn to them;  
And I will make you toward this people  
a solid wall of brass.  
Though they fight against you,  
they shall not prevail,  
For I am with you,  
to deliver and rescue you, says the LORD.  
I will free you from the hand of the wicked,  
and rescue you from the grasp of the violent.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/59:2)

R. (17d) **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**  
Rescue me from my enemies, O my God;  
from my adversaries defend me.  
Rescue me from evildoers;  
from bloodthirsty men save me.  
R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**  
For behold, they lie in wait for my life;  
mighty men come together against me,  
Not for any offense or sin of mine, O LORD.  
R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**  
O my strength! for you I watch;  
for you, O God, are my stronghold,   
As for my God, may his mercy go before me;  
may he show me the fall of my foes.  
R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**  
But I will sing of your strength  
and revel at dawn in your mercy;  
You have been my stronghold,  
my refuge in the day of distress.  
R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**  
O my strength! your praise will I sing;  
for you, O God, are my stronghold,  
my merciful God!  
R.**God is my refuge on the day of distress.**

#### Gospel [MT 13:44-46](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:44)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field,  
which a person finds and hides again,  
and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.  
Again, the Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant  
searching for fine pearls.  
When he finds a pearl of great price,  
he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.”

**Day 244**

# July 31, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest Lectionary: 404

#### Reading 1 [JER 18:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/18:1)

This word came to Jeremiah from the LORD:  
Rise up, be off to the potter’s house;  
there I will give you my message.  
I went down to the potter’s house and there he was,   
working at the wheel.  
Whenever the object of clay which he was making  
turned out badly in his hand,   
he tried again,  
making of the clay another object of whatever sort he pleased.  
Then the word of the LORD came to me:  
Can I not do to you, house of Israel,  
as this potter has done? says the LORD.  
Indeed, like clay in the hand of the potter,  
so are you in my hand, house of Israel.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 146:1B-2, 3-4, 5-6AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/146:1)

R. (5a) **Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Praise the LORD, O my soul;  
I will praise the LORD all my life;  
I will sing praise to my God while I live.  
R.**Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Put not your trust in princes,  
in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation.  
When his spirit departs he returns to his earth;  
on that day his plans perish.  
R. **Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
Blessed he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD, his God.  
Who made heaven and earth,  
the sea and all that is in them.  
R.**Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia**.

#### Gospel [MT 13:47-53](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:47)

Jesus said to the disciples:  
“The Kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea,  
which collects fish of every kind.  
When it is full they haul it ashore  
and sit down to put what is good into buckets.  
What is bad they throw away.  
Thus it will be at the end of the age.  
The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous  
and throw them into the fiery furnace,  
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.”  
  
“Do you understand all these things?”  
They answered, “Yes.”  
And he replied,  
“Then every scribe who has been instructed in the Kingdom of heaven  
is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom  
both the new and the old.”  
When Jesus finished these parables, he went away from there.

**Day 245**

# August 1, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 405

#### Reading 1 [JER 26:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/26:1)

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim,  
son of Josiah, king of Judah,  
this message came from the LORD:   
Thus says the LORD:  
Stand in the court of the house of the LORD  
and speak to the people of all the cities of Judah  
who come to worship in the house of the LORD;  
whatever I command you, tell them, and omit nothing.  
Perhaps they will listen and turn back,   
each from his evil way,  
so that I may repent of the evil I have planned to inflict upon them  
for their evil deeds.  
Say to them: Thus says the LORD:   
If you disobey me,  
not living according to the law I placed before you  
and not listening to the words of my servants the prophets,  
whom I send you constantly though you do not obey them,  
I will treat this house like Shiloh,  
and make this the city to which all the nations of the earth  
shall refer when cursing another.  
  
Now the priests, the prophets, and all the people  
heard Jeremiah speak these words in the house of the LORD.  
When Jeremiah finished speaking  
all that the LORD bade him speak to all the people,  
the priests and prophets laid hold of him, crying,  
“You must be put to death!   
Why do you prophesy in the name of the LORD:  
‘This house shall be like Shiloh,’ and  
‘This city shall be desolate and deserted’?”  
And all the people gathered about Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 69:5, 8-10, 14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/69:5)

R. (14c) **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
Those outnumber the hairs of my head  
who hate me without cause.  
Too many for my strength  
are they who wrongfully are my enemies.  
Must I restore what I did not steal?  
R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
Since for your sake I bear insult,  
and shame covers my face.  
I have become an outcast to my brothers,  
a stranger to my mother’s sons,  
Because zeal for your house consumes me,  
and the insults of those who blaspheme you fall upon me.  
R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
But I pray to you, O LORD,  
for the time of your favor, O God!  
In your great kindness answer me  
with your constant help.  
R.**Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

#### Gospel [MT 13:54-58](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/13:54)

Jesus came to his native place and taught the people in their synagogue.  
They were astonished and said,  
“Where did this man get such wisdom and mighty deeds?  
Is he not the carpenter’s son?  
Is not his mother named Mary  
and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas?  
Are not his sisters all with us?  
Where did this man get all this?”  
And they took offense at him.  
But Jesus said to them,  
“A prophet is not without honor except in his native place  
and in his own house.”  
And he did not work many mighty deeds there  
because of their lack of faith.

**Day 246**

# August 2, 2014

### Saturday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 406

#### Reading 1 [JER 26:11-16, 24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/26:11)

The priests and prophets said to the princes and to all the people,  
“This man deserves death;  
he has prophesied against this city,  
as you have heard with your own ears.”  
Jeremiah gave this answer to the princes and all the people:  
“It was the LORD who sent me to prophesy against this house and city  
all that you have heard.  
Now, therefore, reform your ways and your deeds;  
listen to the voice of the LORD your God,  
so that the LORD will repent of the evil with which he threatens you.  
As for me, I am in your hands;   
do with me what you think good and right.  
But mark well: if you put me to death,  
it is innocent blood you bring on yourselves,  
on this city and its citizens.  
For in truth it was the LORD who sent me to you,  
to speak all these things for you to hear.”  
  
Thereupon the princes and all the people  
said to the priests and the prophets,  
“This man does not deserve death;  
it is in the name of the LORD, our God, that he speaks to us.”   
  
So Ahikam, son of Shaphan, protected Jeremiah,  
so that he was not handed over to the people to be put to death.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/69:15)

R. (14c) **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
Rescue me out of the mire; may I not sink!  
may I be rescued from my foes,  
and from the watery depths.  
Let not the flood-waters overwhelm me,  
nor the abyss swallow me up,  
nor the pit close its mouth over me.  
R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
But I am afflicted and in pain;  
let your saving help, O God, protect me.  
I will praise the name of God in song,  
and I will glorify him with thanksgiving.  
R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**  
“See, you lowly ones, and be glad;  
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!  
For the LORD hears the poor,  
and his own who are in bonds he spurns not.”  
R.**Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

#### Gospel [MT 14:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/14:1)

Herod the tetrarch heard of the reputation of Jesus  
and said to his servants, “This man is John the Baptist.  
He has been raised from the dead;  
that is why mighty powers are at work in him.”  
  
Now Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison  
on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip,  
for John had said to him,  
“It is not lawful for you to have her.”  
Although he wanted to kill him, he feared the people,  
for they regarded him as a prophet.  
But at a birthday celebration for Herod,  
the daughter of Herodias performed a dance before the guests  
and delighted Herod so much  
that he swore to give her whatever she might ask for.  
Prompted by her mother, she said,  
“Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist.”  
The king was distressed,   
but because of his oaths and the guests who were present,  
he ordered that it be given, and he had John beheaded in the prison.  
His head was brought in on a platter and given to the girl,  
who took it to her mother.  
His disciples came and took away the corpse  
and buried him; and they went and told Jesus.

**Day 247**

# August 3, 2014

 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Lectionary: 112

#### Reading 1 [IS 55:1-3](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/55:1)

Thus says the LORD:  
All you who are thirsty,  
come to the water!  
You who have no money,  
come, receive grain and eat;  
Come, without paying and without cost,  
drink wine and milk!  
Why spend your money for what is not bread;  
your wages for what fails to satisfy?  
Heed me, and you shall eat well,  
you shall delight in rich fare.  
Come to me heedfully,  
listen, that you may have life.  
I will renew with you the everlasting covenant,  
the benefits assured to David.

#### Reading 2 [ROM 8:35, 37-39](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/8:35)

Brothers and sisters:  
What will separate us from the love of Christ?   
Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine,  
or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?   
No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly  
through him who loved us.   
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor principalities,  
nor present things, nor future things,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor any other creature will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:8)

R/ (cf. 16)**The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.**  
The LORD is gracious and merciful,   
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
The LORD is good to all  
and compassionate toward all his works.  
R/ **The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.**  
The eyes of all look hopefully to you,  
and you give them their food in due season;  
you open your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.  
R/ **The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.**  
The LORD is just in all his ways  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,  
to all who call upon him in truth.  
R/**The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.**

#### Gospel [MT 14:13-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/14:13)

When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist,  
he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself.   
The crowds heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns.   
When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd,  
his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick.   
When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said,  
“This is a deserted place and it is already late;  
dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages  
and buy food for themselves.”   
Jesus said to them, “There is no need for them to go away;  
give them some food yourselves.”   
But they said to him,  
“Five loaves and two fish are all we have here.”   
Then he said, “Bring them here to me, ”  
and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass.   
Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven,  
he said the blessing, broke the loaves,  
and gave them to the disciples,  
who in turn gave them to the crowds.   
They all ate and were satisfied,  
and they picked up the fragments left over—  
twelve wicker baskets full.   
Those who ate were about five thousand men,  
not counting women and children.

**Day 248**

# August 4, 2014

### Memorial of Saint John Vianney, Priest Lectionary: 407/408

#### Reading 1 [JER 28:1-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/28:1)

In the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah, king of Judah,  
in the fifth month of the fourth year,  
the prophet Hananiah, son of Azzur, from Gibeon,  
said to me in the house of the LORD  
in the presence of the priests and all the people:  
“Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:  
‘I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.  
Within two years I will restore to this place  
all the vessels of the temple of the LORD which Nebuchadnezzar,  
king of Babylon, took away from this place to Babylon.   
And I will bring back to this place Jeconiah,  
son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah,  
and all the exiles of Judah who went to Babylon,’ says the LORD,  
‘for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.’”  
  
The prophet Jeremiah answered the prophet Hananiah   
in the presence of the priests and all the people assembled  
in the house of the LORD, and said:  
Amen! thus may the LORD do!  
May he fulfill the things you have prophesied  
by bringing the vessels of the house of the LORD  
and all the exiles back from Babylon to this place!  
But now, listen to what I am about to state in your hearing  
and the hearing of all the people.  
From of old, the prophets who were before you and me prophesied  
war, woe, and pestilence against many lands and mighty kingdoms.  
But the prophet who prophesies peace  
is recognized as truly sent by the LORD  
only when his prophetic prediction is fulfilled.  
  
Thereupon the prophet Hananiah took the yoke  
from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah and broke it,  
and said in the presence of all the people:  
“Thus says the LORD: ‘Even so, within two years  
I will break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon,  
from off the neck of all the nations.’”  
At that, the prophet Jeremiah went away.  
  
Some time after the prophet Hananiah had broken the yoke  
from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah,  
The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah:  
Go tell Hananiah this:   
Thus says the LORD:  
By breaking a wooden yoke, you forge an iron yoke!  
For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel:  
A yoke of iron I will place on the necks  
of all these nations serving Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon,  
and they shall serve him; even the beasts of the field I give him.  
  
To the prophet Hananiah the prophet Jeremiah said:  
Hear this, Hananiah!  
The LORD has not sent you,  
and you have raised false confidence in this people.  
For this, says the LORD, I will dispatch you from the face of the earth;  
this very year you shall die,  
because you have preached rebellion against the LORD.  
That same year, in the seventh month, Hananiah the prophet died.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:29)

R. (68b) **Lord, teach me your statutes.**  
Remove from me the way of falsehood,  
and favor me with your law.  
R. **Lord, teach me your statutes.**  
Take not the word of truth from my mouth,  
for in your ordinances is my hope.  
R. **Lord, teach me your statutes.**  
Let those turn to me who fear you  
and acknowledge your decrees.  
R. **Lord, teach me your statutes.**  
Let my heart be perfect in your statutes,  
that I be not put to shame.  
R. **Lord, teach me your statutes.**  
Sinners wait to destroy me,  
but I pay heed to your decrees.  
R. **Lord, teach me your statutes.**  
From your ordinances I turn not away,  
for you have instructed me.  
R. **Lord, teach me your statutes.**

#### Gospel [MT 14:22-36](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/14:22)

Jesus made the disciples get into a boat  
and precede him to the other side of the sea,  
while he dismissed the crowds.  
After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray.  
When it was evening he was there alone.  
Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore,  
was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it.  
During the fourth watch of the night,  
he came toward them, walking on the sea.  
When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified.  
“It is a ghost,” they said, and they cried out in fear.  
At once Jesus spoke to them, “Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.”  
Peter said to him in reply,  
“Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”  
He said, “Come.”  
Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus.  
But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened;  
and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”  
Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him,  
and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”  
After they got into the boat, the wind died down.  
Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying,  
“Truly, you are the Son of God.”  
  
After making the crossing, they came to land at Gennesaret.  
When the men of that place recognized him,  
they sent word to all the surrounding country.  
People brought to him all those who were sick  
and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak,  
and as many as touched it were healed.

**Day 249**

# August 5, 2014

### Tuesday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 408

#### Reading 1 [JER 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/30:1)

The following message came to Jeremiah from the LORD:  
For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel:  
Write all the words I have spoken to you in a book.  
  
For thus says the LORD:  
Incurable is your wound,  
grievous your bruise;  
There is none to plead your cause,  
no remedy for your running sore,  
no healing for you.  
All your lovers have forgotten you,  
they do not seek you.  
I struck you as an enemy would strike,  
punished you cruelly;  
Why cry out over your wound?  
your pain is without relief.  
Because of your great guilt,  
your numerous sins,  
I have done this to you.  
  
Thus says the LORD:  
See! I will restore the tents of Jacob,  
his dwellings I will pity;  
City shall be rebuilt upon hill,  
and palace restored as it was.  
From them will resound songs of praise,  
the laughter of happy men.  
I will make them not few, but many;  
they will not be tiny, for I will glorify them.  
His sons shall be as of old,  
his assembly before me shall stand firm;  
I will punish all his oppressors.  
His leader shall be one of his own,  
and his rulers shall come from his kin.  
When I summon him, he shall approach me;  
how else should one take the deadly risk  
of approaching me? says the LORD.  
You shall be my people,  
and I will be your God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 AND 22-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/102:16)

R. (17)**The Lord will build up Zion again, and appear in all his glory.**  
The nations shall revere your name, O LORD,  
and all the kings of the earth your glory,  
When the LORD has rebuilt Zion  
and appeared in his glory;  
When he has regarded the prayer of the destitute,  
and not despised their prayer.  
R. **The Lord will build up Zion again, and appear in all his glory.**  
Let this be written for the generation to come,  
and let his future creatures praise the LORD:  
“The LORD looked down from his holy height,  
from heaven he beheld the earth,  
To hear the groaning of the prisoners,  
to release those doomed to die.”  
R. **The Lord will build up Zion again, and appear in all his glory.**  
The children of your servants shall abide,  
and their posterity shall continue in your presence,  
That the name of the LORD may be declared on Zion;  
and his praise, in Jerusalem,  
When the peoples gather together  
and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.  
R. **The Lord will build up Zion again, and appear in all his glory.**

#### Gospel [MT 14:22-36](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/14:22)

Jesus made the disciples get into a boat  
and precede him to the other side of the sea,  
while he dismissed the crowds.  
After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray.  
When it was evening he was there alone.  
Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore,  
was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it.  
During the fourth watch of the night,  
he came toward them, walking on the sea.  
When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified.  
“It is a ghost,” they said, and they cried out in fear.  
At once Jesus spoke to them, “Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.”  
Peter said to him in reply,  
“Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”  
He said, “Come.”  
Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus.  
But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened;  
and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”  
Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him,  
and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”  
After they got into the boat, the wind died down.  
Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying,  
“Truly, you are the Son of God.”  
  
After making the crossing, they came to land at Gennesaret.  
When the men of that place recognized him,  
they sent word to all the surrounding country.  
People brought to him all those who were sick  
and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak,  
and as many as touched it were healed.

**Day 250**

# August 6, 2014

### Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord Lectionary: 614

#### Reading 1 [DN 7:9-10, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/daniel/7:9)

As I watched:  
  
Thrones were set up  
and the Ancient One took his throne.  
His clothing was bright as snow,  
and the hair on his head as white as wool;  
his throne was flames of fire,  
with wheels of burning fire.  
A surging stream of fire  
flowed out from where he sat;  
Thousands upon thousands were ministering to him,  
and myriads upon myriads attended him.  
The court was convened and the books were opened.  
  
As the visions during the night continued, I saw:  
  
One like a Son of man coming,  
on the clouds of heaven;  
When he reached the Ancient One  
and was presented before him,  
The one like a Son of man received dominion, glory, and kingship;  
all peoples, nations, and languages serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not be taken away,  
his kingship shall not be destroyed.

#### Reading 2 [2 PT 1:16-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2peter/1:16)

Beloved:  
We did not follow cleverly devised myths  
when we made known to you  
the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.  
For he received honor and glory from God the Father  
when that unique declaration came to him from the majestic glory,  
“This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”  
We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven  
while we were with him on the holy mountain.  
Moreover, we possess the prophetic message that is altogether reliable.  
You will do well to be attentive to it,  
as to a lamp shining in a dark place,  
until day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 97:1-2, 5-6, 9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/97:1)

R. (1a and 9a) **The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**  
The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;  
let the many islands be glad.  
Clouds and darkness are round about him,  
justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne.  
R. **The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**  
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. **The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**  
Because you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth,  
exalted far above all gods.   
R. **The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth.**

#### Gospel [MT 17:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/17:1)

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother, John,   
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.  
And he was transfigured before them;   
his face shone like the sun   
and his clothes became white as light.  
And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them,  
conversing with him.  
Then Peter said to Jesus in reply,   
“Lord, it is good that we are here.  
If you wish, I will make three tents here,   
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”  
While he was still speaking, behold,  
a bright cloud cast a shadow over them,   
then from the cloud came a voice that said,   
“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;  
listen to him.”  
When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate  
and were very much afraid.  
But Jesus came and touched them, saying,  
“Rise, and do not be afraid.”  
And when the disciples raised their eyes,   
they saw no one else but Jesus alone.  
  
As they were coming down from the mountain,  
Jesus charged them,  
“Do not tell the vision to anyone   
until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

**Day 251**

# August 7, 2014

### Thursday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 410

#### Reading 1 [JER 31:31-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/31:31)

The days are coming, says the LORD,  
when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel   
and the house of Judah.  
It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers:  
the day I took them by the hand   
to lead them forth from the land of Egypt;   
for they broke my covenant,   
and I had to show myself their master, says the LORD.  
But this is the covenant that I will make   
with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD.  
I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts;   
I will be their God, and they shall be my people.  
No longer will they have need to teach their friends and relatives  
how to know the LORD.  
All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD,   
for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:12)

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.**  
For you are not pleased with sacrifices;  
should I offer a burnt offering, you would not accept it.  
My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.  
R. **Create a clean heart in me, O God**

#### Gospel [MT 16:13-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/16:13)

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi  
and he asked his disciples,  
“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”  
They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah,  
still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”  
He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”  
Simon Peter said in reply,  
“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”  
Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah.  
For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.  
And so I say to you, you are Peter,  
and upon this rock I will build my Church,  
and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.  
I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven.  
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;  
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”  
Then he strictly ordered his disciples  
to tell no one that he was the Christ.  
  
From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples  
that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly  
from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes,  
and be killed and on the third day be raised.  
Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him,  
“God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you.”  
He turned and said to Peter,  
“Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me.  
You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

**Day 252**

# August 8, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Dominic, Priest Lectionary: 411

#### Reading 1 [NA 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/nahum/2:1)

See, upon the mountains there advances  
the bearer of good news,   
announcing peace!  
Celebrate your feasts, O Judah,  
fulfill your vows!  
For nevermore shall you be invaded  
by the scoundrel; he is completely destroyed.  
The LORD will restore the vine of Jacob,  
the pride of Israel,  
Though ravagers have ravaged them   
and ruined the tendrils.  
  
Woe to the bloody city, all lies,  
full of plunder, whose looting never stops!  
The crack of the whip, the rumbling sounds of wheels;  
horses a-gallop, chariots bounding,   
Cavalry charging, the flame of the sword, the flash of the spear,  
the many slain, the heaping corpses,  
the endless bodies to stumble upon!  
I will cast filth upon you,  
disgrace you and put you to shame;  
Till everyone who sees you runs from you, saying,  
“Nineveh is destroyed; who can pity her?  
Where can one find any to console her?”

#### Responsorial Psalm [DT 32:35CD-36AB, 39ABCD, 41](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/32:35)

R. (39c) **It is I who deal death and give life.**  
Close at hand is the day of their disaster,  
and their doom is rushing upon them!  
Surely, the LORD shall do justice for his people;  
on his servants he shall have pity.  
R. **It is I who deal death and give life.**  
“Learn then that I, I alone, am God,  
and there is no god besides me.  
It is I who bring both death and life,  
I who inflict wounds and heal them.”  
R.**It is I who deal death and give life.**  
I will sharpen my flashing sword,  
and my hand shall lay hold of my quiver,  
“With vengeance I will repay my foes  
and requite those who hate me.”  
R. **It is I who deal death and give life.**

#### Gospel [MT 16:24-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/16:24)

Jesus said to his disciples,  
“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself,  
take up his cross, and follow me.  
For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,  
but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.  
What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world  
and forfeit his life?  
Or what can one give in exchange for his life?  
For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father’s glory,  
and then he will repay each according to his conduct.  
Amen, I say to you, there are some standing here  
who will not taste death  
until they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom.”

**Day 253**

# August 9, 2014

### Saturday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 412

#### Reading 1 [HB 1:12-2:4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/habakkuk/1:12)

Are you not from eternity, O LORD,  
my holy God, immortal?  
O LORD, you have marked him for judgment,  
O Rock, you have readied him punishment!  
Too pure are your eyes to look upon evil,  
and the sight of misery you cannot endure.  
Why, then, do you gaze on the faithless in silence  
while the wicked man devours  
one more just than himself?  
You have made man like the fish of the sea,  
like creeping things without a ruler.  
He brings them all up with his hook,  
he hauls them away with his net,  
He gathers them in his seine;  
and so he rejoices and exults.  
Therefore he sacrifices to his net,  
and burns incense to his seine;  
for thanks to them his portion is generous,  
and his repast sumptuous.  
Shall he, then, keep on brandishing his sword  
to slay peoples without mercy?  
  
I will stand at my guard post,  
and station myself upon the rampart,  
And keep watch to see what he will say to me,  
and what answer he will give to my complaint.  
  
Then the LORD answered me and said:  
Write down the vision  
Clearly upon the tablets,  
so that one can read it readily.  
For the vision still has its time,  
presses on to fulfillment, and will not disappoint;  
If it delays, wait for it,  
it will surely come, it will not be late.  
The rash man has no integrity;  
but the just man, because of his faith, shall live.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/9:8)

R. (11b) **You forsake not those who seek you, O Lord.**  
The LORD sits enthroned forever;  
he has set up his throne for judgment.  
He judges the world with justice;  
he governs the peoples with equity.  
R. **You forsake not those who seek you, O Lord.**  
The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,  
a stronghold in times of distress.  
They trust in you who cherish your name,  
for you forsake not those who seek you, O LORD.  
R. **You forsake not those who seek you, O Lord.**  
Sing praise to the LORD enthroned in Zion;  
proclaim among the nations his deeds;  
For the avenger of blood has remembered;  
he has not forgotten the cry of the poor.  
R. **You forsake not those who seek you, O Lord.**

#### Gospel [MT 17:14-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/17:14)

A man came up to Jesus, knelt down before him, and said,  
“Lord, have pity on my son, who is a lunatic and suffers severely;  
often he falls into fire, and often into water.  
I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him.”  
Jesus said in reply,  
“O faithless and perverse generation, how long will I be with you?  
How long will I endure you?   
Bring the boy here to me.”  
Jesus rebuked him and the demon came out of him,  
and from that hour the boy was cured.  
Then the disciples approached Jesus in private and said,  
“Why could we not drive it out?”  
He said to them, “Because of your little faith.  
Amen, I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed,  
you will say to this mountain,  
‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move.  
Nothing will be impossible for you.”

**Day 254**

# August 10, 2014

### Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 115

#### Reading 1 [1 KGS 19:9A, 11-13A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1kings/19:9)

At the mountain of God, Horeb,  
Elijah came to a cave where he took shelter.   
Then the LORD said to him,  
“Go outside and stand on the mountain before the LORD;  
the LORD will be passing by.”   
A strong and heavy wind was rending the mountains  
and crushing rocks before the LORD—  
but the LORD was not in the wind.   
After the wind there was an earthquake—  
but the LORD was not in the earthquake.   
After the earthquake there was fire—  
but the LORD was not in the fire.   
After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound.   
When he heard this,  
Elijah hid his face in his cloak  
and went and stood at the entrance of the cave.

#### Reading 2 [ROM 9:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/9:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
I speak the truth in Christ, I do not lie;  
my conscience joins with the Holy Spirit in bearing me witness  
that I have great sorrow and constant anguish in my heart.   
For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ  
for the sake of my own people,  
my kindred according to the flesh.   
They are Israelites;  
theirs the adoption, the glory, the covenants,  
the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises;  
theirs the patriarchs, and from them,  
according to the flesh, is the Christ,  
who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/85:9)

R/ (8) **Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**  
I will hear what God proclaims;  
the LORD — for he proclaims peace.  
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,  
glory dwelling in our land.  
R/ **Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**  
Kindness and truth shall meet;  
justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth,  
and justice shall look down from heaven.  
R/ **Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**  
The LORD himself will give his benefits;  
our land shall yield its increase.  
Justice shall walk before him,  
and prepare the way of his steps.  
R/**Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

#### Gospel [MT 14:22-33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/14:22)

After he had fed the people, Jesus made the disciples get into a boat  
and precede him to the other side,  
while he dismissed the crowds.   
After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray.   
When it was evening he was there alone.   
Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore,  
was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it.   
During the fourth watch of the night,  
he came toward them walking on the sea.   
When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified.   
“It is a ghost,” they said, and they cried out in fear.   
At once Jesus spoke to them, “Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.”   
Peter said to him in reply,  
“Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”   
He said, “Come.”   
Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus.   
But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened;  
and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”   
Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter,  
and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”   
After they got into the boat, the wind died down.   
Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying,  
“Truly, you are the Son of God.”

**Day 255**

# August 11, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Clare, Virgin Lectionary: 413

#### Reading 1 [EZ 1:2-5, 24-28C](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/1:2)

On the fifth day of the fourth month of the fifth year,  
that is, of King Jehoiachin’s exile,  
The word of the LORD came to the priest Ezekiel,  
the son of Buzi,  
in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar.—  
There the hand of the LORD came upon me.  
  
As I looked, a stormwind came from the North,  
a huge cloud with flashing fire enveloped in brightness,  
from the midst of which (the midst of the fire)  
something gleamed like electrum.  
Within it were figures resembling four living creatures  
that looked like this: their form was human.  
  
Then I heard the sound of their wings,  
like the roaring of mighty waters,   
like the voice of the Almighty.  
When they moved, the sound of the tumult was like the din of an army.  
And when they stood still, they lowered their wings.  
  
Above the firmament over their heads  
something like a throne could be seen,   
looking like sapphire.  
Upon it was seated, up above, one who had the appearance of a man.  
Upward from what resembled his waist I saw what gleamed like electrum;  
downward from what resembled his waist I saw what looked like fire;  
he was surrounded with splendor.  
Like the bow which appears in the clouds on a rainy day  
was the splendor that surrounded him.  
Such was the vision of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/148:1)

R. **Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights;  
Praise him, all you his angels;  
praise him, all you his hosts.  
R. **Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Let the kings of the earth and all peoples,  
the princes and all the judges of the earth,  
Young men too, and maidens,   
old men and boys,  
R. **Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**Praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;   
His majesty is above earth and heaven.  
R. **Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
And he has lifted up the horn of his people.  
Be this his praise from all his faithful ones,  
from the children of Israel, the people close to him.   
Alleluia.  
R.**Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MT 17:22-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/17:22)

As Jesus and his disciples were gathering in Galilee,  
Jesus said to them,  
“The Son of Man is to be handed over to men,  
and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day.”  
And they were overwhelmed with grief.  
  
When they came to Capernaum,  
the collectors of the temple tax approached Peter and said,  
“Does not your teacher pay the temple tax?”  
“Yes,” he said.   
When he came into the house, before he had time to speak,  
Jesus asked him, “What is your opinion, Simon?  
From whom do the kings of the earth take tolls or census tax?  
From their subjects or from foreigners?”  
When he said, “From foreigners,” Jesus said to him,  
“Then the subjects are exempt.  
But that we may not offend them, go to the sea, drop in a hook,  
and take the first fish that comes up.   
Open its mouth and you will find a coin worth twice the temple tax.  
Give that to them for me and for you.”

**Day 256**

# August 12, 2014

### Tuesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 414

#### Reading 1 [EZ 2:8-3:4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/2:8)

The Lord GOD said to me:  
As for you, son of man, obey me when I speak to you:  
be not rebellious like this house of rebellion,  
but open your mouth and eat what I shall give you.  
  
It was then I saw a hand stretched out to me,  
in which was a written scroll which he unrolled before me.  
It was covered with writing front and back,  
and written on it was:   
Lamentation and wailing and woe!  
  
He said to me: Son of man, eat what is before you;  
eat this scroll, then go, speak to the house of Israel.  
So I opened my mouth and he gave me the scroll to eat.  
Son of man, he then said to me,  
feed your belly and fill your stomach  
with this scroll I am giving you.  
I ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth.  
He said: Son of man, go now to the house of Israel,  
and speak my words to them.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:14)

R. (103a) How sweet to my taste is your promise!  
In the way of your decrees I rejoice,  
as much as in all riches.  
R. How sweet to my taste is your promise!  
Yes, your decrees are my delight;  
they are my counselors.  
R. How sweet to my taste is your promise!  
The law of your mouth is to me more precious  
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.  
R. How sweet to my taste is your promise!  
How sweet to my palate are your promises,  
sweeter than honey to my mouth!R. How sweet to my taste is your promise!  
Your decrees are my inheritance forever;  
the joy of my heart they are.  
R. How sweet to my taste is your promise!  
I gasp with open mouth,  
in my yearning for your commands.  
R. How sweet to my taste is your promise!

#### Gospel [MT 18:1-5, 10, 12-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/18:1)

The disciples approached Jesus and said,  
“Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?”  
He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said,  
“Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children,  
you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven.  
Whoever becomes humble like this child  
is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.  
And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.  
  
“See that you do not despise one of these little ones,  
for I say to you that their angels in heaven  
always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.  
What is your opinion?  
If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray,  
will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills  
and go in search of the stray?  
And if he finds it, amen, I say to you, he rejoices more over it  
than over the ninety-nine that did not stray.   
In just the same way, it is not the will of your heavenly Father  
that one of these little ones be lost.”

**Day 257**

# August 13, 2014

### Wednesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 415

#### Reading 1 [EZ 9:1-7; 10:18-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/9:1)

The LORD cried loud for me to hear: Come, you scourges of the city!  
With that I saw six men coming from the direction  
of the upper gate which faces the north,  
each with a destroying weapon in his hand.  
In their midst was a man dressed in linen,  
with a writer’s case at his waist.  
They entered and stood beside the bronze altar.  
Then he called to the man dressed in linen  
with the writer’s case at his waist, saying to him:  
Pass through the city, through Jerusalem,  
and mark a “Thau” on the foreheads of those who moan and groan  
over all the abominations that are practiced within it.  
To the others I heard the LORD say:  
Pass through the city after him and strike!  
Do not look on them with pity nor show any mercy!  
Old men, youths and maidens, women and children–wipe them out!  
But do not touch any marked with the “Thau”; begin at my sanctuary.  
So they began with the men, the elders, who were in front of the temple.  
Defile the temple, he said to them, and fill the courts with the slain;  
then go out and strike in the city.  
  
Then the glory of the LORD left the threshold of the temple  
and rested upon the cherubim.  
These lifted their wings, and I saw them rise from the earth,  
the wheels rising along with them.  
They stood at the entrance of the eastern gate of the LORD’s house,  
and the glory of the God of Israel was up above them.  
Then the cherubim lifted their wings, and the wheels went along with them,  
while up above them was the glory of the God of Israel.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/113:1)

R. (4b) **The glory of the Lord is higher than the skies.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Praise, you servants of the LORD,  
praise the name of the LORD.  
Blessed be the name of the LORD  
both now and forever.  
R. **The glory of the Lord is higher than the skies.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
From the rising to the setting of the sun  
is the name of the LORD to be praised.  
High above all nations is the LORD;  
above the heavens is his glory.  
R. **The glory of the Lord is higher than the skies.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high,  
and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?  
R.**The glory of the Lord is higher than the skies.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [MT 18:15-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/18:15)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“If your brother sins against you,  
go and tell him his fault between you and him alone.  
If he listens to you, you have won over your brother.  
If he does not listen,   
take one or two others along with you,  
so that every fact may be established  
on the testimony of two or three witnesses.  
If he refuses to listen to them, tell the Church.  
If he refuses to listen even to the Church,  
then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.  
Amen, I say to you,  
whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven,  
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.  
Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth  
about anything for which they are to pray,  
it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father.  
For where two or three are gathered together in my name,  
there am I in the midst of them.”

**Day 258**

# August 14, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr Lectionary: 416

#### Reading 1 [EZ 12:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/12:1)

The word of the LORD came to me:   
Son of man, you live in the midst of a rebellious house;  
they have eyes to see but do not see,  
and ears to hear but do not hear,  
for they are a rebellious house.  
Now, son of man, during the day while they are looking on,  
prepare your baggage as though for exile,   
and again while they are looking on,  
migrate from where you live to another place;  
perhaps they will see that they are a rebellious house.  
You shall bring out your baggage like an exile in the daytime   
while they are looking on;  
in the evening, again while they are looking on,  
you shall go out like one of those driven into exile;  
while they look on, dig a hole in the wall and pass through it;  
while they look on, shoulder the burden and set out in the darkness;  
cover your face that you may not see the land,  
for I have made you a sign for the house of Israel.  
  
I did as I was told.  
During the day I brought out my baggage  
as though it were that of an exile,  
and at evening I dug a hole through the wall with my hand  
and, while they looked on, set out in the darkness,  
shouldering my burden.  
  
Then, in the morning, the word of the LORD came to me:  
Son of man, did not the house of Israel, that rebellious house,  
ask you what you were doing?  
Tell them: Thus says the Lord GOD:  
This oracle concerns Jerusalem  
and the whole house of Israel within it.  
I am a sign for you:   
as I have done, so shall it be done to them;  
as captives they shall go into exile.  
The prince who is among them shall shoulder his burden  
and set out in darkness,  
going through a hole he has dug out in the wall,  
and covering his face lest he be seen by anyone.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/78:56)

R. (see 7b) **Do not forget the works of the Lord!**  
They tempted and rebelled against God the Most High,  
and kept not his decrees.  
They turned back and were faithless like their fathers;  
they recoiled like a treacherous bow.  
R.**Do not forget the works of the Lord!**  
They angered him with their high places  
and with their idols roused his jealousy.  
God heard and was enraged  
and utterly rejected Israel.  
R. **Do not forget the works of the Lord!**  
And he surrendered his strength into captivity,  
his glory in the hands of the foe.  
He abandoned his people to the sword  
and was enraged against his inheritance.  
R. **Do not forget the works of the Lord!**

#### Gospel [MT 18:21-19:1](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/18:21)

Peter approached Jesus and asked him,  
“Lord, if my brother sins against me,  
how often must I forgive him?  
As many as seven times?”  
Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.  
That is why the Kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king  
who decided to settle accounts with his servants.  
When he began the accounting,  
a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount.  
Since he had no way of paying it back,  
his master ordered him to be sold,  
along with his wife, his children, and all his property,  
in payment of the debt.  
At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said,  
‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.’  
Moved with compassion the master of that servant  
let him go and forgave him the loan.  
When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants  
who owed him a much smaller amount.  
He seized him and started to choke him, demanding,  
‘Pay back what you owe.’  
Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him,  
‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.’  
But he refused.  
Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison  
until he paid back the debt.  
Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened,  
they were deeply disturbed,  
and went to their master and reported the whole affair.  
His master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant!  
I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to.  
Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant,  
as I had pity on you?’  
Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers  
until he should pay back the whole debt.  
So will my heavenly Father do to you,  
unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart.”  
  
When Jesus finished these words, he left Galilee  
and went to the district of Judea across the Jordan.

**Day 259**

# August 15, 2014 | Mass During The Day

### Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass during the Day Lectionary: 622

#### Reading 1 [RV 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/11:19)

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 One.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 45:10, 11, 12, 16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/45:10)

R. (10bc) **The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**  
The queen takes her place at your right hand in gold of Ophir.  
R. The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.  
Hear, O daughter, and see; turn your ear,  
forget your people and your father’s house.  
R.**The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**  
So shall the king desire your beauty;  
for he is your lord.  
R. **The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**  
They are borne in with gladness and joy;  
they enter the palace of the king.  
R. **The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.**

#### Reading 2[1 COR 15:20-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/15:20)

Brothers and sisters:  
Christ has been raised from the dead,  
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
For since death came through man,  
the resurrection of the dead came also through man.  
For just as in Adam all die,  
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,  
but each one in proper order:  
Christ the firstfruits;  
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;  
then comes the end,  
when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father,  
when he has destroyed every sovereignty  
and every authority and power.  
For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.  
The last enemy to be destroyed is death,  
for “he subjected everything under his feet.”

#### Gospel [LK 1:39-56](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/1:39)

Mary set out  
and traveled to the hill country in haste  
to a town of Judah,  
where she entered the house of Zechariah  
and greeted Elizabeth.  
When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting,  
the infant leaped in her womb,  
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,  
cried out in a loud voice and said,  
“Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.  
And how does this happen to me,  
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?  
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,  
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.  
Blessed are you who believed  
that what was spoken to you by the Lord  
would be fulfilled.”  
  
And Mary said:  
  
“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm,  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children forever.”  
  
Mary remained with her about three months  
and then returned to her home.

**Day 260**

# August 16, 2014

### Saturday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 418

#### Reading 1 [EZ 18:1-10, 13B, 30-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/18:1)

The word of the LORD came to me:  
Son of man, what is the meaning of this proverb  
that you recite in the land of Israel:  
  
“Fathers have eaten green grapes,  
thus their children’s teeth are on edge”?  
  
As I live, says the Lord GOD:  
I swear that there shall no longer be anyone among you  
who will repeat this proverb in Israel.  
For all lives are mine;  
the life of the father is like the life of the son, both are mine;  
only the one who sins shall die.  
  
If a man is virtuous—if he does what is right and just,  
if he does not eat on the mountains,  
nor raise his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel;  
if he does not defile his neighbor’s wife,  
nor have relations with a woman in her menstrual period;  
if he oppresses no one,   
gives back the pledge received for a debt,  
commits no robbery;  
if he gives food to the hungry and clothes the naked;  
if he does not lend at interest nor exact usury;  
if he holds off from evildoing,  
judges fairly between a man and his opponent;  
if he lives by my statutes and is careful to observe my ordinances,  
that man is virtuous—he shall surely live, says the Lord GOD.  
  
But if he begets a son who is a thief, a murderer,  
or lends at interest and exacts usury–  
this son certainly shall not live.  
Because he practiced all these abominations, he shall surely die;  
his death shall be his own fault.  
  
Therefore I will judge you, house of Israel,  
each one according to his ways, says the Lord GOD.  
Turn and be converted from all your crimes,  
that they may be no cause of guilt for you.  
Cast away from you all the crimes you have committed,  
and make for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit.  
Why should you die, O house of Israel?  
For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies,  
says the Lord GOD. Return and live!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:12)

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.**  
For you are not pleased with sacrifices;  
should I offer a burnt offering, you would not accept it.  
My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.  
R. **Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

#### Gospel [MT 19:13-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/19:13)

Children were brought to Jesus  
that he might lay his hands on them and pray.  
The disciples rebuked them, but Jesus said,  
“Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them;  
for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”  
After he placed his hands on them, he went away.

**Day 261**

# August 17, 2014

### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 118

#### Reading 1 [IS 56:1, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/56:1)

Thus says the LORD:  
Observe what is right, do what is just;  
for my salvation is about to come,  
my justice, about to be revealed.  
  
The foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
ministering to him,  
loving the name of the LORD,  
and becoming his servants—  
all who keep the sabbath free from profanation  
and hold to my covenant,  
them I will bring to my holy mountain  
and make joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and sacrifices  
will be acceptable on my altar,  
for my house shall be called  
a house of prayer for all peoples.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/67:2)

R/ (4)**O God, let all the nations praise you!**  
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/**O God, let all the nations praise you!**  
May the nations be glad and exult  
because you rule the peoples in equity;  
the nations on the earth you guide.  
R/**O God, let all the nations praise you!**  
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/**O God, let all the nations praise you!**

#### Gospel [MT 15:21-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/15:21)

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.   
And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out,  
“Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David!   
My daughter is tormented by a demon.”   
But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her.   
Jesus’ disciples came and asked him,  
“Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us.”  
He said in reply,  
“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”  
But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, “Lord, help me.”   
He said in reply,  
“It is not right to take the food of the children  
and throw it to the dogs.”   
She said, “Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps  
that fall from the table of their masters.”   
Then Jesus said to her in reply,  
“O woman, great is your faith!   
Let it be done for you as you wish.”   
And the woman’s daughter was healed from that hour.

**Day 261**

# August 18, 2014

### Monday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 419

#### Reading 1 [EZ 24:15-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/24:15)

The word of the LORD came to me:   
Son of man, by a sudden blow  
I am taking away from you the delight of your eyes,  
but do not mourn or weep or shed any tears.  
Groan in silence, make no lament for the dead,  
bind on your turban, put your sandals on your feet,  
do not cover your beard, and do not eat the customary bread.  
That evening my wife died,  
and the next morning I did as I had been commanded.  
Then the people asked me, “Will you not tell us what all these things  
that you are doing mean for us?”  
I therefore spoke to the people that morning, saying to them:  
Thus the word of the LORD came to me:  
Say to the house of Israel:   
Thus says the Lord GOD:  
I will now desecrate my sanctuary, the stronghold of your pride,  
the delight of your eyes, the desire of your soul.  
The sons and daughters you left behind shall fall by the sword.  
Ezekiel shall be a sign for you:  
all that he did you shall do when it happens.  
Thus you shall know that I am the LORD.  
You shall do as I have done,  
not covering your beards nor eating the customary bread.  
Your turbans shall remain on your heads, your sandals on your feet.  
You shall not mourn or weep,  
but you shall rot away because of your sins and groan one to another.

#### Responsorial Psalm [DT 32:18-19, 20-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/32:18)

R. (see 18a) **You have forgotten God who gave you birth.**  
You were unmindful of the Rock that begot you.  
You forgot the God who gave you birth.  
When the LORD saw this, he was filled with loathing  
and anger toward his sons and daughters.  
R. **You have forgotten God who gave you birth.**  
“I will hide my face from them,” he said,  
“and see what will then become of them.  
What a fickle race they are,  
sons with no loyalty in them!”  
R.**You have forgotten God who gave you birth.**  
“Since they have provoked me with their ‘no-god’  
and angered me with their vain idols,  
I will provoke them with a ‘no-people’;  
with a foolish nation I will anger them.”  
R. **You have forgotten God who gave you birth.**

#### Gospel [MT 19:16-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/19:16)

A young man approached Jesus and said,  
“Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life?”  
He answered him, “Why do you ask me about the good?  
There is only One who is good.  
If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.”  
He asked him, “Which ones?”  
And Jesus replied, “You shall not kill;you shall not commit adultery;you shall not steal;you shall not bear false witness;honor your father and your mother;and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.”  
The young man said to him,  
“All of these I have observed. What do I still lack?”  
Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be perfect, go,  
sell what you have and give to the poor,  
and you will have treasure in heaven.  
Then come, follow me.”  
When the young man heard this statement, he went away sad,  
for he had many possessions.

**Day 262**

# August 19, 2014

### Tuesday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 420

#### Reading 1 [EZ 28:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/28:1)

The word of the LORD came to me: Son of man,  
say to the prince of Tyre:   
Thus says the Lord GOD:  
  
Because you are haughty of heart,  
you say, “A god am I!  
I occupy a godly throne  
in the heart of the sea!”—  
And yet you are a man, and not a god,  
however you may think yourself like a god.  
Oh yes, you are wiser than Daniel,  
there is no secret that is beyond you.  
By your wisdom and your intelligence  
you have made riches for yourself;  
You have put gold and silver  
into your treasuries.  
By your great wisdom applied to your trading  
you have heaped up your riches;  
your heart has grown haughty from your riches–  
therefore thus says the Lord GOD:  
Because you have thought yourself  
to have the mind of a god,  
Therefore I will bring against you  
foreigners, the most barbarous of nations.  
They shall draw their swords  
against your beauteous wisdom,  
they shall run them through your splendid apparel.  
They shall thrust you down to the pit, there to die  
a bloodied corpse, in the heart of the sea.  
Will you then say, “I am a god!”  
when you face your murderers?  
No, you are man, not a god,  
handed over to those who will slay you.  
You shall die the death of the uncircumcised  
at the hands of foreigners,  
for I have spoken, says the Lord GOD.

#### Responsorial Psalm [DT 32:26-27AB, 27CD-28, 30, 35CD-36AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/deuteronomy/32:26)

R. (39c) **It is I who deal death and give life.**  
“I would have said, ‘I will make an end of them  
and blot out their name from men’s memories,’  
Had I not feared the insolence of their enemies,  
feared that these foes would mistakenly boast.”  
R. **It is I who deal death and give life.**  
“‘Our own hand won the victory;  
the LORD had nothing to do with it.’”  
For they are a people devoid of reason,  
having no understanding.  
R.**It is I who deal death and give life.**  
“How could one man rout a thousand,  
or two men put ten thousand to flight,  
Unless it was because their Rock sold them  
and the LORD delivered them up?”  
R.**It is I who deal death and give life.**  
Close at hand is the day of their disaster,  
and their doom is rushing upon them!  
Surely, the LORD shall do justice for his people;  
on his servants he shall have pity.  
R.**It is I who deal death and give life.**

#### Gospel [MT 19:23-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/19:23)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Amen, I say to you, it will be hard for one who is rich  
to enter the Kingdom of heaven.  
Again I say to you,  
it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle  
than for one who is rich to enter the Kingdom of God.”  
When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and said,  
“Who then can be saved?”  
Jesus looked at them and said,  
“For men this is impossible,  
but for God all things are possible.”  
Then Peter said to him in reply,  
“We have given up everything and followed you.  
What will there be for us?”  
Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you  
that you who have followed me, in the new age,  
when the Son of Man is seated on his throne of glory,  
will yourselves sit on twelve thrones,  
judging the twelve tribes of Israel.  
And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters  
or father or mother or children or lands  
for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more,  
and will inherit eternal life.  
But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

**Day 263**

# August 20, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 421

#### Reading 1 [EZ 34:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/34:1)

The word of the Lord came to me:  
Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel,  
in these words prophesy to them to the shepherds:  
Thus says the Lord GOD: Woe to the shepherds of Israel  
who have been pasturing themselves!  
Should not shepherds, rather, pasture sheep?  
You have fed off their milk, worn their wool,  
and slaughtered the fatlings,  
but the sheep you have not pastured.  
You did not strengthen the weak nor heal the sick  
nor bind up the injured.  
You did not bring back the strayed nor seek the lost,  
but you lorded it over them harshly and brutally.  
So they were scattered for the lack of a shepherd,  
and became food for all the wild beasts.  
My sheep were scattered  
and wandered over all the mountains and high hills;  
my sheep were scattered over the whole earth,  
with no one to look after them or to search for them.  
  
Therefore, shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:  
As I live, says the Lord GOD,  
because my sheep have been given over to pillage,  
and because my sheep have become food for every wild beast,  
for lack of a shepherd;  
because my shepherds did not look after my sheep,  
but pastured themselves and did not pasture my sheep;  
because of this, shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:  
Thus says the Lord GOD:  
I swear I am coming against these shepherds.  
I will claim my sheep from them  
and put a stop to their shepherding my sheep  
so that they may no longer pasture themselves.  
I will save my sheep,   
that they may no longer be food for their mouths.  
  
For thus says the Lord GOD:   
I myself will look after and tend my sheep.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

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.**  
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. **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 will 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.**

#### Gospel [MT 20:1-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/20:1)

Jesus told his disciples this parable:  
“The Kingdom of heaven is like a landowner  
who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard.  
After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage,  
he sent them into his vineyard.  
Going out about nine o’clock,  
he saw others standing idle in the marketplace,  
and he said to them, ‘You too go into my vineyard,  
and I will give you what is just.’  
So they went off.   
And he went out again around noon,  
and around three o’clock, and did likewise.  
Going out about five o’clock,  
he found others standing around, and said to them,  
‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’  
They answered, ‘Because no one has hired us.’  
He said to them, ‘You too go into my vineyard.’  
When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman,  
‘Summon the laborers and give them their pay,  
beginning with the last and ending with the first.’  
When those who had started about five o’clock came,  
each received the usual daily wage.  
So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more,  
but each of them also got the usual wage.  
And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying,  
‘These last ones worked only one hour,  
and you have made them equal to us,  
who bore the day’s burden and the heat.’  
He said to one of them in reply,  
‘My friend, I am not cheating you.  
Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?  
Take what is yours and go.  
What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?  
Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?  
Are you envious because I am generous?’  
Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

**Day 264**

# August 21, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Pius X, Pope Lectionary: 422

#### Reading 1 [EZ 36:23-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/36:23)

Thus says the LORD:  
I will prove the holiness of my great name,   
profaned among the nations,   
in whose midst you have profaned it.  
Thus the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD,  
when in their sight I prove my holiness through you.  
For I will take you away from among the nations,  
gather you from all the foreign lands,  
and bring you back to your own land.  
I will sprinkle clean water upon you  
to cleanse you from all your impurities,  
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.  
I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,  
taking from your bodies your stony hearts  
and giving you natural hearts.  
I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes,  
careful to observe my decrees.  
You shall live in the land I gave your ancestors;  
you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/51:12)

R. (Ezekiel 36:25)**I will pour clean water on you and wash away all your sins.**  
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. **I will pour clean water on you and wash away all your sins.**  
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.**I will pour clean water on you and wash away all your sins.**  
For you are not pleased with sacrifices;  
should I offer a burnt offering, you would not accept it.  
My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.  
R.**I will pour clean water on you and wash away all your sins.**

#### Gospel [MT 22:1-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/22:1)

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people in parables saying,   
“The Kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king  
who gave a wedding feast for his son.  
He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast,  
but they refused to come.  
A second time he sent other servants, saying,  
‘Tell those invited: “Behold, I have prepared my banquet,  
my calves and fattened cattle are killed,  
and everything is ready; come to the feast.”’  
Some ignored the invitation and went away,  
one to his farm, another to his business.  
The rest laid hold of his servants,  
mistreated them, and killed them.  
The king was enraged and sent his troops,  
destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.  
Then the king said to his servants, ‘The feast is ready,  
but those who were invited were not worthy to come.  
Go out, therefore, into the main roads  
and invite to the feast whomever you find.’  
The servants went out into the streets  
and gathered all they found, bad and good alike,  
and the hall was filled with guests.  
But when the king came in to meet the guests  
he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment.  
He said to him, ‘My friend, how is it  
that you came in here without a wedding garment?’  
But he was reduced to silence.  
Then the king said to his attendants, ‘Bind his hands and feet,  
and cast him into the darkness outside,  
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.’  
Many are invited, but few are chosen.”

**Day 265**

# August 22, 2014

### Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lectionary: 423

#### Reading 1 [EZ 37:1-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/37:1)

The hand of the LORD came upon me,  
and led me out in the Spirit of the LORD  
and set me in the center of the plain,  
which was now filled with bones.  
He made me walk among the bones in every direction  
so that I saw how many they were on the surface of the plain.  
How dry they were!  
He asked me:  
Son of man, can these bones come to life?  
I answered, “Lord GOD, you alone know that.”  
Then he said to me:  
Prophesy over these bones, and say to them:  
Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!  
Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones:  
See! I will bring spirit into you, that you may come to life.  
I will put sinews upon you, make flesh grow over you,  
cover you with skin, and put spirit in you  
so that you may come to life and know that I am the LORD.  
I prophesied as I had been told,  
and even as I was prophesying I heard a noise;  
it was a rattling as the bones came together, bone joining bone.  
I saw the sinews and the flesh come upon them,  
and the skin cover them, but there was no spirit in them.  
Then the LORD said to me:  
Prophesy to the spirit, prophesy, son of man,  
and say to the spirit: Thus says the Lord GOD:  
From the four winds come, O spirit,  
and breathe into these slain that they may come to life.  
I prophesied as he told me, and the spirit came into them;  
they came alive and stood upright, a vast army.  
Then he said to me:  
Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel.  
They have been saying,  
“Our bones are dried up,  
our hope is lost, and we are cut off.”  
Therefore, prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD:  
O my people, I will open your graves  
and have you rise from them,  
and bring you back to the land of Israel.  
Then you shall know that I am the LORD,  
when I open your graves and have you rise from them,  
O my people!  
I will put my spirit in you that you may live,  
and I will settle you upon your land;  
thus you shall know that I am the LORD.  
I have promised, and I will do it, says the LORD.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/107:2)

R. (1) **Give thanks to the Lord; his love is everlasting.**  
Let the redeemed of the LORD say,  
those whom he has redeemed from the hand of the foe  
And gathered from the lands,  
from the east and the west, from the north and the south.  
R. **Give thanks to the Lord; his love is everlasting.**  
They went astray in the desert wilderness;   
the way to an inhabited city they did not find.  
Hungry and thirsty,  
their life was wasting away within them.  
R. **Give thanks to the Lord; his love is everlasting.**  
They cried to the LORD in their distress;  
from their straits he rescued them.  
And he led them by a direct way  
to reach an inhabited city.  
R.**Give thanks to the Lord; his love is everlasting.**  
Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy  
and his wondrous deeds to the children of men,  
Because he satisfied the longing soul  
and filled the hungry soul with good things.  
R. **Give thanks to the Lord; his love is everlasting.**

#### Gospel [MT 22:34-40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/22:34)

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees,  
they gathered together, and one of them,  
a scholar of the law, tested him by asking,  
“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”  
He said to him,  
“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,  
with all your soul, and with all your mind.  
This is the greatest and the first commandment.  
The second is like it:  
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.”

**Day 266**

# August 23, 2014

### Saturday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 424

#### Reading 1 [EZ 43:1-7AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/43:1)

The angel led me to the gate which faces the east,  
and there I saw the glory of the God of Israel  
coming from the east.  
I heard a sound like the roaring of many waters,  
and the earth shone with his glory.  
The vision was like that which I had seen  
when he came to destroy the city,  
and like that which I had seen by the river Chebar.  
I fell prone as the glory of the LORD entered the temple  
by way of the gate which faces the east,  
but spirit lifted me up and brought me to the inner court.  
And I saw that the temple was filled with the glory of the LORD.  
Then I heard someone speaking to me from the temple,  
while the man stood beside me.  
The voice said to me:   
Son of man, this is where my throne shall be,  
this is where I will set the soles of my feet;  
here I will dwell among the children of Israel forever.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 85:9AB AND 10, 11-12, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/85:9)

R. (see 10b) **The glory of the Lord will dwell in our land.**  
I will hear what God proclaims;  
the LORD –for he proclaims peace.  
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,  
glory dwelling in our land.  
R. **The glory of the Lord will dwell in our land.**  
Kindness and truth shall meet;  
justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth,  
and justice shall look down from heaven.  
R.**The glory of the Lord will dwell in our land.**  
The LORD himself will give his benefits;  
our land shall yield its increase.  
Justice shall walk before him,   
and salvation, along the way of his steps.   
R. **The glory of the Lord will dwell in our land.**

#### Gospel [MT 23:1-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/23:1)

Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, saying,  
“The scribes and the Pharisees  
have taken their seat on the chair of Moses.  
Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you,  
but do not follow their example.  
For they preach but they do not practice.  
They tie up heavy burdens hard to carry  
and lay them on people’s shoulders,  
but they will not lift a finger to move them.  
All their works are performed to be seen.  
They widen their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels.  
They love places of honor at banquets, seats of honor in synagogues,  
greetings in marketplaces, and the salutation ‘Rabbi.’  
As for you, do not be called ‘Rabbi.’  
You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers.  
Call no one on earth your father;  
you have but one Father in heaven.  
Do not be called ‘Master’;  
you have but one master, the Christ.  
The greatest among you must be your servant.  
Whoever exalts himself will be humbled;  
but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

**Day 267**

# August 24, 2014

### Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 121

#### Reading 1 [IS 22:19-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/22:19)

Thus says the LORD to Shebna, master of the palace:  
“I will thrust you from your office  
and pull you down from your station.  
On that day I will summon my servant  
Eliakim, son of Hilkiah;  
I will clothe him with your robe,  
and gird him with your sash,  
and give over to him your authority.  
He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem,  
and to the house of Judah.  
I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim’s shoulder;  
when he opens, no one shall shut  
when he shuts, no one shall open.  
I will fix him like a peg in a sure spot,  
to be a place of honor for his family.”

#### Reading 2 [ROM 11:33-36](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/11:33)

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!   
How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways!  
For who has known the mind of the Lordor who has been his counselor?Or who has given the Lord anythingthat he may be repaid?  
For from him and through him and for him are all things.   
To him be glory forever. Amen.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/138:1)

R/ (8bc) **Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.**  
I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,  
for you have heard the words of my mouth;  
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;  
I will worship at your holy temple.  
R/**Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.**  
I will give thanks to your name,  
because of your kindness and your truth:  
When I called, you answered me;  
you built up strength within me.  
R/ **Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.**  
The LORD is exalted, yet the lowly he sees,  
and the proud he knows from afar.  
Your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;  
forsake not the work of your hands.  
R/ **Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.**

#### Gospel [MT 16:13-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/16:13)

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and  
he asked his disciples,  
“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”   
They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah,  
still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”   
He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”   
Simon Peter said in reply,  
“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”   
Jesus said to him in reply,  
“Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah.   
For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.   
And so I say to you, you are Peter,  
and upon this rock I will build my church,  
and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.   
I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.   
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;  
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”   
Then he strictly ordered his disciples  
to tell no one that he was the Christ.

**Day 268**

# August 25, 2014

### Monday of the Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 425

#### Reading 1 [2 THES 1:1-5, 11-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2thessalonians/1:1)

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the Church of the Thessalonians  
in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
grace to you and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
  
We ought to thank God always for you, brothers and sisters,  
as is fitting, because your faith flourishes ever more,  
and the love of every one of you for one another grows ever greater.  
Accordingly, we ourselves boast of you in the churches of God  
regarding your endurance and faith in all your persecutions  
and the afflictions you endure.  
  
This is evidence of the just judgment of God,  
so that you may be considered worthy of the Kingdom of God  
for which you are suffering.  
  
We always pray for you,  
that our God may make you worthy of his calling  
and powerfully bring to fulfillment every good purpose  
and every effort of faith,  
that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you,  
and you in him,  
in accord with the grace of our God and Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 96:1-2A, 2B-3, 4-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/96:1)

R. (3) **Proclaim God’s marvelous deeds to all the nations.**  
Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all you lands.  
Sing to the LORD; bless his name.  
R. **Proclaim God’s marvelous deeds to all the nations.**  
Announce his salvation, day after day.  
Tell his glory among the nations;  
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.  
R. **Proclaim God’s marvelous deeds to all the nations.**  
For great is the LORD and highly to be praised;  
awesome is he, beyond all gods.  
For all the gods of the nations are things of nought,  
but the LORD made the heavens.  
R. **Proclaim God’s marvelous deeds to all the nations.**

#### Gospel [MT 23:13-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/23:13)

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples:  
“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites.  
You lock the Kingdom of heaven before men.  
You do not enter yourselves,  
nor do you allow entrance to those trying to enter.  
  
“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites.  
You traverse sea and land to make one convert,  
and when that happens you make him a child of Gehenna  
twice as much as yourselves.  
  
“Woe to you, blind guides, who say,  
‘If one swears by the temple, it means nothing,  
but if one swears by the gold of the temple, one is obligated.’  
Blind fools, which is greater, the gold,  
or the temple that made the gold sacred?  
And you say, ‘If one swears by the altar, it means nothing,  
but if one swears by the gift on the altar, one is obligated.’  
You blind ones, which is greater, the gift,  
or the altar that makes the gift sacred?  
One who swears by the altar swears by it and all that is upon it;  
one who swears by the temple swears by it  
and by him who dwells in it;  
one who swears by heaven swears by the throne of God  
and by him who is seated on it.”

**Day 269**

# August 26, 2014

### Tuesday of the Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 426

#### Reading 1[2 THES 2:1-3A, 14-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2thessalonians/2:1)

We ask you, brothers and sisters,  
with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ  
and our assembling with him,  
not to be shaken out of your minds suddenly,  
or to be alarmed either by a “spirit,” or by an oral statement,  
or by a letter allegedly from us  
to the effect that the day of the Lord is at hand.  
Let no one deceive you in any way.  
  
To this end he has also called you through our Gospel  
to possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Therefore, brothers and sisters, stand firm  
and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught,  
either by an oral statement or by a letter of ours.  
  
May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father,  
who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement  
and good hope through his grace,  
encourage your hearts and strengthen them  
in every good deed and word.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 96:10, 11-12, 13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/96:10)

R. (13b) **The Lord comes to judge the earth.**  
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. **The Lord comes to judge the earth.**  
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. **The Lord comes to judge the earth.**  
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 comes to judge the earth.**

#### Gospel [MT 23:23-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/23:23)

Jesus said:  
“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites.  
You pay tithes of mint and dill and cummin,  
and have neglected the weightier things of the law:  
judgment and mercy and fidelity.  
But these you should have done, without neglecting the others.  
Blind guides, who strain out the gnat and swallow the camel!  
  
“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites.  
You cleanse the outside of cup and dish,  
but inside they are full of plunder and self-indulgence.  
Blind Pharisee, cleanse first the inside of the cup,  
so that the outside also may be clean.”

**Day 270**

# August 27, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Monica Lectionary: 427

#### Reading 1 [2 THES 3:6-10, 16-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2thessalonians/3:6)

We instruct you, brothers and sisters,  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
to shun any brother  
who walks in a disorderly way  
and not according to the tradition they received from us.  
For you know how one must imitate us.  
For we did not act in a disorderly way among you,  
nor did we eat food received free from anyone.  
On the contrary, in toil and drudgery, night and day we worked,  
so as not to burden any of you.  
Not that we do not have the right.  
Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you,  
so that you might imitate us.  
In fact, when we were with you, we instructed you that  
if anyone was unwilling to work, neither should that one eat.  
  
May the Lord of peace himself  
give you peace at all times and in every way.  
The Lord be with all of you.  
  
This greeting is in my own hand, Paul’s.  
This is the sign in every letter; this is how I write.  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 128:1-2, 4-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/128:1)

R. (1) **Blessed are those who fear the Lord.**  
Blessed are you who fear the LORD,  
who walk 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.**  
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.**

#### Gospel [MT 23:27-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/23:27)

Jesus said,  
“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites.  
You are like whitewashed tombs, which appear beautiful on the outside,  
but inside are full of dead men’s bones and every kind of filth.  
Even so, on the outside you appear righteous,  
but inside you are filled with hypocrisy and evildoing.  
  
“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites.  
You build the tombs of the prophets  
and adorn the memorials of the righteous,   
and you say, ‘If we had lived in the days of our ancestors,  
we would not have joined them in shedding the prophets’ blood.’  
Thus you bear witness against yourselves  
that you are the children of those who murdered the prophets;  
now fill up what your ancestors measured out!”

**Day 271**

# August 28, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 428

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 1:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/1:1)

Paul, called to be an Apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,  
and Sosthenes our brother,  
to the Church of God that is in Corinth,  
to you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy,  
with all those everywhere who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours.  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
  
I give thanks to my God always on your account  
for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus,  
that in him you were enriched in every way,  
with all discourse and all knowledge,  
as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you,  
so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift  
as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
He will keep you firm to the end,  
irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
God is faithful,  
and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:2)

R. (1) **I will praise your name for ever, Lord.**  
Every day will I bless you,  
and I will praise your name forever and ever.  
Great is the LORD and highly to be praised;  
his greatness is unsearchable.  
R.**I will praise your name for ever, Lord.**  
Generation after generation praises your works  
and proclaims your might.  
They speak of the splendor of your glorious majesty  
and tell of your wondrous works.  
R. **I will praise your name for ever, Lord.**  
They discourse of the power of your terrible deeds  
and declare your greatness.  
They publish the fame of your abundant goodness  
and joyfully sing of your justice.  
R. **I will praise your name for ever, Lord.**

#### Gospel [MT 24:42-51](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/24:42)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Stay awake!  
For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.  
Be sure of this:   
if the master of the house  
had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,  
he would have stayed awake  
and not let his house be broken into.  
So too, you also must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.  
  
“Who, then, is the faithful and prudent servant,  
whom the master has put in charge of his household  
to distribute to them their food at the proper time?  
Blessed is that servant whom his master on his arrival finds doing so.  
Amen, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property.  
But if that wicked servant says to himself, ‘My master is long delayed,’  
and begins to beat his fellow servants,  
and eat and drink with drunkards,  
the servant’s master will come on an unexpected day  
and at an unknown hour and will punish him severely  
and assign him a place with the hypocrites,  
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.”

**Day 272**

# August 29, 2014

### Memorial of the Passion of Saint John the Baptist Lectionary: 429/634

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 1:17-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/1:17)

Brothers and sisters:  
Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the Gospel,  
and not with the wisdom of human eloquence,  
so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its meaning.  
  
The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,  
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.  
For it is written:  
I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,and the learning of the learned I will set aside.  
  
Where is the wise one?  
Where is the scribe?  
Where is the debater of this age?  
Has not God made the wisdom of the world foolish?  
For since in the wisdom of God  
the world did not come to know God through wisdom,  
it was the will of God through the foolishness of the proclamation  
to save those who have faith.  
For Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom,  
but we proclaim Christ crucified,  
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,  
but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike,  
Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.  
For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,  
and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:1)

R. (5) **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
Exult, you just, in the LORD;  
praise from the upright is fitting.  
Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;  
with the ten stringed lyre chant his praises.  
R. **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
For upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
R.**The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
The LORD brings to nought the plans of nations;  
he foils the designs of peoples.  
But the plan of the LORD stands forever;  
the design of his heart, through all generations.  
R. **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**

#### Gospel [MK 6:17-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/mark/6:17)

Herod was the one who had John the Baptist arrested and bound in prison  
on account of Herodias,   
the wife of his brother Philip, whom he had married.  
John had said to Herod,  
“It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.”  
Herodias harbored a grudge against him  
and wanted to kill him but was unable to do so.  
Herod feared John, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man,  
and kept him in custody.  
When he heard him speak he was very much perplexed,  
yet he liked to listen to him.  
She had an opportunity one day when Herod, on his birthday,  
gave a banquet for his courtiers,  
his military officers, and the leading men of Galilee.  
Herodias’ own daughter came in  
and performed a dance that delighted Herod and his guests.  
The king said to the girl,  
“Ask of me whatever you wish and I will grant it to you.”  
He even swore many things to her,  
“I will grant you whatever you ask of me,  
even to half of my kingdom.”  
She went out and said to her mother,  
“What shall I ask for?”  
She replied, “The head of John the Baptist.”  
The girl hurried back to the king’s presence and made her request,  
“I want you to give me at once  
on a platter the head of John the Baptist.”  
The king was deeply distressed,  
but because of his oaths and the guests  
he did not wish to break his word to her.  
So he promptly dispatched an executioner with orders  
to bring back his head.  
He went off and beheaded him in the prison.  
He brought in the head on a platter and gave it to the girl.  
The girl in turn gave it to her mother.  
When his disciples heard about it,  
they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

**Day 273**

# August 30, 2014

### Saturday of the Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 430

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 1:26-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/1:26)

Consider your own calling, brothers and sisters.  
Not many of you were wise by human standards,  
not many were powerful,  
not many were of noble birth.  
Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise,  
and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong,  
and God chose the lowly and despised of the world,  
those who count for nothing,  
to reduce to nothing those who are something,  
so that no human being might boast before God.  
It is due to him that you are in Christ Jesus,  
who became for us wisdom from God,  
as well as righteousness, sanctification, and redemption,  
so that, as it is written,  
Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:12)

R. (12) **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.  
From heaven the LORD looks down;  
he sees all mankind.  
R. **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
But see, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,  
upon those who hope for his kindness,  
To deliver them from death  
and preserve them in spite of famine.  
R. **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
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. **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

#### Gospel [MT 25:14-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/25:14)

Jesus told his disciples this parable:  
“A man going on a journey   
called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them.  
To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one–   
to each according to his ability.  
Then he went away.  
Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them,  
and made another five.  
Likewise, the one who received two made another two.  
But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground  
and buried his master’s money.  
After a long time   
the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them.  
The one who had received five talents  
came forward bringing the additional five.  
He said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents.  
See, I have made five more.’  
His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant.  
Since you were faithful in small matters,  
I will give you great responsibilities.  
Come, share your master’s joy.’  
Then the one who had received two talents also came forward and said,  
‘Master, you gave me two talents.  
See, I have made two more.’  
His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant.  
Since you were faithful in small matters,  
I will give you great responsibilities.  
Come, share your master’s joy.’  
Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said,  
‘Master, I knew you were a demanding person,  
harvesting where you did not plant  
and gathering where you did not scatter;  
so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground.  
Here it is back.’  
His master said to him in reply, ‘You wicked, lazy servant!  
So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant  
and gather where I did not scatter?  
Should you not then have put my money in the bank  
so that I could have got it back with interest on my return?  
Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten.  
For to everyone who has,  
more will be given and he will grow rich;  
but from the one who has not,  
even what he has will be taken away.  
And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside,  
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.’”

**Day 274**

# August 31, 2014

### Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 124

#### Reading 1 [JER 20:7-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/jeremiah/20:7)

You duped me, O LORD, and I let myself be duped;  
you were too strong for me, and you triumphed.  
All the day I am an object of laughter;  
everyone mocks me.  
  
Whenever I speak, I must cry out,  
violence and outrage is my message;  
the word of the LORD has brought me  
derision and reproach all the day.  
  
I say to myself, I will not mention him,  
I will speak in his name no more.  
But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart,  
imprisoned in my bones;  
I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.

#### Reading 2 [ROM 12:1-2](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/12:1)

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,  
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,  
holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.   
Do not conform yourselves to this age  
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,  
that you may discern what is the will of God,  
what is good and pleasing and perfect.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/63:2)

R/ (2b) **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**  
O God, you are my God whom I seek;  
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts  
like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.  
R/ **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**  
Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary  
to see your power and your glory,  
For your kindness is a greater good than life;  
my lips shall glorify you.  
R/ **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**  
Thus will I bless you while I live;  
lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.  
As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied,  
and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.   
R/ **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**  
You are my help,  
and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.  
My soul clings fast to you;  
your right hand upholds me.  
R/**My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

#### Gospel [MT 16:21-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/16:21)

Jesus began to show his disciples  
that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly  
from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes,  
and be killed and on the third day be raised.   
Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him,  
“God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you.”   
He turned and said to Peter,  
“Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me.   
You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”  
  
Then Jesus said to his disciples,  
“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself,  
take up his cross, and follow me.   
For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,  
but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.  
What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world  
and forfeit his life?   
Or what can one give in exchange for his life?   
For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father’s glory,  
and then he will repay all according to his conduct.”

**Day 275**

# September 1, 2014

### Monday of the Twenty-second Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 431

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 2:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/2:1)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters,  
proclaiming the mystery of God,  
I did not come with sublimity of words or of wisdom.  
For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you  
except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.  
I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling,  
and my message and my proclamation  
were not with persuasive words of wisdom,  
but with a demonstration of spirit and power,  
so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom  
but on the power of God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:97)

R. (97) **Lord, I love your commands.**  
How I love your law, O LORD!  
It is my meditation all the day.  
R. Lord, I love your commands.  
Your command has made me wiser than my enemies,  
for it is ever with me.  
R. **Lord, I love your commands.**  
I have more understanding than all my teachers  
when your decrees are my meditation.  
R. **Lord, I love your commands.**  
I have more discernment than the elders,  
because I observe your precepts.  
R.**Lord, I love your commands.**  
From every evil way I withhold my feet,  
that I may keep your words.  
R.**Lord, I love your commands.**  
From your ordinances I turn not away,  
for you have instructed me.  
R.**Lord, I love your commands.**

#### Gospel [LK 4:16-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/4:16)

Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had grown up,  
and went according to his custom  
into the synagogue on the sabbath day.  
He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah.  
He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:  
  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,because he has anointed meto bring glad tidings to the poor.He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captivesand recovery of sight to the blind,to let the oppressed go free,and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.  
  
Rolling up the scroll,  
he handed it back to the attendant and sat down,  
and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him.  
He said to them,  
“Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”  
And all spoke highly of him  
and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth.  
They also asked, “Is this not the son of Joseph?”  
He said to them, “Surely you will quote me this proverb,  
‘Physician, cure yourself,’ and say, ‘Do here in your native place  
the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.’”  
And he said,  
“Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place.  
Indeed, I tell you,  
there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah  
when the sky was closed for three and a half years  
and a severe famine spread over the entire land.  
It was to none of these that Elijah was sent,  
but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon.  
Again, there were many lepers in Israel  
during the time of Elisha the prophet;  
yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.”  
When the people in the synagogue heard this,  
they were all filled with fury.  
They rose up, drove him out of the town,  
and led him to the brow of the hill  
on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong.  
But he passed through the midst of them and went away.

**Day 276**

# September 2, 2014

### Tuesday of the Twenty-second Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 432

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 2:10B-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/2:10)

Brothers and sisters:  
The Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.  
Among men, who knows what pertains to the man  
except his spirit that is within?  
Similarly, no one knows what pertains to God except the Spirit of God.  
We have not received the spirit of the world  
but the Spirit who is from God,  
so that we may understand the things freely given us by God.  
And we speak about them not with words taught by human wisdom,  
but with words taught by the Spirit,  
describing spiritual realities in spiritual terms.  
  
Now the natural man does not accept what pertains to the Spirit of God,  
for to him it is foolishness, and he cannot understand it,  
because it is judged spiritually.  
The one who is spiritual, however, can judge everything  
but is not subject to judgment by anyone.  
  
For “who has known the mind of the Lord, so as to counsel him?”  
But we have the mind of Christ.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13AB, 13CD-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:8)

R. (17) **The Lord is just in all his ways.**  
The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
The LORD is good to all  
and compassionate toward all his works.  
R. **The Lord is just in all his ways.**  
Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD,  
and let your faithful ones bless you.  
Let them discourse of the glory of your Kingdom  
and speak of your might.  
R. **The Lord is just in all his ways.**  
Making known to men your might  
and the glorious splendor of your Kingdom.  
Your Kingdom is a Kingdom for all ages,  
and your dominion endures through all generations.  
R. **The Lord is just in all his ways.**  
The LORD is faithful in all his words  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD lifts up all who are falling  
and raises up all who are bowed down.  
R. **The Lord is just in all his ways.**

#### Gospel [LK 4:31-37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/4:31)

Jesus went down to Capernaum, a town of Galilee.  
He taught them on the sabbath,  
and they were astonished at his teaching  
because he spoke with authority.  
In the synagogue there was a man with the spirit of an unclean demon,   
and he cried out in a loud voice,  
“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?  
Have you come to destroy us?  
I know who you are–the Holy One of God!”  
Jesus rebuked him and said, “Be quiet! Come out of him!”  
Then the demon threw the man down in front of them  
and came out of him without doing him any harm.  
They were all amazed and said to one another,  
“What is there about his word?  
For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits,  
and they come out.”  
And news of him spread everywhere in the surrounding region.

**Day 277**

# September 3, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 433

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 3:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/3:1)

Brothers and sisters,   
I could not talk to you as spiritual people,  
but as fleshly people, as infants in Christ.  
I fed you milk, not solid food,  
because you were unable to take it.  
Indeed, you are still not able, even now,  
for you are still of the flesh.  
While there is jealousy and rivalry among you,  
are you not of the flesh, and walking   
according to the manner of man?  
Whenever someone says, “I belong to Paul,” and another,  
“I belong to Apollos,” are you not merely men?  
  
What is Apollos, after all, and what is Paul?  
Ministers through whom you became believers,  
just as the Lord assigned each one.  
I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused the growth.  
Therefore, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything,  
but only God, who causes the growth.  
He who plants and he who waters are one,  
and each will receive wages in proportion to his labor.  
For we are God’s co-workers;   
you are God’s field, God’s building.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:12)

R. (12) **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.  
From heaven the LORD looks down;  
he sees all mankind.  
R.**Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
From his fixed throne he beholds  
all who dwell on the earth,  
He who fashioned the heart of each,  
he who knows all their works.  
R.**Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
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.**Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

#### Gospel [LK 4:38-44](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/4:38)

After Jesus left the synagogue, he entered the house of Simon.  
Simon’s mother-in-law was afflicted with a severe fever,  
and they interceded with him about her.  
He stood over her, rebuked the fever, and it left her.  
She got up immediately and waited on them.  
  
At sunset, all who had people sick with various diseases  
brought them to him.  
He laid his hands on each of them and cured them.  
And demons also came out from many, shouting, “You are the Son of God.”  
But he rebuked them and did not allow them to speak  
because they knew that he was the Christ.  
  
At daybreak, Jesus left and went to a deserted place.  
The crowds went looking for him, and when they came to him,  
they tried to prevent him from leaving them.  
But he said to them, “To the other towns also  
I must proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God,  
because for this purpose I have been sent.”  
And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

**Day 278**

# September 4, 2014

### Thursday of the Twenty-second Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 434

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 3:18-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/3:18)

Brothers and sisters:  
Let no one deceive himself.  
If anyone among you considers himself wise in this age,  
let him become a fool, so as to become wise.  
For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God,  
for it is written:  
  
God catches the wise in their own ruses,  
  
and again:  
  
The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.  
  
So let no one boast about human beings, for everything belongs to you,  
Paul or Apollos or Cephas,  
or the world or life or death,  
or the present or the future:  
all belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 24:1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/24:1)

R. (1) **To the Lord belongs the earth and all that fills it.**  
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. **To the Lord belongs the earth and all that fills it.**  
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. **To the Lord belongs the earth and all that fills it.**  
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. **To the Lord belongs the earth and all that fills it.**

#### Gospel [LK 5:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/5:1)

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God,  
he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret.  
He saw two boats there alongside the lake;  
the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets.  
Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon,  
he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore.  
Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.  
After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon,  
“Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.”  
Simon said in reply,  
“Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing,  
but at your command I will lower the nets.”  
When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish  
and their nets were tearing.  
They signaled to their partners in the other boat  
to come to help them.   
They came and filled both boats  
so that the boats were in danger of sinking.  
When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said,  
“Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.”  
For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him  
and all those with him,  
and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee,  
who were partners of Simon.  
Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid;  
from now on you will be catching men.”  
When they brought their boats to the shore,  
they left everything and followed him.

**Day 279**

# September 5, 2014

### Friday of the Twenty-second Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 435

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 4:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/4:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
Thus should one regard us: as servants of Christ  
and stewards of the mysteries of God.   
Now it is of course required of stewards  
that they be found trustworthy.  
It does not concern me in the least  
that I be judged by you or any human tribunal;  
I do not even pass judgment on myself;  
I am not conscious of anything against me,  
but I do not thereby stand acquitted;  
the one who judges me is the Lord.  
Therefore, do not make any judgment before the appointed time,  
until the Lord comes,  
for he will bring to light what is hidden in darkness  
and will manifest the motives of our hearts,  
and then everyone will receive praise from God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/37:3)

R. (39a) **The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**  
Trust in the LORD and do good,  
that you may dwell in the land and be fed in security.  
Take delight in the LORD,  
and he will grant you your heart’s requests.  
R. **The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**  
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 salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**  
Turn from evil and do good,  
that you may abide forever;  
For the LORD loves what is right,  
and forsakes not his faithful ones.  
Criminals are destroyed   
and the posterity of the wicked is cut off.  
R. **The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**  
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 salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 5:33-39](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/5:33)

The scribes and Pharisees said to Jesus,  
“The disciples of John the Baptist fast often and offer prayers,  
and the disciples of the Pharisees do the same;  
but yours eat and drink.”  
Jesus answered them, “Can you make the wedding guests fast  
while the bridegroom is with them?  
But the days will come, and when the bridegroom is taken away from them,  
then they will fast in those days.”  
And he also told them a parable.  
“No one tears a piece from a new cloak to patch an old one.  
Otherwise, he will tear the new  
and the piece from it will not match the old cloak.  
Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins.  
Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins,  
and it will be spilled, and the skins will be ruined.  
Rather, new wine must be poured into fresh wineskins.  
And no one who has been drinking old wine desires new,  
for he says, ‘The old is good.’”

**Day 280**

# September 6, 2014

### Saturday of the Twenty-second Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 436

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 4:6B-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/4:6)

Brothers and sisters:  
Learn from myself and Apollos not to go beyond what is written,  
so that none of you will be inflated with pride  
in favor of one person over against another.  
Who confers distinction upon you?  
What do you possess that you have not received?  
But if you have received it,  
why are you boasting as if you did not receive it?  
You are already satisfied; you have already grown rich;  
you have become kings without us!  
Indeed, I wish that you had become kings,  
so that we also might become kings with you.  
  
For as I see it, God has exhibited us Apostles as the last of all,  
like people sentenced to death,  
since we have become a spectacle to the world,  
to angels and men alike.  
We are fools on Christ’s account, but you are wise in Christ;  
we are weak, but you are strong;  
you are held in honor, but we in disrepute.  
To this very hour we go hungry and thirsty,  
we are poorly clad and roughly treated,  
we wander about homeless and we toil, working with our own hands.  
When ridiculed, we bless; when persecuted, we endure;  
when slandered, we respond gently.  
We have become like the world’s rubbish, the scum of all,  
to this very moment.  
  
I am writing you this not to shame you,  
but to admonish you as my beloved children.  
Even if you should have countless guides to Christ,  
yet you do not have many fathers,  
for I became your father in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:17-18, 19-20, 21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:17)

R. (18) **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**  
The LORD is just in all his ways  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,  
to all who call upon him in truth.  
R. **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**  
He fulfills the desire of those who fear him,  
he hears their cry and saves them.  
The LORD keeps all who love him,  
but all the wicked he will destroy.  
R. **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**  
May my mouth speak the praise of the LORD,  
and may all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.  
R. **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

#### Gospel [LK 6:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/6:1)

While Jesus was going through a field of grain on a sabbath,  
his disciples were picking the heads of grain,  
rubbing them in their hands, and eating them.  
Some Pharisees said,  
“Why are you doing what is unlawful on the sabbath?”  
Jesus said to them in reply,  
“Have you not read what David did  
when he and those who were with him were hungry?  
How he went into the house of God, took the bread of offering,  
which only the priests could lawfully eat,  
ate of it, and shared it with his companions?”  
Then he said to them, “The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath.”

**Day 281**

# September 7, 2014

 Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Lectionary: 127

#### Reading 1 [EZ 33:7-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/33:7)

Thus says the LORD:  
You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel;  
when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me.  
If I tell the wicked, “O wicked one, you shall surely die, ”  
and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way,  
the wicked shall die for his guilt,  
but I will hold you responsible for his death.  
But if you warn the wicked,  
trying to turn him from his way,  
and he refuses to turn from his way,  
he shall die for his guilt,  
but you shall save yourself.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/95:1)

R/ (8) **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.  
R/ **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.  
R/**If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**  
Oh, that today you would hear his voice:  
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as in the day of Massah in the desert,  
Where your fathers tempted me;  
they tested me though they had seen my works.”  
R/ **If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

#### Gospel [MT 18:15-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/18:15)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“If your brother sins against you,  
go and tell him his fault between you and him alone.   
If he listens to you, you have won over your brother.  
If he does not listen,  
take one or two others along with you,  
so that ‘every fact may be established  
on the testimony of two or three witnesses.’  
If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church.   
If he refuses to listen even to the church,  
then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.  
Amen, I say to you,  
whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven,  
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.  
Again, amen, I say to you,  
if two of you agree on earth  
about anything for which they are to pray,  
it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father.   
For where two or three are gathered together in my name,  
there am I in the midst of them.”

**Day 282**

# September 8, 2014

### Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lectionary: 636

#### Reading 1 [MI 5:1-4A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/micah/5:1)

The LORD says:  
You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah,  
too small to be among the clans of Judah,  
From you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel;  
Whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient times.  
(Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time  
when she who is to give birth has borne,  
And the rest of his brethren shall return  
to the children of Israel.)  
He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock  
by the strength of the LORD,  
in the majestic name of the LORD, his God;  
And they shall remain, for now his greatness  
shall reach to the ends of the earth;  
he shall be peace.

#### Or [ROM 8:28-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/8:28)

Brothers and sisters:  
We know that all things work for good for those who love God,  
who are called according to his purpose.   
For those he foreknew he also predestined  
to be conformed to the image of his Son,  
so that he might be the firstborn  
among many brothers.  
And those he predestined he also called;  
and those he called he also justified;  
and those he justified he also glorified.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 13:6AB, 6C](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/13:6)

R. (Isaiah 61:10) **With delight I rejoice in the Lord.**  
Though I trusted in your mercy,  
let my heart rejoice in your salvation.  
R. **With delight I rejoice in the Lord.**  
Let me sing of the LORD, “He has been good to me.”  
R. **With delight I rejoice in the Lord.**

#### Gospel [MT 1:1-16, 18-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/1:1)

The Book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ,  
the son of David, the son of Abraham.  
  
Abraham became the father of Isaac,  
Isaac the father of Jacob,  
Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.  
Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah,  
whose mother was Tamar.  
Perez became the father of Hezron,  
Hezron the father of Ram,  
Ram the father of Amminadab.  
Amminadab became the father of Nahshon,  
Nahshon the father of Salmon,  
Salmon the father of Boaz,  
whose mother was Rahab.  
Boaz became the father of Obed,  
whose mother was Ruth.  
Obed became the father of Jesse,  
Jesse the father of David the king.  
  
David became the father of Solomon,  
whose mother had been the wife of Uriah.  
Solomon became the father of Rehoboam,  
Rehoboam the father of Abijah,  
Abijah the father of Asaph.  
Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat,  
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram,  
Joram the father of Uzziah.  
Uzziah became the father of Jotham,  
Jotham the father of Ahaz,  
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah.  
Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh,  
Manasseh the father of Amos,  
Amos the father of Josiah.  
Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers  
at the time of the Babylonian exile.  
  
After the Babylonian exile,  
Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel,  
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,  
Zerubbabel the father of Abiud.  
Abiud became the father of Eliakim,  
Eliakim the father of Azor,  
Azor the father of Zadok.  
Zadok became the father of Achim,  
Achim the father of Eliud,  
Eliud the father of Eleazar.  
Eleazar became the father of Matthan,  
Matthan the father of Jacob,  
Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary.  
Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ.  
  
Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about.   
When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph,  
but before they lived together,  
she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.  
Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man,  
yet unwilling to expose her to shame,  
decided to divorce her quietly.  
Such was his intention when, behold,  
the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,  
“Joseph, son of David,  
do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.  
For it is through the Holy Spirit  
that this child has been conceived in her.  
She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,  
because he will save his people from their sins.”  
All this took place to fulfill  
what the Lord had said through the prophet:  
  
Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son,and they shall name him Emmanuel,  
  
which means “God is with us.”

**Day 283**

# September 9, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest Lectionary: 438

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 6:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/6:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
How can any one of you with a case against another  
dare to bring it to the unjust for judgment  
instead of to the holy ones?  
Do you not know that the holy ones will judge the world?  
If the world is to be judged by you,  
are you unqualified for the lowest law courts?  
Do you not know that we will judge angels?  
Then why not everyday matters?  
If, therefore, you have courts for everyday matters,  
do you seat as judges people of no standing in the Church?  
I say this to shame you.  
Can it be that there is not one among you wise enough  
to be able to settle a case between brothers?  
But rather brother goes to court against brother,  
and that before unbelievers?  
  
Now indeed then it is, in any case,  
a failure on your part that you have lawsuits against one another.  
Why not rather put up with injustice?  
Why not rather let yourselves be cheated?  
Instead, you inflict injustice and cheat, and this to brothers.  
Do you not know that the unjust will not inherit the Kingdom of God?  
Do not be deceived;  
neither fornicators nor idolaters nor adulterers  
nor boy prostitutes nor sodomites nor thieves  
nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor robbers  
will inherit the Kingdom of God.  
That is what some of you used to be;  
but now you have had yourselves washed, you were sanctified,  
you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ  
and in the Spirit of our God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 149:1B-2, 3-4, 5-6A AND 9B](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/149:1)

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

#### Gospel [LK 6:12-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/6:12)

Jesus departed to the mountain to pray,  
and he spent the night in prayer to God.  
When day came, he called his disciples to himself,  
and from them he chose Twelve, whom he also named Apostles:  
Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew,  
James, John, Philip, Bartholomew,  
Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus,  
Simon who was called a Zealot,  
and Judas the son of James,  
and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.  
  
And he came down with them and stood on a stretch of level ground.  
A great crowd of his disciples and a large number of the people   
from all Judea and Jerusalem  
and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon  
came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases;  
and even those who were tormented by unclean spirits were cured.  
Everyone in the crowd sought to touch him  
because power came forth from him and healed them all.

**Day 284**

# September 10, 2014

### Wednesday of the Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 439

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 7:25-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/7:25)

Brothers and sisters:  
In regard to virgins, I have no commandment from the Lord,  
but I give my opinion as one who by the Lord’s mercy is trustworthy.  
So this is what I think best because of the present distress:  
that it is a good thing for a person to remain as he is.  
Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek a separation.  
Are you free of a wife? Then do not look for a wife.  
If you marry, however, you do not sin,  
nor does an unmarried woman sin if she marries;  
but such people will experience affliction in their earthly life,  
and I would like to spare you that.  
  
I tell you, brothers, the time is running out.  
From now on, let those having wives act as not having them,  
those weeping as not weeping,   
those rejoicing as not rejoicing,  
those buying as not owning,  
those using the world as not using it fully.  
For the world in its present form is passing away.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/45:11)

R. (11)**Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.**  
Hear, O daughter, and see; turn your ear,  
forget your people and your father’s house.  
So shall the king desire your beauty;  
for he is your lord, and you must worship him.  
R. **Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.**  
All glorious is the king’s daughter as she enters;  
her raiment is threaded with spun gold.  
In embroidered apparel she is borne in to the king;  
behind her the virgins of her train are brought to you.  
R.**Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.**  
They are borne in with gladness and joy;  
they enter the palace of the king.  
The place of your fathers your sons shall have;  
you shall make them princes through all the land.  
R.**Listen to me, daughter; see and bend your ear.**

#### Gospel [LK 6:20-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/6:20)

Raising his eyes toward his disciples Jesus said:  
“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for the Kingdom of God is yours.  
Blessed are you who are now hungry,  
for you will be satisfied.  
Blessed are you who are now weeping,  
for you will laugh.  
Blessed are you when people hate you,  
and when they exclude and insult you,  
and denounce your name as evil  
on account of the Son of Man.  
  
Rejoice and leap for joy on that day!  
Behold, your reward will be great in heaven.   
For their ancestors treated the prophets  
in the same way.  
  
But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.  
But woe to you who are filled now,  
for you will be hungry.  
Woe to you who laugh now,  
for you will grieve and weep.  
Woe to you when all speak well of you,  
for their ancestors treated the false   
prophets in this way.”

**Day 285**

# September 11, 2014

### Thursday of the Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 440

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 8:1B-7, 11-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/8:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
Knowledge inflates with pride, but love builds up.  
If anyone supposes he knows something,  
he does not yet know as he ought to know.  
But if one loves God, one is known by him.  
  
So about the eating of meat sacrificed to idols:  
we know that there is no idol in the world,  
and that there is no God but one.  
Indeed, even though there are so-called gods in heaven and on earth  
(there are, to be sure, many “gods” and many “lords”),  
yet for us there is   
  
one God, the Father,  
from whom all things are and for whom we exist,  
and one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
through whom all things are and through whom we exist.  
  
But not all have this knowledge.  
There are some who have been so used to idolatry up until now  
that, when they eat meat sacrificed to idols,  
their conscience, which is weak, is defiled.  
  
Thus, through your knowledge, the weak person is brought to destruction,  
the brother for whom Christ died.  
When you sin in this way against your brothers  
and wound their consciences, weak as they are,  
you are sinning against Christ.  
Therefore, if food causes my brother to sin,  
I will never eat meat again,  
so that I may not cause my brother to sin.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 139:1B-3, 13-14AB, 23-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/139:1)

R. (24b) **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
O LORD, you have probed me and you know me;  
you know when I sit and when I stand;  
you understand my thoughts from afar.  
My journeys and my rest you scrutinize,  
with all my ways you are familiar.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
Truly you have formed my inmost being;  
you knit me in my mother’s womb.  
I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made;  
wonderful are your works.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
Probe me, O God, and know my heart;  
try me, and know my thoughts;  
See if my way is crooked,  
and lead me in the way of old.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**

#### Gospel [LK 6:27-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/6:27)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“To you who hear I say, love your enemies,  
do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you,  
pray for those who mistreat you.  
To the person who strikes you on one cheek,  
offer the other one as well,  
and from the person who takes your cloak,  
do not withhold even your tunic.  
Give to everyone who asks of you,  
and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back.  
Do to others as you would have them do to you.  
For if you love those who love you,  
what credit is that to you?  
Even sinners love those who love them.  
And if you do good to those who do good to you,  
what credit is that to you?  
Even sinners do the same.  
If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment,  
what credit is that to you?  
Even sinners lend to sinners,  
and get back the same amount.   
But rather, love your enemies and do good to them,  
and lend expecting nothing back;  
then your reward will be great  
and you will be children of the Most High,  
for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.  
Be merciful, just as also your Father is merciful.  
  
“Stop judging and you will not be judged.  
Stop condemning and you will not be condemned.  
Forgive and you will be forgiven.  
Give and gifts will be given to you;  
a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing,  
will be poured into your lap.  
For the measure with which you measure  
will in return be measured out to you.”

**Day 286**

# September 12, 2014

### Friday of the Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 441

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 9:16-19, 22B-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/9:16)

Brothers and sisters:  
If I preach the Gospel, this is no reason for me to boast,  
for an obligation has been imposed on me,  
and woe to me if I do not preach it!  
If I do so willingly, I have a recompense,  
but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship.  
What then is my recompense?  
That, when I preach, I offer the Gospel free of charge  
so as not to make full use of my right in the Gospel.  
  
Although I am free in regard to all,  
I have made myself a slave to all  
so as to win over as many as possible.  
I have become all things to all, to save at least some.  
All this I do for the sake of the Gospel,  
so that I too may have a share in it.  
  
Do you not know that the runners in the stadium all run in the race,  
but only one wins the prize?  
Run so as to win.  
Every athlete exercises discipline in every way.  
They do it to win a perishable crown,  
but we an imperishable one.  
Thus I do not run aimlessly;  
I do not fight as if I were shadowboxing.  
No, I drive my body and train it,  
for fear that, after having preached to others,  
I myself should be disqualified.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/84:3)

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.  
Blessed the men whose strength you are!  
their hearts are set upon the pilgrimage.  
R. **How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!**  
For a sun and a shield is the LORD God;  
grace and glory he bestows;  
The LORD withholds no good thing  
from those who walk in sincerity.   
R. **How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, mighty God!**

#### Gospel [LK 6:39-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/6:39)

Jesus told his disciples a parable:  
“Can a blind person guide a blind person?  
Will not both fall into a pit?  
No disciple is superior to the teacher;  
but when fully trained,  
every disciple will be like his teacher.  
Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye,  
but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?  
How can you say to your brother,  
‘Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,’  
when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye?  
You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first;  
then you will see clearly  
to remove the splinter in your brother’s eye.”

**Day 287**

# September 13, 2014

### Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 442

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 10:14-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/10:14)

My beloved ones, avoid idolatry.  
I am speaking as to sensible people;  
judge for yourselves what I am saying.  
The cup of blessing that we bless,  
is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ?  
The bread that we break,  
is it not a participation in the Body of Christ?  
Because the loaf of bread is one,  
we, though many, are one Body,  
for we all partake of the one loaf.  
  
Look at Israel according to the flesh;  
are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar?  
So what am I saying?  
That meat sacrificed to idols is anything?  
Or that an idol is anything?  
No, I mean that what they sacrifice,  
they sacrifice to demons, not to God,  
and I do not want you to become participants with demons.  
You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and also the cup of demons.  
You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and of the table of demons.  
Or are we provoking the Lord to jealous anger?  
Are we stronger than him?

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 116:12-13, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/116:12)

R. (17) **To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.**  
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.**  
To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.  
My vows to the LORD I will pay  
in the presence of all his people.  
R. **To you, Lord, I will offer a sacrifice of praise.**

#### Gospel [LK 6:43-49](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/6:43)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,  
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.  
For every tree is known by its own fruit.  
For people do not pick figs from thornbushes,  
nor do they gather grapes from brambles.  
A good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good,  
but an evil person out of a store of evil produces evil;  
for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks.  
  
“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ but not do what I command?  
I will show you what someone is like who comes to me,  
listens to my words, and acts on them.  
That one is like a man building a house,  
who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock;  
when the flood came, the river burst against that house  
but could not shake it because it had been well built.  
But the one who listens and does not act  
is like a person who built a house on the ground  
without a foundation.  
When the river burst against it,  
it collapsed at once and was completely destroyed.”

**Day 288**

# September 14, 2014

### Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Lectionary: 638

#### Reading 1 [NM 21:4B-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/numbers/21:4)

With their patience worn out by the journey,  
the people complained against God and Moses,  
“Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in this desert,  
where there is no food or water?  
We are disgusted with this wretched food!”  
  
In punishment the LORD sent among the people saraph serpents,  
which bit the people so that many of them died.  
Then the people came to Moses and said,  
“We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you.  
Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us.”  
So Moses prayed for the people, and the LORD said to Moses,  
“Make a saraph and mount it on a pole,  
and if any who have been bitten look at it, they will live.”  
Moses accordingly made a bronze serpent and mounted it on a pole,  
and whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent   
looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 78:1BC-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/78:1)

R. (see 7b) **Do not forget the works of the Lord!**  
Hearken, my people, to my teaching;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.  
I will open my mouth in a parable,  
I will utter mysteries from of old.  
R.**Do not forget the works of the Lord!**  
While he slew them they sought him  
and inquired after God again,  
Remembering that God was their rock  
and the Most High God, their redeemer.  
R.**Do not forget the works of the Lord!**  
But they flattered him with their mouths  
and lied to him with their tongues,  
Though their hearts were not steadfast toward him,  
nor were they faithful to his covenant.  
R. **Do not forget the works of the Lord!**  
But he, being merciful, forgave their sin  
and destroyed them not;  
Often he turned back his anger  
and let none of his wrath be roused.  
R. **Do not forget the works of the Lord!**

#### Reading 2[PHIL 2:6-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/2:6)

Brothers and sisters:  
Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.  
Rather, he emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
coming in human likeness;  
and found human in appearance,  
he humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to death,  
even death on a cross.  
Because of this, God greatly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name  
that is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

#### Gospel [JN 3:13-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/3:13)

Jesus said to Nicodemus:  
“No one has gone up to heaven  
except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man.  
And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,  
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,  
so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”  
  
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish  
but might have eternal life.  
For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.

**Day 289**

# September 15, 2014

### Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows Lectionary: 443/639

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 11:17-26, 33](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/11:17)

Brothers and sisters:  
In giving this instruction, I do not praise the fact  
that your meetings are doing more harm than good.  
First of all, I hear that when you meet as a Church  
there are divisions among you,  
and to a degree I believe it;  
there have to be factions among you  
in order that also those who are approved among you  
may become known.  
When you meet in one place, then,  
it is not to eat the Lord’s supper,  
for in eating, each one goes ahead with his own supper,  
and one goes hungry while another gets drunk.  
Do you not have houses in which you can eat and drink?  
Or do you show contempt for the Church of God  
and make those who have nothing feel ashamed?  
What can I say to you? Shall I praise you?  
In this matter I do not praise you.  
  
For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,  
that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over,  
took bread and, after he had given thanks,  
broke it and said, “This is my Body that is for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”  
In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,  
“This cup is the new covenant in my Blood.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”  
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,  
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.  
  
Therefore, my brothers and sisters,  
when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 40:7-8A, 8B-9, 10, 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/40:7)

R. (1 Cor 11:26b) **Proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again.**  
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.**Proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again.**  
“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. **Proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again.**  
I announced your justice in the vast assembly;  
I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know.  
R. **Proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again.**  
May all who seek you  
exult and be glad in you  
And may those who love your salvation  
say ever, “The LORD be glorified.”  
R. **Proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again.**

#### Gospel [JN 19:25-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/19:25)

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother  
and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,  
and Mary Magdalene.  
When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved  
he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.”  
Then he said to the disciple,  
“Behold, your mother.”  
And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

**Day 290**

# September 16, 2014

### Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs Lectionary: 444

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 12:12-14, 27-31A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/12:12)

Brothers and sisters:  
As a body is one though it has many parts,  
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body,  
so also Christ.  
For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body,  
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,  
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.  
  
Now the body is not a single part, but many.  
  
Now you are Christ’s Body, and individually parts of it.  
Some people God has designated in the Church  
to be, first, Apostles; second, prophets; third, teachers;  
then, mighty deeds;  
then gifts of healing, assistance, administration,  
and varieties of tongues.  
Are all Apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers?  
Do all work mighty deeds? Do all have gifts of healing?  
Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?  
Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 10:1B-2, 3, 4, 5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/10:1)

R. (3) **We are his people: the sheep of his flock.**  
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;  
serve the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful song.  
R. **We are his people: the sheep of his flock.**  
Know that the LORD is God;  
he made us, his we are;  
his people, the flock he tends.  
R. **We are his people: the sheep of his flock.**  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
his courts with praise;  
Give thanks to him; bless his name.  
R. **We are his people: the sheep of his flock.**  
For he is good, the LORD, whose kindness endures forever,  
and his faithfulness, to all generations.   
R. **We are his people: the sheep of his flock.**

#### Gospel [LK 7:11-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/7:11)

Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,  
and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.  
As he drew near to the gate of the city,  
a man who had died was being carried out,  
the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.  
A large crowd from the city was with her.  
When the Lord saw her,  
he was moved with pity for her and said to her,  
“Do not weep.”  
He stepped forward and touched the coffin;  
at this the bearers halted,  
and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!”  
The dead man sat up and began to speak,  
and Jesus gave him to his mother.  
Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming,  
“A great prophet has arisen in our midst,”  
and “God has visited his people.”  
This report about him spread through the whole of Judea  
and in all the surrounding region.

**Day 291**

# September 17, 2014

### Wednesday of the Twenty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 445

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 12:31-13:13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/12:31)

Brothers and sisters:  
Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.  
  
But I shall show you a still more excellent way.  
  
If I speak in human and angelic tongues  
but do not have love,  
I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.  
And if I have the gift of prophecy  
and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;  
if I have all faith so as to move mountains,  
but do not have love, I am nothing.  
If I give away everything I own,  
and if I hand my body over so that I may boast  
but do not have love, I gain nothing.  
  
Love is patient, love is kind.  
It is not jealous, love is not pompous,  
it is not inflated, it is not rude,  
it does not seek its own interests,  
it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,  
it does not rejoice over wrongdoing  
but rejoices with the truth.  
It bears all things, believes all things,  
hopes all things, endures all things.  
  
Love never fails.  
If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing;  
if tongues, they will cease;  
if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.  
For we know partially and we prophesy partially,  
but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.  
When I was a child, I used to talk as a child,  
think as a child, reason as a child;  
when I became a man, I put aside childish things.  
At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror,  
but then face to face.  
At present I know partially;  
then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.  
So faith, hope, love remain, these three;  
but the greatest of these is love.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 AND 22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:2)

R. (12) **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
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. **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
For upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
R. **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.  
May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us  
who have put our hope in you.  
R. **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

#### Gospel [LK 7:31-35](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/7:31)

Jesus said to the crowds:  
“To what shall I compare the people of this generation?  
What are they like?  
They are like children who sit in the marketplace and call to one another,  
  
‘We played the flute for you, but you did not dance.  
We sang a dirge, but you did not weep.’  
  
For John the Baptist came neither eating food nor drinking wine,  
and you said, ‘He is possessed by a demon.’  
The Son of Man came eating and drinking and you said,  
‘Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard,  
a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’  
But wisdom is vindicated by all her children.”

**Day 292**

# September 18, 2014

### Thursday of the Twenty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 446

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 15:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/15:1)

I am reminding you, brothers and sisters,  
of the Gospel I preached to you,  
which you indeed received and in which you also stand.  
Through it you are also being saved,  
if you hold fast to the word I preached to you,  
unless you believed in vain.  
For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received:  
that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures;  
that he was buried;  
that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures;  
that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve.  
After that, he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once,  
most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.  
After that he appeared to James,  
then to all the Apostles.  
Last of all, as to one born abnormally,  
he appeared to me.  
For I am the least of the Apostles,  
not fit to be called an Apostle,  
because I persecuted the Church of God.  
But by the grace of God I am what I am,  
and his grace to me has not been ineffective.  
Indeed, I have toiled harder than all of them;  
not I, however, but the grace of God that is with me.  
Therefore, whether it be I or they,  
so we preach and so you believed.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 118:1B-2, 16AB-17, 28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/118:1)

R. (1)**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**  
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.  
Let the house of Israel say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”  
R.**Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**  
“The right hand of the LORD is exalted;  
the right hand of the LORD has struck with power.”  
I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.  
R. **Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**  
You are my God, and I give thanks to you;  
O my God, I extol you.  
R. **Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.**

#### Gospel [LK 7:36-50](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/7:36)

A certain Pharisee invited Jesus to dine with him,  
and he entered the Pharisee’s house and reclined at table.  
Now there was a sinful woman in the city  
who learned that he was at table in the house of the Pharisee.  
Bringing an alabaster flask of ointment,  
she stood behind him at his feet weeping  
and began to bathe his feet with her tears.  
Then she wiped them with her hair,  
kissed them, and anointed them with the ointment.  
When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this he said to himself,  
“If this man were a prophet,  
he would know who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him,  
that she is a sinner.”  
Jesus said to him in reply,  
“Simon, I have something to say to you.”  
“Tell me, teacher,” he said.  
“Two people were in debt to a certain creditor;  
one owed five hundred days’ wages and the other owed fifty.  
Since they were unable to repay the debt, he forgave it for both.  
Which of them will love him more?”  
Simon said in reply,  
“The one, I suppose, whose larger debt was forgiven.”  
He said to him, “You have judged rightly.”  
Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon,  
“Do you see this woman?  
When I entered your house, you did not give me water for my feet,  
but she has bathed them with her tears  
and wiped them with her hair.  
You did not give me a kiss,  
but she has not ceased kissing my feet since the time I entered.  
You did not anoint my head with oil,  
but she anointed my feet with ointment.  
So I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven;  
hence, she has shown great love.  
But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.”  
He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”  
The others at table said to themselves,  
“Who is this who even forgives sins?”  
But he said to the woman,  
“Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

**Day 293**

# September 19, 2014

### Friday of the Twenty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 447

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 15:12-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/15:12)

Brothers and sisters:  
If Christ is preached as raised from the dead,  
how can some among you say there is no resurrection of the dead?  
If there is no resurrection of the dead,  
then neither has Christ been raised.  
And if Christ has not been raised, then empty too is our preaching;  
empty, too, your faith.  
Then we are also false witnesses to God,  
because we testified against God that he raised Christ,  
whom he did not raise if in fact the dead are not raised.  
For if the dead are not raised, neither has Christ been raised,  
and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain;  
you are still in your sins.  
Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.  
If for this life only we have hoped in Christ,  
we are the most pitiable people of all.  
  
But now Christ has been raised from the dead,  
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 17:1BCD, 6-7, 8B AND 15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/17:1)

R. (15b) **Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.**  
Hear, O LORD, a just suit;  
attend to my outcry;  
hearken to my prayer from lips without deceit.   
R. **Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.**  
I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;   
incline your ear to me; hear my word.  
Show your wondrous mercies,  
O savior of those who flee   
from their foes to refuge at your right hand.  
R.**Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.**  
Hide me in the shadow of your wings,  
But I in justice shall behold your face;  
on waking, I shall be content in your presence.  
R. **Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.**

#### Gospel [LK 8:1-3](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/8:1)

Jesus journeyed from one town and village to another,  
preaching and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God.  
Accompanying him were the Twelve  
and some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities,  
Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,  
Joanna, the wife of Herod’s steward Chuza,  
Susanna, and many others  
who provided for them out of their resources.

**Day 294**

# September 20, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs Lectionary: 448

#### Reading 1 [1 COR 15:35-37, 42-49](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/15:35)

Brothers and sisters:  
Someone may say, “How are the dead raised?   
With what kind of body will they come back?”  
  
You fool!  
What you sow is not brought to life unless it dies.  
And what you sow is not the body that is to be  
but a bare kernel of wheat, perhaps, or of some other kind.  
  
So also is the resurrection of the dead.  
It is sown corruptible; it is raised incorruptible.  
It is sown dishonorable; it is raised glorious.  
It is sown weak; it is raised powerful.  
It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.  
If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual one.  
  
So, too, it is written,  
“The first man, Adam, became a living being,”  
the last Adam a life-giving spirit.  
But the spiritual was not first;  
rather the natural and then the spiritual.  
The first man was from the earth, earthly;  
the second man, from heaven.  
As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly,  
and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly.  
Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one,  
we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 56:10C-12, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/56:10)

R. (14) **I will walk in the presence of God, in the light of the living.**  
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. **I will walk in the presence of God, in the light of the living.**  
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. **I will walk in the presence of God, in the light of the living.**

#### Gospel [LK 8:4-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/8:4)

When a large crowd gathered, with people from one town after another  
journeying to Jesus, he spoke in a parable.   
“A sower went out to sow his seed.  
And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path and was trampled,  
and the birds of the sky ate it up.  
Some seed fell on rocky ground, and when it grew,  
it withered for lack of moisture.  
Some seed fell among thorns,  
and the thorns grew with it and choked it.  
And some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew,  
it produced fruit a hundredfold.”  
After saying this, he called out,  
“Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear.”  
  
Then his disciples asked him  
what the meaning of this parable might be.  
He answered,  
“Knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God  
has been granted to you;  
but to the rest, they are made known through parables  
so that they may look but not see, and hear but not understand.  
  
“This is the meaning of the parable.   
The seed is the word of God.  
Those on the path are the ones who have heard,  
but the Devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts  
that they may not believe and be saved.  
Those on rocky ground are the ones who, when they hear,  
receive the word with joy, but they have no root;  
they believe only for a time and fall away in time of temptation.  
As for the seed that fell among thorns,  
they are the ones who have heard, but as they go along,  
they are choked by the anxieties and riches and pleasures of life,   
and they fail to produce mature fruit.  
But as for the seed that fell on rich soil,  
they are the ones who, when they have heard the word,  
embrace it with a generous and good heart,  
and bear fruit through perseverance.”

**Day 295**

# September 21, 2014

### Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 133

#### Reading 1 [IS 55:6-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/55:6)

Seek the LORD while he may be found,  
call him while he is near.  
Let the scoundrel forsake his way,  
and the wicked his thoughts;  
let him turn to the LORD for mercy;  
to our God, who is generous in forgiving.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.  
As high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so high are my ways above your ways  
and my thoughts above your thoughts.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:2)

R/ (18a) **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**  
Every day will I bless you,  
and I will praise your name forever and ever.  
Great is the LORD and highly to be praised;  
his greatness is unsearchable.  
R/ **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**  
The LORD is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
The LORD is good to all  
and compassionate toward all his works.  
R/ **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**  
The LORD is just in all his ways  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,  
to all who call upon him in truth.  
R/ **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

#### Reading 2 [PHIL 1:20C-24, 27A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/1:20)

Brothers and sisters:  
Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.   
For to me life is Christ, and death is gain.   
If I go on living in the flesh,  
that means fruitful labor for me.   
And I do not know which I shall choose.   
I am caught between the two.   
I long to depart this life and be with Christ,  
for that is far better.   
Yet that I remain in the flesh  
is more necessary for your benefit.  
  
Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

#### Gospel [MT 20:1-16A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/20:1)

Jesus told his disciples this parable:  
“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner  
who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard.   
After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage,  
he sent them into his vineyard.   
Going out about nine o’clock,  
the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace,  
and he said to them, ‘You too go into my vineyard,  
and I will give you what is just.’  
So they went off.   
And he went out again around noon,  
and around three o’clock, and did likewise.   
Going out about five o’clock,  
the landowner found others standing around, and said to them,  
‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’  
They answered, ‘Because no one has hired us.’  
He said to them, ‘You too go into my vineyard.’  
When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman,  
‘Summon the laborers and give them their pay,  
beginning with the last and ending with the first.’  
When those who had started about five o’clock came,  
each received the usual daily wage.   
So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more,  
but each of them also got the usual wage.   
And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying,  
‘These last ones worked only one hour,  
and you have made them equal to us,  
who bore the day’s burden and the heat.’  
He said to one of them in reply,  
‘My friend, I am not cheating you.   
Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?   
Take what is yours and go.   
What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?   
Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?   
Are you envious because I am generous?’  
Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

**Day 296**

# September 22, 2014

### Monday of the Twenty-fifth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 449

#### Reading 1 [PRV 3:27-34](http://www.usccb.org/bible/proverbs/3:27)

Refuse no one the good on which he has a claim  
when it is in your power to do it for him.  
Say not to your neighbor, “Go, and come again,  
tomorrow I will give,” when you can give at once.  
  
Plot no evil against your neighbor,  
against one who lives at peace with you.  
Quarrel not with a man without cause,  
with one who has done you no harm.  
  
Envy not the lawless man  
and choose none of his ways:  
To the LORD the perverse one is an abomination,  
but with the upright is his friendship.  
  
The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked,  
but the dwelling of the just he blesses;  
When dealing with the arrogant, he is stern,  
but to the humble he shows kindness.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 15:2-3A, 3-BC-4AB, 5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/15:2)

R. (1) **The just one 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. **The just one 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. **The just one 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. **The just one shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 8:16-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/8:16)

Jesus said to the crowd:  
“No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel  
or sets it under a bed;  
rather, he places it on a lampstand  
so that those who enter may see the light.  
For there is nothing hidden that will not become visible,  
and nothing secret that will not be known and come to light.  
Take care, then, how you hear.  
To anyone who has, more will be given,  
and from the one who has not,  
even what he seems to have will be taken away.”

**Day 297**

# September 23, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest Lectionary: 450

#### Reading 1 [PRV 21:1-6, 10-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/proverbs/21:1)

Like a stream is the king’s heart in the hand of the LORD;  
wherever it pleases him, he directs it.  
  
All the ways of a man may be right in his own eyes,  
but it is the LORD who proves hearts.  
  
To do what is right and just  
is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.  
  
Haughty eyes and a proud heart–  
the tillage of the wicked is sin.  
  
The plans of the diligent are sure of profit,  
but all rash haste leads certainly to poverty.  
  
Whoever makes a fortune by a lying tongue  
is chasing a bubble over deadly snares.  
  
The soul of the wicked man desires evil;  
his neighbor finds no pity in his eyes.  
  
When the arrogant man is punished, the simple are the wiser;  
when the wise man is instructed, he gains knowledge.  
  
The just man appraises the house of the wicked:  
there is one who brings down the wicked to ruin.  
  
He who shuts his ear to the cry of the poor  
will himself also call and not be heard.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:1)

R. (35) **Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.**  
Blessed are they whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the LORD.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.**  
Make me understand the way of your precepts,  
and I will meditate on your wondrous deeds.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.**  
The way of truth I have chosen;  
I have set your ordinances before me.  
R.**Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.**  
Give me discernment, that I may observe your law  
and keep it with all my heart.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.**  
Lead me in the path of your commands,  
for in it I delight.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.**  
And I will keep your law continually,  
forever and ever.  
R.**Guide me, Lord, in the way of your commands.**

#### Gospel [LK 8:19-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/8:19)

The mother of Jesus and his brothers came to him  
but were unable to join him because of the crowd.  
He was told, “Your mother and your brothers are standing outside  
and they wish to see you.”  
He said to them in reply, “My mother and my brothers   
are those who hear the word of God and act on it.”

**Day 298**

# September 24, 2014

### Wednesday of the Twenty-fifth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 451

#### Reading 1 [PRV 30:5-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/proverbs/30:5)

Every word of God is tested;  
he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.  
Add nothing to his words,  
lest he reprove you, and you will be exposed as a deceiver.  
  
Two things I ask of you,  
deny them not to me before I die:  
Put falsehood and lying far from me,  
give me neither poverty nor riches;  
provide me only with the food I need;  
Lest, being full, I deny you,  
saying, “Who is the LORD?”  
Or, being in want, I steal,  
and profane the name of my God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:29)

R. (105) **Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.**  
Remove from me the way of falsehood,  
and favor me with your law.  
R. **Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.**  
The law of your mouth is to me more precious  
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.  
R.**Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.**  
Your word, O LORD, endures forever;  
it is firm as the heavens.  
R.**Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.**  
From every evil way I withhold my feet,  
that I may keep your words.  
R. **Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.**  
Through your precepts I gain discernment;  
therefore I hate every false way.  
R. **Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.**  
Falsehood I hate and abhor;  
your law I love.  
R. **Your word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet.**

#### Gospel [LK 9:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/9:1)

Jesus summoned the Twelve and gave them power and authority  
over all demons and to cure diseases,  
and he sent them to proclaim the Kingdom of God  
and to heal the sick.  
He said to them, “Take nothing for the journey,  
neither walking stick, nor sack, nor food, nor money,  
and let no one take a second tunic.  
Whatever house you enter, stay there and leave from there.  
And as for those who do not welcome you,  
when you leave that town,  
shake the dust from your feet in testimony against them.”  
Then they set out and went from village to village  
proclaiming the Good News and curing diseases everywhere.

**Day 299**

# September 25, 2014

### Thursday of the Twenty-fifth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 452

#### Reading 1 [ECCL 1:2-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ecclesiastes/1:2)

Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth,  
vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!  
What profit has man from all the labor  
which he toils at under the sun?  
One generation passes and another comes,  
but the world forever stays.  
The sun rises and the sun goes down;  
then it presses on to the place where it rises.  
Blowing now toward the south, then toward the north,  
the wind turns again and again, resuming its rounds.  
All rivers go to the sea,  
yet never does the sea become full.  
To the place where they go,  
the rivers keep on going.  
All speech is labored;  
there is nothing one can say.  
The eye is not satisfied with seeing  
nor is the ear satisfied with hearing.  
  
What has been, that will be;  
what has been done, that will be done.  
Nothing is new under the sun.  
Even the thing of which we say, “See, this is new!”  
has already existed in the ages that preceded us.  
There is no remembrance of the men of old;  
nor of those to come will there be any remembrance  
among those who come after them.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 AND 17BC](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/90:3)

R. (1)**In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**  
You turn man back to dust,  
saying, “Return, O children of men.”  
For a thousand years in your sight  
are as yesterday, now that it is past,  
or as a watch of the night.  
R. **In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**  
You make an end of them in their sleep;  
the next morning they are like the changing grass,  
Which at dawn springs up anew,  
but by evening wilts and fades.  
R. **In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**  
Teach us to number our days aright,  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Return, O LORD! How long?  
Have pity on your servants!  
R. **In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**  
Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,  
that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days.  
Prosper the work of our hands for us!  
Prosper the work of our hands!  
R. **In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

#### Gospel [LK 9:7-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/9:7)

Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was happening,  
and he was greatly perplexed because some were saying,  
“John has been raised from the dead”;  
others were saying, “Elijah has appeared”;  
still others, “One of the ancient prophets has arisen.”  
But Herod said, “John I beheaded.  
Who then is this about whom I hear such things?”  
And he kept trying to see him.

**Day 300**

# September 26, 2014

### Friday of the Twenty-fifth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 453

#### Reading 1 [ECCL 3:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ecclesiastes/3:1)

There is an appointed time for everything,  
and a time for every thing under the heavens.  
A time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.  
A time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to tear down, and a time to build.  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.  
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;  
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.  
A time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.  
A time to rend, and a time to sew;  
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.  
A time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time of war, and a time of peace.  
  
What advantage has the worker from his toil?  
I have considered the task that God has appointed  
for the sons of men to be busied about.  
He has made everything appropriate to its time,  
and has put the timeless into their hearts,  
without man’s ever discovering,  
from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 144:1B AND 2ABC, 3-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/144:1)

R. (1) **Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!**  
Blessed be the LORD, my rock,  
my mercy and my fortress,  
my stronghold, my deliverer,  
My shield, in whom I trust.  
R.**Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!**  
LORD, what is man, that you notice him;  
the son of man, that you take thought of him?  
Man is like a breath;  
his days, like a passing shadow.  
R.**Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!**

#### Gospel [LK 9:18-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/9:18)

Once when Jesus was praying in solitude,  
and the disciples were with him,  
he asked them, “Who do the crowds say that I am?”  
They said in reply, “John the Baptist; others, Elijah;  
still others, ‘One of the ancient prophets has arisen.’”  
Then he said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”  
Peter said in reply, “The Christ of God.”  
He rebuked them and directed them not to tell this to anyone.  
  
He said, “The Son of Man must suffer greatly  
and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes,  
and be killed and on the third day be raised.”

**Day 301**

# September 27, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest Lectionary: 454

#### Reading 1 [ECCL 11:9-12:8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ecclesiastes/11:9)

Rejoice, O young man, while you are young   
and let your heart be glad in the days of your youth.  
Follow the ways of your heart,  
the vision of your eyes;  
Yet understand that as regards all this  
God will bring you to judgment.  
Ward off grief from your heart  
and put away trouble from your presence,  
though the dawn of youth is fleeting.  
  
Remember your Creator in the days of your youth,  
before the evil days come  
And the years approach of which you will say,  
I have no pleasure in them;  
Before the sun is darkened,  
and the light, and the moon, and the stars,  
while the clouds return after the rain;  
When the guardians of the house tremble,  
and the strong men are bent,  
And the grinders are idle because they are few,  
and they who look through the windows grow blind;  
When the doors to the street are shut,  
and the sound of the mill is low;  
When one waits for the chirp of a bird,  
but all the daughters of song are suppressed;  
And one fears heights,  
and perils in the street;  
When the almond tree blooms,  
and the locust grows sluggish  
and the caper berry is without effect,  
Because man goes to his lasting home,  
and mourners go about the streets;  
Before the silver cord is snapped  
and the golden bowl is broken,  
And the pitcher is shattered at the spring,  
and the broken pulley falls into the well,  
And the dust returns to the earth as it once was,  
and the life breath returns to God who gave it.  
  
Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth,  
all things are vanity!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 AND 17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/90:3)

R. (1) **In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**  
You turn man back to dust,  
saying, “Return, O children of men.”  
For a thousand years in your sight   
are as yesterday, now that it is past,  
or as a watch of the night.  
R. **In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**  
You make an end of them in their sleep;  
the next morning they are like the changing grass,  
Which at dawn springs up anew,  
but by evening wilts and fades.  
R. **In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**  
Teach us to number our days aright,  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Return, O LORD! How long?  
Have pity on your servants!  
R.**In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**  
Fill us at daybreak with your kindness,  
that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days.  
And may the gracious care of the Lord our God be ours;  
prosper the work of our hands for us!  
Prosper the work of our hands!  
R. **In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

#### Gospel [LK 9:43B-45](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/9:43)

While they were all amazed at his every deed,  
Jesus said to his disciples,  
“Pay attention to what I am telling you.  
The Son of Man is to be handed over to men.”   
But they did not understand this saying;  
its meaning was hidden from them  
so that they should not understand it,  
and they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

**Day 302**

# September 28, 2014

### Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 136

#### Reading 1 [EZ 18:25-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/18:25)

Thus says the LORD:  
You say, "The LORD's way is not fair!"  
Hear now, house of Israel:  
Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair?  
When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies,  
it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die.  
But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed,  
he does what is right and just,  
he shall preserve his life;  
since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed,  
he shall surely live, he shall not die.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/25:4)

R/ (6a) **Remember your mercies, 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/ **Remember your mercies, O Lord.**  
Remember that your compassion, O LORD,  
and your love are from of old.  
The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not;  
in your kindness remember me,  
because of your goodness, O LORD.  
R/ **Remember your mercies, O Lord.**  
Good and upright is the LORD;  
thus he shows sinners the way.  
He guides the humble to justice,   
and teaches the humble his way.  
R/ **Remember your mercies, O Lord.**

#### Reading 2[PHIL 2:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/2:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
If there is any encouragement in Christ,  
any solace in love,  
any participation in the Spirit,  
any compassion and mercy,  
complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love,  
united in heart, thinking one thing.  
Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory;  
rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves,  
each looking out not for his own interests,  
but also for those of others.  
  
Have in you the same attitude  
that is also in Christ Jesus,  
Who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
something to be grasped.  
Rather, he emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
coming in human likeness;  
and found human in appearance,  
he humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
Because of this, God greatly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name  
which is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

#### Or [PHIL 2:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/2:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
If there is any encouragement in Christ,  
any solace in love,  
any participation in the Spirit,  
any compassion and mercy,  
complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love,  
united in heart, thinking one thing.  
Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory;  
rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves,  
each looking out not for his own interests,  
but also for those of others.  
  
Have in you the same attitude  
that is also in Christ Jesus.

#### Gospel [MT 21:28-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/21:28)

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people:  
"What is your opinion?  
A man had two sons.  
He came to the first and said,  
'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.'  
He said in reply, 'I will not,'  
but afterwards changed his mind and went.  
The man came to the other son and gave the same order.  
He said in reply, 'Yes, sir, ‘but did not go.  
Which of the two did his father's will?"  
They answered, "The first."  
Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you,  
tax collectors and prostitutes  
are entering the kingdom of God before you.  
When John came to you in the way of righteousness,  
you did not believe him;  
but tax collectors and prostitutes did.  
Yet even when you saw that,  
you did not later change your minds and believe him."

**Day 303**

# September 29, 2014

### Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels Lectionary: 647

#### Reading 1 [DN 7:9-10, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/daniel/7:9)

As I watched:  
  
Thrones were set up  
and the Ancient One took his throne.  
His clothing was bright as snow,  
and the hair on his head as white as wool;  
His throne was flames of fire,  
with wheels of burning fire.  
A surging stream of fire  
flowed out from where he sat;  
Thousands upon thousands were ministering to him,  
and myriads upon myriads attended him.  
  
The court was convened, and the books were opened.  
As the visions during the night continued, I saw  
  
One like a son of man coming,  
on the clouds of heaven;  
When he reached the Ancient One  
and was presented before him,  
He received dominion, glory, and kingship;  
nations and peoples of every language serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not be taken away,  
his kingship shall not be destroyed.

#### Or [RV 12:7-12AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/12:7)

War broke out in heaven;  
Michael and his angels battled against the dragon.  
The dragon and its angels fought back,  
but they did not prevail  
and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.  
The huge dragon, the ancient serpent,  
who is called the Devil and Satan,  
who deceived the whole world,  
was thrown down to earth,  
and its angels were thrown down with it.  
  
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.  
For the accuser of our brothers is cast out,  
who accuses them before our God day and night.  
They conquered him by the Blood of the Lamb  
and by the word of their testimony;  
love for life did not deter them from death.  
Therefore, rejoice, you heavens,  
and you who dwell in them.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 138:1-2AB, 2CDE-3, 4-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/138:1)

R. (1) **In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.**  
I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,  
for you have heard the words of my mouth;  
in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;  
I will worship at your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name.  
R. **In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.**  
Because of your kindness and your truth;  
for you have made great above all things  
your name and your promise.  
When I called, you answered me;  
you built up strength within me.  
R. **In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.**  
All the kings of the earth shall give thanks to you, O LORD  
when they hear the words of your mouth;  
And they shall sing of the ways of the LORD  
“Great is the glory of the LORD  
R. **In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.**

#### Gospel [JN 1:47-51](http://www.usccb.org/bible/john/1:47)

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him,  
“Here is a true child of Israel.  
There is no duplicity in him.”  
Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?”  
Jesus answered and said to him,  
“Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree.”  
Nathanael answered him,  
“Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.”  
Jesus answered and said to him,  
“Do you believe  
because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree?  
You will see greater things than this.”  
And he said to him, “Amen, amen, I say to you,  
you will see heaven opened  
and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

**Day 304**

# September 30, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 456

#### Reading 1 [JB 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23](http://www.usccb.org/bible/job/3:1)

Job opened his mouth and cursed his day.  
Job spoke out and said:  
  
Perish the day on which I was born,  
the night when they said, “The child is a boy!”  
  
Why did I not perish at birth,  
come forth from the womb and expire?  
Or why was I not buried away like an untimely birth,  
like babes that have never seen the light?  
Wherefore did the knees receive me?  
or why did I suck at the breasts?  
  
For then I should have lain down and been tranquil;  
had I slept, I should then have been at rest  
With kings and counselors of the earth  
who built where now there are ruins  
Or with princes who had gold  
and filled their houses with silver.  
  
There the wicked cease from troubling,  
there the weary are at rest.  
  
Why is light given to the toilers,  
and life to the bitter in spirit?  
They wait for death and it comes not;  
they search for it rather than for hidden treasures,  
Rejoice in it exultingly,  
and are glad when they reach the grave:  
Those whose path is hidden from them,  
and whom God has hemmed in!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/88:2)

R. (3) **Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**  
O LORD, my God, by day I cry out;  
at night I clamor in your presence.  
Let my prayer come before you;  
incline your ear to my call for help.  
R. **Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**  
For my soul is surfeited with troubles  
and my life draws near to the nether world.  
I am numbered with those who go down into the pit;  
I am a man without strength.  
R. **Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**  
My couch is among the dead,  
like the slain who lie in the grave,  
Whom you remember no longer  
and who are cut off from your care.  
R.**Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**  
You have plunged me into the bottom of the pit,  
into the dark abyss.  
Upon me your wrath lies heavy,  
and with all your billows you overwhelm me.  
R. **Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 9:51-56](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/9:51)

When the days for Jesus to be taken up were fulfilled,  
he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem,  
and he sent messengers ahead of him.  
On the way they entered a Samaritan village  
to prepare for his reception there,  
but they would not welcome him  
because the destination of his journey was Jerusalem.  
When the disciples James and John saw this they asked,  
“Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven  
to consume them?”  
Jesus turned and rebuked them,  
and they journeyed to another village.

**Day 305**

# October 1, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 457

#### Reading 1 [JB 9:1-12, 14-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/job/9:1)

Job answered his friends and said:  
  
I know well that it is so;  
but how can a man be justified before God?  
Should one wish to contend with him,  
he could not answer him once in a thousand times.  
God is wise in heart and mighty in strength;  
who has withstood him and remained unscathed?  
  
He removes the mountains before they know it;  
he overturns them in his anger.  
He shakes the earth out of its place,  
and the pillars beneath it tremble.  
He commands the sun, and it rises not;  
he seals up the stars.  
  
He alone stretches out the heavens  
and treads upon the crests of the sea.  
He made the Bear and Orion,  
the Pleiades and the constellations of the south;  
He does great things past finding out,  
marvelous things beyond reckoning.  
  
Should he come near me, I see him not;  
should he pass by, I am not aware of him;  
Should he seize me forcibly, who can say him nay?  
Who can say to him, “What are you doing?”  
  
How much less shall I give him any answer,  
or choose out arguments against him!  
Even though I were right, I could not answer him,  
but should rather beg for what was due me.  
If I appealed to him and he answered my call,  
I could not believe that he would hearken to my words.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 88:10BC-11, 12-13, 14-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/88:10)

R. (3) **Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**  
Daily I call upon you, O LORD;  
to you I stretch out my hands.  
Will you work wonders for the dead?  
Will the shades arise to give you thanks?  
R. **Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**  
Do they declare your mercy in the grave,  
your faithfulness among those who have perished?  
Are your wonders made known in the darkness,  
or your justice in the land of oblivion?  
R.**Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**  
But I, O LORD, cry out to you;  
with my morning prayer I wait upon you.  
Why, O LORD, do you reject me;  
why hide from me your face?  
R. **Let my prayer come before you, Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 9:57-62](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/9:57)

As Jesus and his disciples were proceeding  
on their journey, someone said to him,  
“I will follow you wherever you go.”  
Jesus answered him,  
“Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests,  
but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head.”  
And to another he said, “Follow me.”  
But he replied, “Lord, let me go first and bury my father.”  
But he answered him, “Let the dead bury their dead.  
But you, go and proclaim the Kingdom of God.”  
And another said, “I will follow you, Lord,  
but first let me say farewell to my family at home.”  
Jesus answered him, “No one who sets a hand to the plow  
and looks to what was left behind is fit for the Kingdom of God.”

**Day 306**

# October 2, 2014

### Memorial of the Guardian Angels  Lectionary: 458/650

#### Reading 1 [JB 19:21-27](http://www.usccb.org/bible/job/19:21)

Job said:  
  
Pity me, pity me, O you my friends,  
for the hand of God has struck me!  
Why do you hound me as though you were divine,  
and insatiably prey upon me?  
  
Oh, would that my words were written down!  
Would that they were inscribed in a record:  
That with an iron chisel and with lead  
they were cut in the rock forever!  
But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,  
and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;  
Whom I myself shall see:  
my own eyes, not another’s, shall behold him,  
And from my flesh I shall see God;  
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 27:7-8A, 8B-9ABC, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/27:7)

R. (13) **I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**  
Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call;  
have pity on me, and answer me.  
Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.  
R. **I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**  
Your presence, O LORD, I seek.  
Hide not your face from me;  
do not in anger repel your servant.  
You are my helper: cast me not off.  
R. **I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**  
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. **I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.**

#### Gospel [MT 18:1-5, 10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/18:1)

The disciples approached Jesus and said,  
“Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven?”  
He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said,  
“Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children,  
you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven.  
Whoever humbles himself like this child  
is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven.  
And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.  
  
“See that you do not despise one of these little ones,  
for I say to you that their angels in heaven  
always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.”

**Day 307**

# October 3, 2014

Friday of the Twenty-sixth Week in Ordinary Time  
Lectionary: 459

#### Reading 1 [JB 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/job/38:1)

The LORD addressed Job out of the storm and said:  
  
Have you ever in your lifetime commanded the morning  
and shown the dawn its place  
For taking hold of the ends of the earth,  
till the wicked are shaken from its surface?  
The earth is changed as is clay by the seal,  
and dyed as though it were a garment;  
But from the wicked the light is withheld,  
and the arm of pride is shattered.  
  
Have you entered into the sources of the sea,  
or walked about in the depths of the abyss?  
Have the gates of death been shown to you,  
or have you seen the gates of darkness?  
Have you comprehended the breadth of the earth?  
Tell me, if you know all:  
Which is the way to the dwelling place of light,  
and where is the abode of darkness,  
That you may take them to their boundaries  
and set them on their homeward paths?  
You know, because you were born before them,  
and the number of your years is great!  
  
Then Job answered the LORD and said:  
  
Behold, I am of little account; what can I answer you?  
I put my hand over my mouth.  
Though I have spoken once, I will not do so again;  
though twice, I will do so no more.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/139:1)

R. (24b) **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
O LORD, you have probed me and you know me;  
you know when I sit and when I stand;  
you understand my thoughts from afar.  
My journeys and my rest you scrutinize,  
with all my ways you are familiar.  
R.**Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
Where can I go from your spirit?  
From your presence where can I flee?  
If I go up to the heavens, you are there;  
if I sink to the nether world, you are present there.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
If I take the wings of the dawn,  
if I settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
Even there your hand shall guide me,  
and your right hand hold me fast.  
R.**Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
Truly you have formed my inmost being;  
you knit me in my mother’s womb.  
I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made;   
wonderful are your works.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**

#### Gospel [LK 10:13-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/10:13)

Jesus said to them,  
“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!  
For if the mighty deeds done in your midst  
had been done in Tyre and Sidon,  
they would long ago have repented,  
sitting in sackcloth and ashes.  
But it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon  
at the judgment than for you.  
And as for you, Capernaum, ‘Will you be exalted to heaven?  
You will go down to the netherworld.’  
Whoever listens to you listens to me.  
Whoever rejects you rejects me.   
And whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

**Day 308**

# October 4, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi Lectionary: 460

#### Reading 1 [JB 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/job/42:1)

Job answered the LORD and said:  
  
I know that you can do all things,  
and that no purpose of yours can be hindered.  
I have dealt with great things that I do not understand;  
things too wonderful for me, which I cannot know.  
I had heard of you by word of mouth,  
but now my eye has seen you.  
Therefore I disown what I have said,  
and repent in dust and ashes.  
  
Thus the LORD blessed the latter days of Job  
more than his earlier ones.  
For he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels,  
a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she-asses.  
And he had seven sons and three daughters,  
of whom he called the first Jemimah,  
the second Keziah, and the third Kerenhappuch.  
In all the land no other women were as beautiful  
as the daughters of Job;  
and their father gave them an inheritance  
along with their brothers.  
After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years;  
and he saw his children, his grandchildren,  
and even his great-grandchildren.  
Then Job died, old and full of years.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:66)

R. (135) **Lord, let your face shine on me.**  
Teach me wisdom and knowledge,  
for in your commands I trust.  
R.**Lord, let your face shine on me.**  
It is good for me that I have been afflicted,  
that I may learn your statutes.  
R. **Lord, let your face shine on me.**  
I know, O LORD, that your ordinances are just,  
and in your faithfulness you have afflicted me.  
R. **Lord, let your face shine on me.**  
According to your ordinances they still stand firm:  
all things serve you.  
R.**Lord, let your face shine on me.**  
I am your servant; give me discernment  
that I may know your decrees.  
R. **Lord, let your face shine on me.**  
The revelation of your words sheds light,  
giving understanding to the simple.  
R.**Lord, let your face shine on me.**

#### Gospel [LK 10:17-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/10:17)

The seventy-two disciples returned rejoicing and said to Jesus,  
“Lord, even the demons are subject to us because of your name.”  
Jesus said, “I have observed Satan fall like lightning from the sky.  
Behold, I have given you the power  
‘to tread upon serpents’ and scorpions  
and upon the full force of the enemy  
and nothing will harm you.  
Nevertheless, do not rejoice because the spirits are subject to you,  
but rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”  
  
At that very moment he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said,  
“I give you praise, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for although you have hidden these things  
from the wise and the learned  
you have revealed them to the childlike.  
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.  
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.  
No one knows who the Son is except the Father,  
and who the Father is except the Son  
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.”  
  
Turning to the disciples in private he said,  
“Blessed are the eyes that see what you see.  
For I say to you,  
many prophets and kings desired to see what you see,  
but did not see it,  
and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.”

**Day 309**

# October 5, 2014

### Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 139

#### Reading 1 [IS 5:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/5:1)

Let me now sing of my friend,  
my friend's song concerning his vineyard.  
My friend had a vineyard  
on a fertile hillside;  
he spaded it, cleared it of stones,  
and planted the choicest vines;  
within it he built a watchtower,  
and hewed out a wine press.  
Then he looked for the crop of grapes,  
but what it yielded was wild grapes.  
  
Now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard:  
What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I had not done?  
Why, when I looked for the crop of grapes,  
did it bring forth wild grapes?  
Now, I will let you know  
what I mean to do with my vineyard:  
take away its hedge, give it to grazing,  
break through its wall, let it be trampled!  
Yes, I will make it a ruin:  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
but overgrown with thorns and briers;  
I will command the clouds  
not to send rain upon it.  
The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah are his cherished plant;  
he looked for judgment, but see, bloodshed!  
for justice, but hark, the outcry!

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/80:9)

R/ (Is 5:7a) **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**  
A vine from Egypt you transplanted;  
you drove away the nations and planted it.  
It put forth its foliage to the Sea,  
its shoots as far as the River.  
R/ **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**  
Why have you broken down its walls,  
so that every passer-by plucks its fruit,  
The boar from the forest lays it waste,  
and the beasts of the field feed upon it?  
R/ **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**  
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/ **The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**  
Then we will no more withdraw from you;  
give us new life, and we will call upon your name.  
O LORD, God of hosts, restore us;  
if your face shine upon us, then we shall be saved.  
R/**The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.**

#### Reading 2[PHIL 4:6-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/4:6)

Brothers and sisters:  
Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,  
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,  
make your requests known to God.  
Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding  
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.  
  
Finally, brothers and sisters,  
whatever is true, whatever is honorable,  
whatever is just, whatever is pure,  
whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,  
if there is any excellence  
and if there is anything worthy of praise,  
think about these things.  
Keep on doing what you have learned and received  
and heard and seen in me.  
Then the God of peace will be with you.

#### Gospel [MT 21:33-43](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/21:33)

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people:  
"Hear another parable.  
There was a landowner who planted a vineyard,  
put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower.   
Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey.  
When vintage time drew near,  
he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce.   
But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat,  
another they killed, and a third they stoned.   
Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones,  
but they treated them in the same way.   
Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking,  
'They will respect my son.'  
But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another,  
'This is the heir.  
Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.’  
They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.   
What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?"  
They answered him,  
"He will put those wretched men to a wretched death  
and lease his vineyard to other tenants  
who will give him the produce at the proper times."   
Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures:  
The stone that the builders rejectedhas become the cornerstone;by the Lord has this been done,and it is wonderful in our eyes?  
Therefore, I say to you,  
the kingdom of God will be taken away from you  
and given to a people that will produce its fruit."

**Day 310**

# October 6, 2014

### Monday of the Twenty-seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 461

#### Reading 1[GAL 1:6-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/1:6)

Brothers and sisters:  
I am amazed that you are so quickly forsaking  
the one who called you by the grace of Christ  
for a different gospel (not that there is another).  
But there are some who are disturbing you  
and wish to pervert the Gospel of Christ.  
But even if we or an angel from heaven  
should preach to you a gospel   
other than the one that we preached to you,  
let that one be accursed!  
As we have said before, and now I say again,  
if anyone preaches to you a gospel  
other than the one that you received,  
let that one be accursed!  
  
Am I now currying favor with human beings or God?  
Or am I seeking to please people?  
If I were still trying to please people,  
I would not be a slave of Christ.  
  
Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters,  
that the Gospel preached by me is not of human origin.  
For I did not receive it from a human being, nor was I taught it,  
but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 111:1B-2, 7-8, 9 AND 10C](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/111:1)

R. (5) **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
or:   
R.**Alleluia.**  
I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart  
in the company and assembly of the just.  
Great are the works of the LORD,  
exquisite in all their delights.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
or:   
R. **Alleluia.**  
The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
sure are all his precepts,  
Reliable forever and ever,  
wrought in truth and equity.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
or:   
R. **Alleluia.**  
He has sent deliverance to his people;  
he has ratified his covenant forever;  
holy and awesome is his name.  
His praise endures forever.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
or:   
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [LK 10:25-37](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/10:25)

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test Jesus and said,  
“Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”  
Jesus said to him, “What is written in the law?  
How do you read it?”  
He said in reply,  
“You shall love the Lord, your God,  
with all your heart,  
with all your being,  
with all your strength,  
and with all your mind,  
and your neighbor as yourself.”  
He replied to him, “You have answered correctly;  
do this and you will live.”  
  
But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus,   
“And who is my neighbor?”  
Jesus replied,   
“A man fell victim to robbers  
as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho.  
They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead.  
A priest happened to be going down that road,  
but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.  
Likewise a Levite came to the place,  
and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.  
But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him  
was moved with compassion at the sight.  
He approached the victim,  
poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them.  
Then he lifted him up on his own animal,  
took him to an inn, and cared for him.  
The next day he took out two silver coins  
and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction,  
‘Take care of him.  
If you spend more than what I have given you,  
I shall repay you on my way back.’  
Which of these three, in your opinion,  
was neighbor to the robbers’ victim?”  
He answered, “The one who treated him with mercy.”  
Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

**Day 311**

# October 7, 2014

### Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary Lectionary: 462

#### Reading 1 [GAL 1:13-24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/1:13)

Brothers and sisters:  
You heard of my former way of life in Judaism,  
how I persecuted the Church of God beyond measure  
and tried to destroy it,   
and progressed in Judaism  
beyond many of my contemporaries among my race,  
since I was even more a zealot for my ancestral traditions.  
But when he, who from my mother’s womb had set me apart  
and called me through his grace,  
was pleased to reveal his Son to me,  
so that I might proclaim him to the Gentiles,  
I did not immediately consult flesh and blood,  
nor did I go up to Jerusalem  
to those who were Apostles before me;  
rather, I went into Arabia and then returned to Damascus.  
  
Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to confer with Cephas  
and remained with him for fifteen days.  
But I did not see any other of the Apostles,  
only James the brother of the Lord.  
(As to what I am writing to you, behold,  
before God, I am not lying.)  
Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia.  
And I was unknown personally to the churches of Judea  
that are in Christ;  
they only kept hearing that “the one who once was persecuting us  
is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.”  
So they glorified God because of me.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 139:1B-3, 13-14AB, 14C-15](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/139:1)

R. (24b) **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
O LORD, you have probed me and you know me;  
you know when I sit and when I stand;  
you understand my thoughts from afar.  
My journeys and my rest you scrutinize,  
with all my ways you are familiar.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
Truly you have formed my inmost being;  
you knit me in my mother’s womb.  
I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made;  
wonderful are your works.  
R. **Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**  
My soul also you knew full well;  
nor was my frame unknown to you  
When I was made in secret,  
when I was fashioned in the depths of the earth.  
R.**Guide me, Lord, along the everlasting way.**

**Day 312**

# October 8, 2014

### Wednesday of the Twenty-seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 463

#### Reading 1 [GAL 2:1-2, 7-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/2:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
After fourteen years I again went up to Jerusalem with Barnabas,  
taking Titus along also.  
I went up in accord with a revelation,  
and I presented to them the Gospel that I preach to the Gentiles–  
but privately to those of repute–  
so that I might not be running, or have run, in vain.  
On the contrary,   
when they saw that I had been entrusted with the Gospel to the uncircumcised,  
just as Peter to the circumcised,  
for the one who worked in Peter for an apostolate to the circumcised  
worked also in me for the Gentiles,  
and when they recognized the grace bestowed upon me,  
James and Cephas and John,  
who were reputed to be pillars,  
gave me and Barnabas their right hands in partnership,  
that we should go to the Gentiles  
and they to the circumcised.  
Only, we were to be mindful of the poor,  
which is the very thing I was eager to do.  
  
And when Cephas came to Antioch,  
I opposed him to his face because he clearly was wrong.  
For, until some people came from James,  
he used to eat with the Gentiles;  
but when they came, he began to draw back and separated himself,  
because he was afraid of the circumcised.  
And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him,  
with the result that even Barnabas  
was carried away by their hypocrisy.  
But when I saw that they were not on the right road  
in line with the truth of the Gospel,  
I said to Cephas in front of all,  
“If you, though a Jew,  
are living like a Gentile and not like a Jew,  
how can you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 117:1BC, 2](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/117:1)

R. **Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.**  
Praise the LORD, all you nations,  
glorify him, all you peoples!  
R. **Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.**  
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.**

#### Gospel [LK 10:38-42](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/10:38)

Jesus entered a village   
where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him.  
She had a sister named Mary  
who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak.   
Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said,  
“Lord, do you not care  
that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving?   
Tell her to help me.”   
The Lord said to her in reply,  
“Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things.   
There is need of only one thing.   
Mary has chosen the better part  
and it will not be taken from her.”

**Day 313**

# October 9, 2014

### Thursday of the Twenty-seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 464

#### Reading 1 [GAL 3:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/3:1)

O stupid Galatians!  
Who has bewitched you,  
before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified?  
I want to learn only this from you:  
did you receive the Spirit from works of the law,  
or from faith in what you heard?  
Are you so stupid?  
After beginning with the Spirit,  
are you now ending with the flesh?  
Did you experience so many things in vain?–  
if indeed it was in vain.  
Does, then, the one who supplies the Spirit to you  
and works mighty deeds among you  
do so from works of the law  
or from faith in what you heard?

#### Responsorial Psalm [LK 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/1:69)

R. (68) **Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people.**  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.  
R. **Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people.**  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old  
that he would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
R. **Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people.**  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
R. **Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people.**  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.  
R. **Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; He has come to his people.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:5-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:5)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“Suppose one of you has a friend  
to whom he goes at midnight and says,  
‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,  
for a friend of mine has arrived at my house from a journey  
and I have nothing to offer him,’  
and he says in reply from within,  
‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked  
and my children and I are already in bed.  
I cannot get up to give you anything.’  
I tell you, if he does not get up to give him the loaves  
because of their friendship,  
he will get up to give him whatever he needs  
because of his persistence.  
  
“And I tell you, ask and you will receive;  
seek and you will find;  
knock and the door will be opened to you.  
For everyone who asks, receives;  
and the one who seeks, finds;  
and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.  
What father among you would hand his son a snake  
when he asks for a fish?  
Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg?  
If you then, who are wicked,  
know how to give good gifts to your children,  
how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit  
to those who ask him?”

**Day 314**

# October 10, 2014

### Friday of the Twenty-seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 465

#### Reading 1 [GAL 3:7-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/3:7)

Brothers and sisters:  
Realize that it is those who have faith  
who are children of Abraham.  
Scripture, which saw in advance that God  
would justify the Gentiles by faith,  
foretold the good news to Abraham, saying,  
Through you shall all the nations be blessed.  
Consequently, those who have faith are blessed  
along with Abraham who had faith.  
For all who depend on works of the law are under a curse;  
for it is written, Cursed be everyonewho does not persevere in doing all the thingswritten in the book of the law.  
And that no one is justified before God by the law is clear,  
for the one who is righteous by faith will live.  
But the law does not depend on faith;  
rather, the one who does these things will live by them.  
Christ ransomed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us,  
for it is written, Cursed be everyone who hangs on a tree,  
that the blessing of Abraham might be extended  
to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus,  
so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 111:1B-2, 3-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/111:1)

R. (5) **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart  
in the company and assembly of the just.  
Great are the works of the LORD,  
exquisite in all their delights.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
Majesty and glory are his work,  
and his justice endures forever.  
He has won renown for his wondrous deeds;  
gracious and merciful is the LORD.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**  
He has given food to those who fear him;  
he will forever be mindful of his covenant.  
He has made known to his people the power of his works,  
giving them the inheritance of the nations.  
R. **The Lord will remember his covenant for ever.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:15-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:15)

When Jesus had driven out a demon, some of the crowd said:  
“By the power of Beelzebul, the prince of demons,  
he drives out demons.”  
Others, to test him, asked him for a sign from heaven.  
But he knew their thoughts and said to them,  
“Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste  
and house will fall against house.  
And if Satan is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand?  
For you say that it is by Beelzebul that I drive out demons.  
If I, then, drive out demons by Beelzebul,  
by whom do your own people drive them out?  
Therefore they will be your judges.  
But if it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons,  
then the Kingdom of God has come upon you.  
When a strong man fully armed guards his palace,  
his possessions are safe.  
But when one stronger than he attacks and overcomes him,  
he takes away the armor on which he relied  
and distributes the spoils.  
Whoever is not with me is against me,  
and whoever does not gather with me scatters.  
  
“When an unclean spirit goes out of someone,  
it roams through arid regions searching for rest  
but, finding none, it says,  
‘I shall return to my home from which I came.’  
But upon returning, it finds it swept clean and put in order.  
Then it goes and brings back seven other spirits  
more wicked than itself who move in and dwell there,  
and the last condition of that man is worse than the first.”

**Day 315**

# October 11, 2014

### Saturday of the Twenty-seventh Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 466

#### Reading 1 [GAL 3:22-29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/3:22)

Brothers and sisters:  
Scripture confined all things under the power of sin,  
that through faith in Jesus Christ  
the promise might be given to those who believe.  
  
Before faith came, we were held in custody under law,  
confined for the faith that was to be revealed.  
Consequently, the law was our disciplinarian for Christ,  
that we might be justified by faith.  
But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a disciplinarian.  
For through faith you are all children of God in Christ Jesus.  
For all of you who were baptized into Christ  
have clothed yourselves with Christ.  
There is neither Jew nor Greek,  
there is neither slave nor free person,  
there is not male and female;  
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.  
And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants,  
heirs according to the promise.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/105:2)

R. (8a) **The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Sing to him, sing his praise,  
proclaim all his wondrous deeds.  
Glory in his holy name;  
rejoice, O hearts that seek the LORD!  
R. **The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Look to the LORD in his strength;  
seek to serve him constantly.  
Recall the wondrous deeds that he has wrought,  
his portents, and the judgments he has uttered.  
R. **The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
You descendants of Abraham, his servants,  
sons of Jacob, his chosen ones!  
He, the LORD, is our God;  
throughout the earth his judgments prevail.  
R. **The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:27-28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:27)

While Jesus was speaking,  
a woman from the crowd called out and said to him,  
“Blessed is the womb that carried you  
and the breasts at which you nursed.”  
He replied, “Rather, blessed are those  
who hear the word of God and observe it.”

**Day 316**

# October 12, 2014

### Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 142

#### Reading 1[IS 25:6-10A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/25:6)

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 every face;  
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](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

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.**

#### Reading 2[PHIL 4:12-14, 19-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/4:12)

Brothers and sisters:  
I know how to live in humble circumstances;  
I know also how to live with abundance.  
In every circumstance and in all things  
I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry,  
of living in abundance and of being in need.   
I can do all things in him who strengthens me.   
Still, it was kind of you to share in my distress.  
  
My God will fully supply whatever you need,  
in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.  
To our God and Father, glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### Gospel [MT 22:1-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/22:1)

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders of the people   
in parables, saying,   
"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king  
who gave a wedding feast for his son.   
He dispatched his servants  
to summon the invited guests to the feast,  
but they refused to come.  
A second time he sent other servants, saying,  
‘Tell those invited: “Behold, I have prepared my banquet,  
my calves and fattened cattle are killed,  
and everything is ready; come to the feast.”’  
Some ignored the invitation and went away,  
one to his farm, another to his business.   
The rest laid hold of his servants,  
mistreated them, and killed them.   
The king was enraged and sent his troops,  
destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.   
Then he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready,  
but those who were invited were not worthy to come.   
Go out, therefore, into the main roads  
and invite to the feast whomever you find.’  
The servants went out into the streets  
and gathered all they found, bad and good alike,  
and the hall was filled with guests.   
But when the king came in to meet the guests,  
he saw a man there not dressed in a wedding garment.   
The king said to him, 'My friend, how is it  
that you came in here without a wedding garment?'  
But he was reduced to silence.  
Then the king said to his attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet,  
and cast him into the darkness outside,  
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.’  
Many are invited, but few are chosen."

**Day 317**

# October 13, 2014

### Monday of the Twenty-eighth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 467

#### Reading 1 [GAL 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/4:22)

Brothers and sisters:  
It is written that Abraham had two sons,  
one by the slave woman and the other by the freeborn woman.  
The son of the slave woman was born naturally,  
the son of the freeborn through a promise.  
Now this is an allegory.  
These women represent two covenants.  
One was from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery;  
this is Hagar.  
But the Jerusalem above is freeborn, and she is our mother.  
For it is written:  
Rejoice, you barren one who bore no children;break forth and shout, you who were not in labor;for more numerous are the children of the deserted onethan of her who has a husband.  
Therefore, brothers and sisters,  
we are children not of the slave woman  
but of the freeborn woman.  
  
For freedom Christ set us free; so stand firm  
and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 113:1B-2, 3-4, 5A AND 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/113:1)

R. (see 2) **Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**  
Praise, you servants of the LORD,  
praise the name of the LORD.  
Blessed be the name of the LORD  
both now and forever.  
R. **Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia, alleluia.**  
From the rising to the setting of the sun  
is the name of the LORD to be praised.  
High above all nations is the LORD;  
above the heavens is his glory.  
R. **Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**  
Who is like the LORD, our God,  
who looks upon the heavens and the earth below?   
He raises up the lowly from the dust;  
from the dunghill he lifts up the poor.  
R. **Blessed be the name of the Lord forever.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:29-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:29)

While still more people gathered in the crowd, Jesus said to them,  
“This generation is an evil generation;  
it seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it,  
except the sign of Jonah.  
Just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites,  
so will the Son of Man be to this generation.  
At the judgment   
the queen of the south will rise with the men of this generation  
and she will condemn them,  
because she came from the ends of the earth  
to hear the wisdom of Solomon,  
and there is something greater than Solomon here.  
At the judgment the men of Nineveh will arise with this generation   
and condemn it,  
because at the preaching of Jonah they repented,  
and there is something greater than Jonah here.”

**Day 318**

# October 14, 2014

### Tuesday of the Twenty-eighth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 468

#### Reading 1 [GAL 5:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/5:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
For freedom Christ set us free;  
so stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery.  
  
It is I, Paul, who am telling you  
that if you have yourselves circumcised,  
Christ will be of no benefit to you.  
Once again I declare to every man who has himself circumcised  
that he is bound to observe the entire law.  
You are separated from Christ,  
you who are trying to be justified by law;  
you have fallen from grace.  
For through the Spirit, by faith, we await the hope of righteousness.  
For in Christ Jesus,  
neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything,  
but only faith working through love.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:41)

R. (41a) **Let your mercy come to me, O Lord**.  
Let your mercy come to me, O LORD,  
your salvation according to your promise.  
R. **Let your mercy come to me, O Lord.**  
Take not the word of truth from my mouth,  
for in your ordinances is my hope.  
R. **Let your mercy come to me, O Lord.**  
And I will keep your law continually,  
forever and ever.  
R. **Let your mercy come to me, O Lord.**  
And I will walk at liberty,  
because I seek your precepts.  
R. **Let your mercy come to me, O Lord.**  
And I will delight in your commands,   
which I love.  
R. **Let your mercy come to me, O Lord.**  
And I will lift up my hands to your commands  
and meditate on your statutes.  
R.**Let your mercy come to me, O Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:37-41](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:37)

After Jesus had spoken,  
a Pharisee invited him to dine at his home.  
He entered and reclined at table to eat.  
The Pharisee was amazed to see  
that he did not observe the prescribed washing before the meal.  
The Lord said to him, “Oh you Pharisees!  
Although you cleanse the outside of the cup and the dish,  
inside you are filled with plunder and evil.  
You fools!  
Did not the maker of the outside also make the inside?  
But as to what is within, give alms,  
and behold, everything will be clean for you.”

**Day 319**

# October 15, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 469

#### Reading 1 [GAL 5:18-25](http://www.usccb.org/bible/galatians/5:18)

Brothers and sisters:  
If you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the law.  
Now the works of the flesh are obvious:  
immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry,  
sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy,  
outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness,  
dissensions, factions, occasions of envy,  
drinking bouts, orgies, and the like.  
I warn you, as I warned you before,  
that those who do such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God.  
In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness, generosity,  
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.  
Against such there is no law.  
Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their flesh  
with its passions and desires.  
If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/1:1)

R. (see Jn 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.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:42-46](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:42)

The Lord said:  
“Woe to you Pharisees!  
You pay tithes of mint and of rue and of every garden herb,  
but you pay no attention to judgment and to love for God.  
These you should have done, without overlooking the others.  
Woe to you Pharisees!  
You love the seat of honor in synagogues  
and greetings in marketplaces.   
Woe to you!  
You are like unseen graves over which people unknowingly walk.”  
  
Then one of the scholars of the law said to him in reply,  
“Teacher, by saying this you are insulting us too.”  
And he said, “Woe also to you scholars of the law!  
You impose on people burdens hard to carry,  
but you yourselves do not lift one finger to touch them.”

**Day 320**

# October 16, 2014

### Thursday of the Twenty-eighth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 470

#### Reading 1 [EPH 1:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/1:1)

Paul, an Apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,  
to the holy ones who are in Ephesus  
and faithful in Christ Jesus:  
grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
  
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,  
as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world,  
to be holy and without blemish before him.  
In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ,  
in accord with the favor of his will,  
for the praise of the glory of his grace  
that he granted us in the beloved.  
  
In Christ we have redemption by his Blood,  
the forgiveness of transgressions,  
in accord with the riches of his grace that he lavished upon us.  
In all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us  
the mystery of his will in accord with his favor  
that he set forth in him as a plan for the fullness of times,  
to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

R. (2a) **The Lord has made known his salvation.**  
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. **The Lord has made known his salvation.**  
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.**The Lord has made known his salvation.**  
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. **The Lord has made known his salvation.**  
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. **The Lord has made known his salvation.**

#### Gospel [LK 11:47-54](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/11:47)

The Lord said:  
“Woe to you who build the memorials of the prophets   
whom your fathers killed.  
Consequently, you bear witness and give consent  
to the deeds of your ancestors,  
for they killed them and you do the building.  
Therefore, the wisdom of God said,  
‘I will send to them prophets and Apostles;  
some of them they will kill and persecute’  
in order that this generation might be charged  
with the blood of all the prophets  
shed since the foundation of the world,  
from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah  
who died between the altar and the temple building.  
Yes, I tell you, this generation will be charged with their blood!  
Woe to you, scholars of the law!  
You have taken away the key of knowledge.  
You yourselves did not enter and you stopped those trying to enter.”  
When Jesus left, the scribes and Pharisees  
began to act with hostility toward him  
and to interrogate him about many things,  
for they were plotting to catch him at something he might say.

**Day 321**

# October 17, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr Lectionary: 471

#### Reading 1 [EPH 1:11-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/1:11)

Brothers and sisters:  
In Christ we were also chosen,  
destined in accord with the purpose of the One  
who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will,  
so that we might exist for the praise of his glory,  
we who first hoped in Christ.  
In him you also, who have heard the word of truth,  
the Gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him,  
were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,  
which is the first installment of our inheritance  
toward redemption as God’s possession, to the praise of his glory.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:1)

R. (12) **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
Exult, you just, in the LORD;  
praise from the upright is fitting.  
Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;  
with the ten stringed lyre chant his praises.  
R.**Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
For upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
R. **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**  
Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.  
From heaven the LORD looks down;  
he sees all mankind.  
R. **Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.**

#### Gospel [LK 12:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/12:1)

At that time:  
So many people were crowding together   
that they were trampling one another underfoot.  
Jesus began to speak, first to his disciples,  
“Beware of the leaven–that is, the hypocrisy–of the Pharisees.  
  
“There is nothing concealed that will not be revealed,  
nor secret that will not be known.  
Therefore whatever you have said in the darkness  
will be heard in the light,  
and what you have whispered behind closed doors  
will be proclaimed on the housetops.  
I tell you, my friends,  
do not be afraid of those who kill the body  
but after that can do no more.  
I shall show you whom to fear.  
Be afraid of the one who after killing  
has the power to cast into Gehenna;  
yes, I tell you, be afraid of that one.  
Are not five sparrows sold for two small coins?  
Yet not one of them has escaped the notice of God.  
Even the hairs of your head have all been counted.  
Do not be afraid.  
You are worth more than many sparrows.”

**Day 322**

# October 18, 2014

 Feast of Saint Luke, Evangelist  
Lectionary: 661

#### Reading 1 [2 TM 4:10-17B](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2timothy/4:10)

Beloved:  
Demas, enamored of the present world,  
deserted me and went to Thessalonica,  
Crescens to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia.  
Luke is the only one with me.  
Get Mark and bring him with you,  
for he is helpful to me in the ministry.  
I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus.  
When you come, bring the cloak I left with Carpus in Troas,  
the papyrus rolls, and especially the parchments.  
  
Alexander the coppersmith did me a great deal of harm;  
the Lord will repay him according to his deeds.  
You too be on guard against him,  
for he has strongly resisted our preaching.  
  
At my first defense no one appeared on my behalf,  
but everyone deserted me.  
May it not be held against them!  
But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength,  
so that through me the proclamation might be completed  
and all the Gentiles might hear it.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:10)

R. (12) **Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your Kingdom.**  
Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD,  
and let your faithful ones bless you.  
Let them discourse of the glory of your Kingdom  
and speak of your might.  
R. **Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your Kingdom.**  
Making known to men your might  
and the glorious splendor of your Kingdom.  
Your Kingdom is a Kingdom for all ages,  
and your dominion endures through all generations.  
R. **Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your Kingdom.**  
The LORD is just in all his ways  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD is near to all who call upon him,  
to all who call upon him in truth.  
R. **Your friends make known, O Lord, the glorious splendor of your Kingdom.**

#### Gospel [LK 10:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/10:1)

The Lord Jesus appointed seventy-two disciples  
whom he sent ahead of him in pairs  
to every town and place he intended to visit.  
He said to them,  
“The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few;  
so ask the master of the harvest  
to send out laborers for his harvest.  
Go on your way;  
behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves.  
Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals;  
and greet no one along the way.  
Into whatever house you enter,  
first say, ‘Peace to this household.’  
If a peaceful person lives there,  
your peace will rest on him;  
but if not, it will return to you.  
Stay in the same house and eat and drink what is offered to you,  
for the laborer deserves payment.  
Do not move about from one house to another.  
Whatever town you enter and they welcome you,  
eat what is set before you,  
cure the sick in it and say to them,  
‘The Kingdom of God is at hand for you.’”

**Day 323**

# October 19, 2014

### Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 145

#### Reading 1 [IS 45:1, 4-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/45:1)

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus,  
whose right hand I grasp,  
subduing nations before him,  
and making kings run in his service,  
opening doors before him  
and leaving the gates unbarred:  
For the sake of Jacob, my servant,  
of Israel, my chosen one,  
I have called you by your name,  
giving you a title, though you knew me not.  
I am the LORD and there is no other,  
there is no God besides me.  
It is I who arm you, though you know me not,  
so that toward the rising and the setting of the sun  
people may know that there is none besides me.  
I am the LORD, there is no other.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/96:1)

R/ (7b)**Give the Lord glory and honor.**  
Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all you lands.  
Tell his glory among the nations;  
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.  
R/ **Give the Lord glory and honor.**  
For great is the LORD and highly to be praised;  
awesome is he, beyond all gods.  
For all the gods of the nations are things of nought,  
but the LORD made the heavens.  
R/ **Give the Lord glory and honor.**  
Give to the LORD, you families of nations,  
give to the LORD glory and praise;  
give to the LORD the glory due his name!  
Bring gifts, and enter his courts.  
R/ **Give the Lord glory and honor.**  
Worship the LORD, in holy attire;  
tremble before him, all the earth;  
say among the nations: The LORD is king,  
he governs the peoples with equity.  
R/**Give the Lord glory and honor.**

#### Gospel [MT 22:15-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/22:15)

The Pharisees went off  
and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech.   
They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying,  
"Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man  
and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth.  
And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion,  
for you do not regard a person's status.  
Tell us, then, what is your opinion:  
Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?"   
Knowing their malice, Jesus said,  
"Why are you testing me, you hypocrites?   
Show me the coin that pays the census tax."   
Then they handed him the Roman coin.   
He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?"   
They replied, "Caesar's."  
At that he said to them,  
"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar  
and to God what belongs to God."

**Day 324**

# October 20, 2014

### Monday of the Twenty-ninth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 473

#### Reading 1 [EPH 2:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/2:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
You were dead in your transgressions and sins  
in which you once lived following the age of this world,  
following the ruler of the power of the air,  
the spirit that is now at work in the disobedient.  
All of us once lived among them in the desires of our flesh,  
following the wishes of the flesh and the impulses,  
and we were by nature children of wrath, like the rest.  
But God, who is rich in mercy,  
because of the great love he had for us,  
even when we were dead in our transgressions,  
brought us to life with Christ (by grace you have been saved),  
raised us up with him,  
and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus,  
that in the ages to come  
he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace  
in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.  
For by grace you have been saved through faith,  
and this is not from you; it is the gift of God;  
it is not from works, so no one may boast.  
For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works  
that God has prepared in advance,  
that we should live in them.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 100:1B-2, 3, 4AB, 4C-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/100:1)

R. (3b) **The Lord made us, we belong to him.**  
Sing joyfully to the LORD all you lands;  
serve the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful song.  
R. **The Lord made us, we belong to him.**  
Know that the LORD is God;  
he made us, his we are;  
his people, the flock he tends.  
R. **The Lord made us, we belong to him.**  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
his courts with praise.  
R. **The Lord made us, we belong to him.**  
Give thanks to him; bless his name, for he is good:  
the LORD, whose kindness endures forever,  
and his faithfulness, to all generations.  
R. **The Lord made us, we belong to him.**

#### Gospel [LK 12:13-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/12:13)

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus,  
“Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me.”  
He replied to him,  
“Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?”  
Then he said to the crowd,  
“Take care to guard against all greed,  
for though one may be rich,  
one’s life does not consist of possessions.”  
  
Then he told them a parable.  
“There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest.  
He asked himself, ‘What shall I do,  
for I do not have space to store my harvest?’  
And he said, ‘This is what I shall do:  
I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones.  
There I shall store all my grain and other goods  
and I shall say to myself, “Now as for you,  
you have so many good things stored up for many years,  
rest, eat, drink, be merry!”’  
But God said to him,  
‘You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you;  
and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?’  
Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself  
but is not rich in what matters to God.”

**Day 325**

# October 21, 2014

### Tuesday of the Twenty-ninth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 474

#### Reading 1 [EPH 2:12-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/2:12)

Brothers and sisters:  
You were at that time without Christ,  
alienated from the community of Israel  
and strangers to the covenants of promise,  
without hope and without God in the world.  
But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off  
have become near by the Blood of Christ.  
  
For he is our peace, he made both one  
and broke down the dividing wall of enmity, through his Flesh,  
abolishing the law with its commandments and legal claims,  
that he might create in himself one new person in place of the two,  
thus establishing peace,  
and might reconcile both with God,  
in one Body, through the cross,  
putting that enmity to death by it.  
He came and preached peace to you who were far off  
and peace to those who were near,  
for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.  
  
So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners,  
but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones  
and members of the household of God,   
built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets,  
with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone.  
Through him the whole structure is held together  
and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord;  
in him you also are being built together  
into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 85:9AB-10, 11-12, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/85:9)

R. (see 9)**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**  
I will hear what God proclaims;  
the LORD–for he proclaims peace.  
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,  
glory dwelling in our land.  
R.**The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**  
Kindness and truth shall meet;  
justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth,  
and justice shall look down from heaven.  
R. **The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**  
The LORD himself will give his benefits;  
our land shall yield its increase.  
Justice shall walk before him,  
and salvation, along the way of his steps.  
R. **The Lord speaks of peace to his people.**

#### Gospel [LK 12:35-38](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/12:35)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“Gird your loins and light your lamps  
and be like servants who await their master’s return from a wedding,  
ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.  
Blessed are those servants  
whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.  
Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,  
have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.  
And should he come in the second or third watch  
and find them prepared in this way,  
blessed are those servants.”

**Day 326**

# October 22, 2014

### Wednesday of the Twenty-ninth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 475

#### Reading 1 [EPH 3:2-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/3:2)

Brothers and sisters:  
You have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace  
that was given to me for your benefit,  
namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation,  
as I have written briefly earlier.  
When you read this  
you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,  
which was not made known to human beings in other generations  
as it has now been revealed  
to his holy Apostles and prophets by the Spirit,  
that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same Body,  
and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.  
  
Of this I became a minister by the gift of God’s grace  
that was granted me in accord with the exercise of his power.  
To me, the very least of all the holy ones, this grace was given,  
to preach to the Gentiles the inscrutable riches of Christ,  
and to bring to light for all what is the plan of the mystery  
hidden from ages past in God who created all things,  
so that the manifold wisdom of God  
might now be made known through the Church  
to the principalities and authorities in the heavens.  
This was according to the eternal purpose  
that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,  
in whom we have boldness of speech  
and confidence of access through faith in him.

#### Responsorial Psalm [IS 12:2-3, 4BCD, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/isaiah/12:2)

R. (see 3)**You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**  
God indeed is my savior;  
I am confident and unafraid.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
With joy you will draw water  
at the fountain of salvation.  
R.**You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**  
Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name;  
among the nations make known his deeds,  
proclaim how exalted is his name.  
R. **You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**  
Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement;  
let this be known throughout all the earth.  
Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,  
for great in your midst  
is the Holy One of Israel!  
R. **You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

#### Gospel [LK 12:39-48](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/12:39)

Jesus said to his disciples:   
“Be sure of this:  
if the master of the house had known the hour  
when the thief was coming,  
he would not have let his house be broken into.  
You also must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”  
  
Then Peter said,  
“Lord, is this parable meant for us or for everyone?”  
And the Lord replied,  
“Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward  
whom the master will put in charge of his servants  
to distribute the food allowance at the proper time?  
Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so.  
Truly, I say to you, he will put him  
in charge of all his property.  
But if that servant says to himself,  
‘My master is delayed in coming,’  
and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants,  
to eat and drink and get drunk,  
then that servant’s master will come  
on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour  
and will punish the servant severely  
and assign him a place with the unfaithful.  
That servant who knew his master’s will  
but did not make preparations nor act in accord with his will  
shall be beaten severely;  
and the servant who was ignorant of his master’s will  
but acted in a way deserving of a severe beating  
shall be beaten only lightly.   
Much will be required of the person entrusted with much,  
and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.”

**Day 327**

# October 23, 2014

### Thursday of the Twenty-ninth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 476

#### Reading 1 [EPH 3:14-21](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/3:14)

Brothers and sisters:  
I kneel before the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,  
that he may grant you in accord with the riches of his glory  
to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner self,  
and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;  
that you, rooted and grounded in love,  
may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones  
what is the breadth and length and height and depth,  
and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,  
so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.  
  
Now to him who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine,  
by the power at work within us,  
to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus  
to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/33:1)

R. (5b) **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
Exult, you just, in the LORD;  
praise from the upright is fitting.  
Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;  
with the ten stringed lyre chant his praises.  
R. **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
For upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
R. **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
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. **The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
But see, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,  
upon those who hope for his kindness,  
To deliver them from death  
and preserve them in spite of famine.  
R.**The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**

#### Gospel [LK 12:49-53](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/12:49)

Jesus said to his disciples:  
“I have come to set the earth on fire,  
and how I wish it were already blazing!  
There is a baptism with which I must be baptized,  
and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!  
Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?  
No, I tell you, but rather division.  
From now on a household of five will be divided,  
three against two and two against three;  
a father will be divided against his son  
and a son against his father,   
a mother against her daughter  
and a daughter against her mother,  
a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.”

**Day 328**

# October 24, 2014

### Friday of the Twenty-ninth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 477

#### Reading 1 [EPH 4:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/4:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
I, a prisoner for the Lord,  
urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,  
with all humility and gentleness, with patience,  
bearing with one another through love,  
striving to preserve the unity of the spirit  
through the bond of peace;   
one Body and one Spirit,   
as you were also called to the one hope of your call;  
one Lord, one faith, one baptism;  
one God and Father of all,  
who is over all and through all and in all.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 24:1-2, 3-4AB, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/24:1)

R. (see 6)**Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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.**Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

#### Gospel [LK 12:54-59](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/12:54)

Jesus said to the crowds,  
“When you see a cloud rising in the west  
you say immediately that it is going to rain–and so it does;  
and when you notice that the wind is blowing from the south  
you say that it is going to be hot–and so it is.  
You hypocrites!  
You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky;  
why do you not know how to interpret the present time?  
  
“Why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?  
If you are to go with your opponent before a magistrate,  
make an effort to settle the matter on the way;  
otherwise your opponent will turn you over to the judge,  
and the judge hand you over to the constable,  
and the constable throw you into prison.  
I say to you, you will not be released  
until you have paid the last penny.”

**Day 329**

# October 25, 2014

### Saturday of the Twenty-ninth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 478

#### Reading 1 [EPH 4:7-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/4:7)

Brothers and sisters:  
Grace was given to each of us  
according to the measure of Christ’s gift.  
Therefore, it says:  
  
He ascended on high and took prisoners captive;he gave gifts to men.  
  
What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended  
into the lower regions of the earth?  
The one who descended is also the one who ascended  
far above all the heavens,  
that he might fill all things.  
  
And he gave some as Apostles, others as prophets,  
others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers,  
to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry,  
for building up the Body of Christ,  
until we all attain to the unity of faith  
and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood  
to the extent of the full stature of Christ,  
so that we may no longer be infants,  
tossed by waves and swept along by every wind of teaching  
arising from human trickery,  
from their cunning in the interests of deceitful scheming.  
Rather, living the truth in love,  
we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ,  
from whom the whole Body,  
joined and held together by every supporting ligament,  
with the proper functioning of each part,  
brings about the Body’s growth and builds itself up in love.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 122:1-2, 3-4AB, 4CD-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/122:1)

R. (1)**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.**

#### Gospel [LK 13:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/13:1)

Some people told Jesus about the Galileans  
whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices.  
He said to them in reply,   
“Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way   
they were greater sinners than all other Galileans?  
By no means!  
But I tell you, if you do not repent,  
you will all perish as they did!  
Or those eighteen people who were killed   
when the tower at Siloam fell on them–  
do you think they were more guilty   
than everyone else who lived in Jerusalem?  
By no means!  
But I tell you, if you do not repent,  
you will all perish as they did!”  
  
And he told them this parable:   
“There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard,   
and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none,  
he said to the gardener,  
‘For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree   
but have found none.  
So cut it down.  
Why should it exhaust the soil?’  
He said to him in reply,  
‘Sir, leave it for this year also,   
and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it;   
it may bear fruit in the future.  
If not you can cut it down.’”

**Day 330**

# October 26, 2014

### Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 148

#### Reading 1 [EX 22:20-26](http://www.usccb.org/bible/exodus/22:20)

Thus says the LORD:  
"You shall not molest or oppress an alien,  
for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt.   
You shall not wrong any widow or orphan.   
If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me,  
I will surely hear their cry.   
My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword;  
then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans.  
  
"If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my people,  
you shall not act like an extortioner toward him  
by demanding interest from him.   
If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge,  
you shall return it to him before sunset;  
for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body.   
What else has he to sleep in?  
If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/18:2)

R/ (2) **I love you, Lord, my strength.**  
I love you, O LORD, my strength,  
O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.  
R/**I love you, Lord, my strength.**  
My God, my rock of refuge,  
my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold!  
Praised be the LORD, I exclaim,  
and I am safe from my enemies.  
R/**I love you, Lord, my strength.**  
The LORD lives and blessed be my rock!  
Extolled be God my savior.  
You who gave great victories to your king  
and showed kindness to your anointed.  
R/**I love you, Lord, my strength.**

#### Reading 2[1 THES 1:5C-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1thessalonians/1:5)

Brothers and sisters:  
You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake.   
And you became imitators of us and of the Lord,  
receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit,  
so that you became a model for all the believers  
in Macedonia and in Achaia.  
For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth  
not only in Macedonia and in Achaia,  
but in every place your faith in God has gone forth,  
so that we have no need to say anything.   
For they themselves openly declare about us  
what sort of reception we had among you,  
and how you turned to God from idols  
to serve the living and true God  
and to await his Son from heaven,  
whom he raised from the dead,  
Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

#### Gospel [MT 22:34-40](http://www.usccb.org/bible/matthew/22:34)

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees,  
they gathered together, and one of them,  
a scholar of the law tested him by asking,  
"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"   
He said to him,  
"You shall love the Lord, your God,  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
and with all your mind.  
This is the greatest and the first commandment.  
The second is like it:  
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.   
The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

**Day 331**

# October 27, 2014

### Monday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 479

#### Reading 1 [EPH 4:32-5:8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/4:32)

Brothers and sisters:  
Be kind to one another, compassionate,  
forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.  
  
Be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love,  
as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us  
as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma.  
Immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be mentioned among you,  
as is fitting among holy ones,  
no obscenity or silly or suggestive talk, which is out of place,  
but instead, thanksgiving.  
Be sure of this, that no immoral or impure or greedy person,  
that is, an idolater,  
has any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and of God.  
  
Let no one deceive you with empty arguments,  
for because of these things  
the wrath of God is coming upon the disobedient.  
So do not be associated with them.  
For you were once darkness,  
but now you are light in the Lord.  
Live as children of light.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/1:1)

R. (see Eph. 5:1) **Behave like God as his very dear children.**  
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. **Behave like God as his very dear children.**  
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. **Behave like God as his very dear children.**  
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. **Behave like God as his very dear children.**

#### Gospel [LK 13:10-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/13:10)

Jesus was teaching in a synagogue on the sabbath.  
And a woman was there who for eighteen years  
had been crippled by a spirit;  
she was bent over, completely incapable of standing erect.  
When Jesus saw her, he called to her and said,  
“Woman, you are set free of your infirmity.”  
He laid his hands on her,  
and she at once stood up straight and glorified God.  
But the leader of the synagogue,  
indignant that Jesus had cured on the sabbath,  
said to the crowd in reply,  
“There are six days when work should be done.  
Come on those days to be cured, not on the sabbath day.”  
The Lord said to him in reply, “Hypocrites!  
Does not each one of you on the sabbath  
untie his ox or his ass from the manger  
and lead it out for watering?  
This daughter of Abraham,  
whom Satan has bound for eighteen years now,  
ought she not to have been set free on the sabbath day  
from this bondage?”  
When he said this, all his adversaries were humiliated;  
and the whole crowd rejoiced at all the splendid deeds done by him.

**Day 332**

# October 28, 2014

### Feast of Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles Lectionary: 666

#### Reading 1 [EPH 2:19-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/2:19)

Brothers and sisters:  
You are no longer strangers and sojourners,  
but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones  
and members of the household of God,   
built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets,  
with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone.  
Through him the whole structure is held together  
and grows into a temple sacred in the Lord;  
in him you also are being built together  
into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 19:2-3, 4-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/19:2)

R. (5a) **Their message goes out through all the earth.**  
The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.  
Day pours out the word to day,  
and night to night imparts knowledge.  
R. **Their message goes out through all the earth.**  
Not a word nor a discourse  
whose voice is not heard;  
Through all the earth their voice resounds,  
and to the ends of the world, their message.  
R. **Their message goes out through all the earth.**

#### Gospel [LK 6:12-16](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/6:12)

Jesus went up to the mountain to pray,  
and he spent the night in prayer to God.  
When day came, he called his disciples to himself,  
and from them he chose Twelve, whom he also named Apostles:  
Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew,  
James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew,  
Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus,  
Simon who was called a Zealot,  
and Judas the son of James,  
and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

**Day 333**

# October 29, 2014

### Wednesday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 471

#### Reading 1 [EPH 6:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/6:1)

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.  
Honor your father and mother.  
This is the first commandment with a promise,  
that it may go well with youand that you may have a long life on earth.  
Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger,  
but bring them up with the training and instruction of the Lord.  
  
Slaves, be obedient to your human masters with fear and trembling,  
in sincerity of heart, as to Christ,  
not only when being watched, as currying favor,  
but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,  
willingly serving the Lord and not men,  
knowing that each will be requited from the Lord  
for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.   
Masters, act in the same way towards them, and stop bullying,  
knowing that both they and you have a Master in heaven  
and that with him there is no partiality.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 145:10-11, 12-13AB, 13CD-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/145:10)

R. (13c) **The Lord is faithful in all his words.**  
Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD,  
and let your faithful ones bless you.  
Let them discourse of the glory of your Kingdom  
and speak of your might.  
R. **The Lord is faithful in all his words.**  
Making known to men your might  
and the glorious splendor of your Kingdom.  
Your Kingdom is a Kingdom for all ages,  
and your dominion endures through all generations.  
R. **The Lord is faithful in all his words.**  
The LORD is faithful in all his words  
and holy in all his works.  
The LORD lifts up all who are falling  
and raises up all who are bowed down.  
R. **The Lord is faithful in all his words.**

#### Gospel [LK 13:22-30](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/13:22)

Jesus passed through towns and villages,  
teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem.  
Someone asked him,  
“Lord, will only a few people be saved?”  
He answered them,   
“Strive to enter through the narrow gate,  
for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter  
but will not be strong enough.  
After the master of the house has arisen and locked the door,  
then will you stand outside knocking and saying,  
‘Lord, open the door for us.’  
He will say to you in reply,  
‘I do not know where you are from.’  
And you will say,  
‘We ate and drank in your company and you taught in our streets.’  
Then he will say to you,  
‘I do not know where you are from.  
Depart from me, all you evildoers!’  
And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth  
when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob  
and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God  
and you yourselves cast out.  
And people will come from the east and the west  
and from the north and the south  
and will recline at table in the Kingdom of God.  
For behold, some are last who will be first,  
and some are first who will be last.”

**Day 334**

# October 30, 2014

 Thursday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time  
Lectionary: 482

#### Reading 1 [EPH 6:10-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ephesians/6:10)

Brothers and sisters:  
Draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power.  
Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm  
against the tactics of the Devil.  
For our struggle is not with flesh and blood  
but with the principalities, with the powers,  
with the world rulers of this present darkness,  
with the evil spirits in the heavens.  
Therefore, put on the armor of God,  
that you may be able to resist on the evil day  
and, having done everything, to hold your ground.  
So stand fast with your loins girded in truth,  
clothed with righteousness as a breastplate,  
and your feet shod in readiness for the Gospel of peace.  
In all circumstances, hold faith as a shield,  
to quench all the flaming arrows of the Evil One.  
And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit,  
which is the word of God.  
  
With all prayer and supplication,  
pray at every opportunity in the Spirit.  
To that end, be watchful with all perseverance and supplication  
for all the holy ones and also for me,  
that speech may be given me to open my mouth,  
to make known with boldness the mystery of the Gospel  
for which I am an ambassador in chains,  
so that I may have the courage to speak as I must.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 144:1B, 2, 9-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/144:1)

R. (1b) **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 mercy 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!**

#### Gospel [LK 13:31-35](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/13:31)

Some Pharisees came to Jesus and said,  
“Go away, leave this area because Herod wants to kill you.”  
He replied, “Go and tell that fox,  
‘Behold, I cast out demons and I perform healings today and tomorrow,  
and on the third day I accomplish my purpose.  
Yet I must continue on my way today, tomorrow, and the following day,  
for it is impossible that a prophet should die  
outside of Jerusalem.’  
  
“Jerusalem, Jerusalem,  
you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you,  
how many times I yearned to gather your children together  
as a hen gathers her brood under her wings,  
but you were unwilling!  
Behold, your house will be abandoned.  
But I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say,  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

**Day 335**

# October 31, 2014

### Friday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 483

#### Reading 1 [PHIL 1:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/1:1)

Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus,  
to all the holy ones in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi,  
with the bishops and deacons:  
grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
  
I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you,  
praying always with joy in my every prayer for all of you,  
because of your partnership for the Gospel  
from the first day until now.  
I am confident of this,  
that the one who began a good work in you  
will continue to complete it  
until the day of Christ Jesus.  
It is right that I should think this way about all of you,  
because I hold you in my heart,  
you who are all partners with me in grace,  
both in my imprisonment  
and in the defense and confirmation of the Gospel.  
For God is my witness,  
how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.  
And this is my prayer:  
that your love may increase ever more and more  
in knowledge and every kind of perception,  
to discern what is of value,  
so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,  
filled with the fruit of righteousness  
that comes through Jesus Christ  
for the glory and praise of God.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/111:1)

R. (2) **How great are the works of the Lord!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart  
in the company and assembly of the just.  
Great are the works of the LORD,  
exquisite in all their delights.  
R. **How great are the works of the Lord!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Majesty and glory are his work,  
and his justice endures forever.  
He has won renown for his wondrous deeds;  
gracious and merciful is the LORD.  
R. **How great are the works of the Lord!**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
He has given food to those who fear him;  
he will forever be mindful of his covenant.  
He has made known to his people the power of his works,  
giving them the inheritance of the nations.  
R. **How great are the works of the Lord!**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

#### Gospel [LK 14:1-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/luke/14:1)

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine  
at the home of one of the leading Pharisees,  
and the people there were observing him carefully.  
In front of him there was a man suffering from dropsy.  
Jesus spoke to the scholars of the law and Pharisees in reply, asking,  
“Is it lawful to cure on the sabbath or not?”  
But they kept silent; so he took the man and,  
after he had healed him, dismissed him.  
Then he said to them   
“Who among you, if your son or ox falls into a cistern,  
would not immediately pull him out on the sabbath day?”   
But they were unable to answer his question.

**Day 336**

# November 1, 2014

### Solemnity of All Saints Lectionary: 667

#### Reading 1 [RV 7:2-4, 9-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/7:2)

I, John, saw another angel come up from the East,  
holding the seal of the living God.  
He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels  
who were given power to damage the land and the sea,  
“Do not damage the land or the sea or the trees  
until we put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.”  
I heard the number of those who had been marked with the seal,  
one hundred and forty-four thousand marked  
from every tribe of the children of Israel.  
  
After this I had a vision of a great multitude,  
which no one could count,  
from every nation, race, people, and tongue.  
They stood before the throne and before the Lamb,  
wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.  
They cried out in a loud voice:  
  
“Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne,  
and from the Lamb.”  
  
All the angels stood around the throne  
and around the elders and the four living creatures.  
They prostrated themselves before the throne,  
worshiped God, and exclaimed:  
  
“Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving,  
honor, power, and might  
be to our God forever and ever. Amen.”  
  
Then one of the elders spoke up and said to me,  
“Who are these wearing white robes, and where did they come from?”  
I said to him, “My lord, you are the one who knows.”  
He said to me,  
“These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress;  
they have washed their robes  
and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 24:1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/24:1)

R. (see 6)**Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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.**Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,  
a reward from God his savior.  
Such is the race that seeks him,  
that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.  
R. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

#### Reading 2[1 JN 3:1-3](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1john/3:1)

Beloved:  
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.

**Day 337**

# November 2, 2014

### The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) Lectionary: 668

#### Reading 1 [WIS 3:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/wisdom/3:1)

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,  
and no torment shall touch them.  
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;  
and their passing away was thought an affliction  
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.  
But they are in peace.  
For if before men, indeed, they be punished,  
yet is their hope full of immortality;  
chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,  
because God tried them  
and found them worthy of himself.  
As gold in the furnace, he proved them,  
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.  
In the time of their visitation they shall shine,  
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;  
they shall judge nations and rule over peoples,  
and the LORD shall be their King forever.  
Those who trust in him shall understand truth,  
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:  
because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,  
and his care is with his elect.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

R. (1) **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**  
or:  
R. **Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**  
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.**  
or:  
R.**Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**  
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. **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**  
or:  
R. **Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**  
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.**  
or:  
R. **Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me.**

#### Reading 2[ROM 5:5-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/5:5)

Brothers and sisters:  
Hope does not disappoint,  
because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.  
For Christ, while we were still helpless,  
died at the appointed time for the ungodly.  
Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,  
though perhaps for a good person  
one might even find courage to die.  
But God proves his love for us  
in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.  
How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood,  
will we be saved through him from the wrath.  
Indeed, if, while we were enemies,  
we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,  
how much more, once reconciled,  
will we be saved by his life.  
Not only that,  
but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

#### Or [ROM 6:3-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/romans/6:3)

Brothers and sisters:  
Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus   
were baptized into his death?  
We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,   
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead   
by the glory of the Father,   
we too might live in newness of life.  
  
For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his,   
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.  
We know that our old self was crucified with him,   
so that our sinful body might be done away with,   
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.  
For a dead person has been absolved from sin.  
If, then, we have died with Christ,  
we believe that we shall also live with him.  
We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;  
death no longer has power over him.

**Day 338**

# November 3, 2014

### Monday of the Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 485

#### Reading 1 [Phil 2:1-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/2:1)

Brothers and sisters:  
If there is any encouragement in Christ,  
any solace in love,  
any participation in the Spirit,  
any compassion and mercy,  
complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love,  
united in heart, thinking one thing.  
Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory;  
rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves,  
each looking out not for his own interests,   
but also everyone for those of others.

#### Responsorial Psalm [Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/131:1)

R. **In you, O Lord, I have found my peace.**  
O LORD, my heart is not proud,  
nor are my eyes haughty;  
I busy not myself with great things,  
nor with things too sublime for me.  
R. **In you, O Lord, I have found my peace.**  
Nay rather, I have stilled and quieted  
my soul like a weaned child.  
Like a weaned child on its mother’s lap,  
so is my soul within me.  
R. **In you, O Lord, I have found my peace.**  
O Israel, hope in the LORD,  
both now and forever.  
R. **In you, O Lord, I have found my peace.**

**Day 339**

# November 4, 2014

 Memorial of Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop  
Lectionary: 486

#### Reading 1 [PHIL 2:5-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/2:5)

Brothers and sisters:  
Have among yourselves the same attitude   
that is also yours in Christ Jesus,  
  
Who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
something to be grasped.  
Rather, he emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
coming in human likeness;  
and, found human in appearance,  
he humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to death,  
even death on a cross.  
Because of this, God greatly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name  
that is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 22:26B-27, 28-30AB, 30E, 31-32](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/22:26)

R. (26a) **I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**  
I will fulfill my vows before those who fear him.  
The lowly shall eat their fill;   
they who seek the LORD shall praise him:  
“May your hearts be ever merry!”  
R.**I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**  
All the ends of the earth  
shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
All the families of the nations  
shall bow down before him.  
R. **I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**  
For dominion is the LORD’s,  
and he rules the nations.  
To him alone shall bow down  
all who sleep in the earth.  
R.**I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**  
To him my soul shall live;  
my descendants shall serve him.  
Let the coming generation be told of the LORD  
that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born  
the justice he has shown.  
R. **I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

**Day 340**

# November 5, 2014

### Wednesday of the Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 487

#### Reading 1 [PHIL 2:12-18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/2:12)

My beloved, obedient as you have always been,  
not only when I am present but all the more now when I am absent,  
work out your salvation with fear and trembling.  
For God is the one who, for his good purpose,  
works in you both to desire and to work.  
Do everything without grumbling or questioning,  
that you may be blameless and innocent,  
children of God without blemish  
in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation,  
among whom you shine like lights in the world,  
as you hold on to the word of life,  
so that my boast for the day of Christ may be  
that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.  
But, even if I am poured out as a libation  
upon the sacrificial service of your faith,  
I rejoice and share my joy with all of you.  
In the same way you also should rejoice and share your joy with me.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 27:1, 4, 13-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/27:1)

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 341**

# November 6, 2014

### Thursday of the Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 488

#### Reading 1 [PHIL 3:3-8A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/3:3)

Brothers and sisters:  
We are the circumcision,   
we who worship through the Spirit of God,  
who boast in Christ Jesus and do not put our confidence in flesh,  
although I myself have grounds for confidence even in the flesh.  
  
If anyone else thinks he can be confident in flesh, all the more can I.   
Circumcised on the eighth day,  
of the race of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin,  
a Hebrew of Hebrew parentage,  
in observance of the law a Pharisee,  
in zeal I persecuted the Church,  
in righteousness based on the law I was blameless.  
  
But whatever gains I had,  
these I have come to consider a loss because of Christ.  
More than that, I even consider everything as a loss  
because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/105:2)

R. (3b)**Let hearts rejoice who search for the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Sing to him, sing his praise,  
proclaim all his wondrous deeds.  
Glory in his holy name;  
rejoice, O hearts that seek the LORD!  
R. **Let hearts rejoice who search for the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Look to the LORD in his strength;  
seek to serve him constantly.  
Recall the wondrous deeds that he has wrought,  
his portents, and the judgments he has uttered.  
R.**Let hearts rejoice who search for the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
You descendants of Abraham, his servants,  
sons of Jacob, his chosen ones!  
He, the LORD, is our God;  
throughout the earth his judgments prevail.  
R. **Let hearts rejoice who search for the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

**Day 342**

# November 7, 2014

### Friday of the Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 489

#### Reading 1 [PHIL 3:17-4:1](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/3:17)

Join with others in being imitators of me, brothers and sisters,   
and observe those who thus conduct themselves   
according to the model you have in us.  
For many, as I have often told you   
and now tell you even in tears,   
conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ.  
Their end is destruction.  
Their God is their stomach;   
their glory is in their “shame.”  
Their minds are occupied with earthly things.  
But our citizenship is in heaven,   
and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.  
He will change our lowly body  
to conform with his glorified Body   
by the power that enables him also   
to bring all things into subjection to himself.  
  
Therefore, my brothers and sisters,  
whom I love and long for, my joy and crown,   
in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 122:1-2, 3-4AB, 4CD-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/122:1)

R. (1)**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.**

**Day 343**

# November 8, 2014

### Saturday of the Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 490

#### Reading 1 [PHIL 4:10-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philippians/4:10)

Brothers and sisters:  
I rejoice greatly in the Lord  
that now at last you revived your concern for me.  
You were, of course, concerned about me but lacked an opportunity.  
Not that I say this because of need,  
for I have learned, in whatever situation I find myself,  
to be self-sufficient.  
I know indeed how to live in humble circumstances;  
I know also how to live with abundance.  
In every circumstance and in all things  
I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry,  
of living in abundance and of being in need.  
I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me.  
Still, it was kind of you to share in my distress.  
  
You Philippians indeed know that at the beginning of the Gospel,  
when I left Macedonia,  
not a single church shared with me  
in an account of giving and receiving, except you alone.  
For even when I was at Thessalonica  
you sent me something for my needs,  
not only once but more than once.  
It is not that I am eager for the gift;  
rather, I am eager for the profit that accrues to your account.  
I have received full payment and I abound.  
I am very well supplied because of what I received from you  
through Epaphroditus,  
“a fragrant aroma,” an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.  
My God will fully supply whatever you need,  
in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 112:1B-2, 5-6, 8A AND 9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/112:1)

R. **Blessed the man who fears the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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 fears the Lord.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**  
Well for the man who is gracious and lends,  
who conducts his affairs with justice;  
He shall never be moved;  
the just one shall be in everlasting remembrance.  
R. **Blessed the man who fears the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
His heart is steadfast; he shall not fear.  
Lavishly he gives to the poor;  
his generosity shall endure forever;  
his horn shall be exalted in glory.  
R. **Blessed the man who fears the Lord.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**

**Day 344**

# November 9, 2014

### Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome Lectionary: 671

#### Reading 1 [EZ 47:1-2, 8-9, 12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/47:1)

The angel brought me  
back to the entrance of the temple,  
and I saw water flowing out  
from beneath the threshold of the temple toward the east,  
for the façade of the temple was toward the east;  
the water flowed down from the southern side of the temple,  
south of the altar.  
He led me outside by the north gate,  
and around to the outer gate facing the east,  
where I saw water trickling from the southern side.  
He said to me,  
“This water flows into the eastern district down upon the Arabah,  
and empties into the sea, the salt waters, which it makes fresh.  
Wherever the river flows,  
every sort of living creature that can multiply shall live,  
and there shall be abundant fish,  
for wherever this water comes the sea shall be made fresh.  
Along both banks of the river, fruit trees of every kind shall grow;  
their leaves shall not fade, nor their fruit fail.  
Every month they shall bear fresh fruit,  
for they shall be watered by the flow from the sanctuary.  
Their fruit shall serve for food, and their leaves for medicine.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/46:2)

R. (5) **The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High!**  
God is our refuge and our strength,  
an ever-present help in distress.  
Therefore, we fear not, though the earth be shaken  
and mountains plunge into the depths of the sea.  
R. **The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High!**  
There is a stream whose runlets gladden the city of God,  
the holy dwelling of the Most High.  
God is in its midst; it shall not be disturbed;  
God will help it at the break of dawn.  
R. **The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High!**  
The LORD of hosts is with us;  
our stronghold is the God of Jacob.  
Come! behold the deeds of the LORD,  
the astounding things he has wrought on earth.   
R. **The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High!**

#### Reading 2[1 COR 3:9C-11, 16-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/3:9)

Brothers and sisters:  
You are God’s building.  
According to the grace of God given to me,  
like a wise master builder I laid a foundation,  
and another is building upon it.  
But each one must be careful how he builds upon it,  
for no one can lay a foundation other than the one that is there,  
namely, Jesus Christ.  
  
Do you not know that you are the temple of God,  
and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?  
If anyone destroys God’s temple,  
God will destroy that person;  
for the temple of God, which you are, is holy.

**Day 345**

# November 10, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Lectionary: 491

#### Reading 1 [TI 1:1-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/titus/1:1)

Paul, a slave of God and Apostle of Jesus Christ  
for the sake of the faith of God’s chosen ones  
and the recognition of religious truth,  
in the hope of eternal life   
that God, who does not lie, promised before time began,  
who indeed at the proper time revealed his word  
in the proclamation with which I was entrusted  
by the command of God our savior,  
to Titus, my true child in our common faith:  
grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our savior.  
  
For this reason I left you in Crete  
so that you might set right what remains to be done  
and appoint presbyters in every town, as I directed you,  
on condition that a man be blameless,  
married only once, with believing children  
who are not accused of licentiousness or rebellious.  
For a bishop as God’s steward must be blameless, not arrogant,  
not irritable, not a drunkard, not aggressive,  
not greedy for sordid gain, but hospitable, a lover of goodness,  
temperate, just, holy, and self-controlled,  
holding fast to the true message as taught  
so that he will be able both to exhort with sound doctrine  
and to refute opponents.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 24:1B-2, 3-4AB, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/24:1)

R. (see 6) **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

**Day 346**

# November 11, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop Lectionary: 492

#### Reading 1 [TI 2:1-8, 11-14](http://www.usccb.org/bible/titus/2:1)

Beloved:  
You must say what is consistent with sound doctrine,  
namely, that older men should be temperate, dignified,  
self-controlled, sound in faith, love, and endurance.  
Similarly, older women should be reverent in their behavior,  
not slanderers, not addicted to drink,   
teaching what is good, so that they may train younger women  
to love their husbands and children,  
to be self-controlled, chaste, good homemakers,  
under the control of their husbands,  
so that the word of God may not be discredited.  
  
Urge the younger men, similarly, to control themselves,  
showing yourself as a model of good deeds in every respect,  
with integrity in your teaching, dignity, and sound speech   
that cannot be criticized,  
so that the opponent will be put to shame  
without anything bad to say about us.  
  
For the grace of God has appeared, saving all  
and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires  
and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age,  
as we await the blessed hope,  
the appearance of the glory of the great God  
and of our savior Jesus Christ,  
who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness  
and to cleanse for himself a people as his own,  
eager to do what is good.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 37:3-4, 18 AND 23, 27 AND 29](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/37:3)

R. (39a)**The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**  
Trust in the LORD and do good,  
that you may dwell in the land and be fed in security.  
Take delight in the LORD,  
and he will grant you your heart’s requests.  
R. **The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**  
The LORD watches over the lives of the wholehearted;  
their inheritance lasts forever.  
By the LORD are the steps of a man made firm,  
and he approves his way.  
R. **The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**  
Turn from evil and do good,  
that you may abide forever;  
The just shall possess the land  
and dwell in it forever.  
R.**The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.**

**Day 347**

# November 12, 2014

 Memorial of Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr  
Lectionary: 493

#### Reading 1 [TI 3:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/titus/3:1)

Beloved:  
Remind them to be under the control of magistrates and authorities,  
to be obedient, to be open to every good enterprise.  
They are to slander no one, to be peaceable, considerate,  
exercising all graciousness toward everyone.  
For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, deluded,  
slaves to various desires and pleasures,  
living in malice and envy,  
hateful ourselves and hating one another.  
  
But when the kindness and generous love  
of God our savior appeared,  
not because of any righteous deeds we had done  
but because of his mercy,  
he saved us through the bath of rebirth  
and renewal by the Holy Spirit,  
whom he richly poured out on us  
through Jesus Christ our savior,  
so that we might be justified by his grace  
and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 23:1B-3A, 3BC-4, 5, 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

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.**  
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. **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 348**

# November 13, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin Lectionary: 494

#### Reading 1 [PHLM 7-20](http://www.usccb.org/bible/philemon/1:7)

Beloved:  
I have experienced much joy and encouragement from your love,  
because the hearts of the holy ones  
have been refreshed by you, brother.  
Therefore, although I have the full right in Christ  
to order you to do what is proper,  
I rather urge you out of love,  
being as I am, Paul, an old man,  
and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus.  
I urge you on behalf of my child Onesimus,  
whose father I have become in my imprisonment,  
who was once useless to you but is now useful to both you and me.  
I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you.  
I should have liked to retain him for myself,  
so that he might serve me on your behalf  
in my imprisonment for the Gospel,  
but I did not want to do anything without your consent,  
so that the good you do might not be forced but voluntary.  
Perhaps this is why he was away from you for a while,  
that you might have him back forever,  
no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a brother,  
beloved especially to me, but even more so to you,  
as a man and in the Lord.  
So if you regard me as a partner, welcome him as you would me.  
And if he has done you any injustice  
or owes you anything, charge it to me.  
I, Paul, write this in my own hand: I will pay.  
May I not tell you that you owe me your very self.  
Yes, brother, may I profit from you in the Lord.  
Refresh my heart in Christ.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 146:7, 8-9A, 9BC-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/146:7)

R. (5a)**Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
The LORD secures justice for the oppressed,  
gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets captives free.  
R.**Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**  
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. **Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**  
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. Alleluia.  
R. **Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

**Day 349**

# November 14, 2014

 Friday of the Thirty-second Week in Ordinary Time  
Lectionary: 495

#### Reading 1 [2 JN 4-9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/2john/1:4)

[Chosen Lady:]  
I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children walking in the truth  
just as we were commanded by the Father.  
But now, Lady, I ask you,  
not as though I were writing a new commandment  
but the one we have had from the beginning:  
let us love one another.  
For this is love, that we walk according to his commandments;  
this is the commandment, as you heard from the beginning,  
in which you should walk.  
  
Many deceivers have gone out into the world,  
those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh;  
such is the deceitful one and the antichrist.  
Look to yourselves that you do not lose what we worked for  
but may receive a full recompense.  
Anyone who is so “progressive”  
as not to remain in the teaching of the Christ does not have God;  
whoever remains in the teaching has the Father and the Son.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:1)

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.  
R. **Blessed are they who follow 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!**  
With all my heart I seek you;  
let me not stray from your commands.  
R.**Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**  
Within my heart I treasure your promise,  
that I may not sin against you.  
R. **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**  
Be good to your servant, that I may live  
and keep your words.  
R. **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**  
Open my eyes, that I may consider  
the wonders of your law.  
R. **Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!**

**Day 350**

# November 15, 2014

### Saturday of the Thirty-second Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 496

#### Reading 1 [3 JN 5-8](http://www.usccb.org/bible/3john/1:5)

Beloved, you are faithful in all you do for the brothers and sisters,  
especially for strangers;  
they have testified to your love before the Church.  
Please help them in a way worthy of God to continue their journey.  
For they have set out for the sake of the Name  
and are accepting nothing from the pagans.  
Therefore, we ought to support such persons,  
so that we may be co-workers in the truth.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/112:1)

R. **Blessed the man who fears the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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 fears the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
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 fears the Lord.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**  
Well for the man who is gracious and lends,  
who conducts his affairs with justice;  
He shall never be moved;  
the just one shall be in everlasting remembrance.  
R.**Blessed the man who fears the Lord.**  
or:  
R.**Alleluia.**

**Day 351**

# November 16, 2014

### Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 157

#### Reading 1 [PRV 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31](http://www.usccb.org/bible/proverbs/31:10)

When one finds a worthy wife,  
her value is far beyond pearls.  
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her,  
has an unfailing prize.  
She brings him good, and not evil,  
all the days of her life.  
She obtains wool and flax  
and works with loving hands.  
She puts her hands to the distaff,  
and her fingers ply the spindle.  
She reaches out her hands to the poor,  
and extends her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;  
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
Give her a reward for her labors,  
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 128:1-2, 3, 4-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/128:1)

R/ (cf. 1a) **Blessed are those who fear the Lord.**  
Blessed are you who fear the LORD,  
who walk 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.**  
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.**  
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.**

**Day 352**

# November 17, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious Lectionary: 497

#### Reading 1 [RV 1:1-4; 2:1-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/1:1)

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave to him,  
to show his servants what must happen soon.  
He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John,  
who gives witness to the word of God  
and to the testimony of Jesus Christ by reporting what he saw.  
Blessed is the one who reads aloud  
and blessed are those who listen to this prophetic message  
and heed what is written in it, for the appointed time is near.  
  
John, to the seven churches in Asia: grace to you and peace  
from him who is and who was and who is to come,  
and from the seven spirits before his throne.  
  
I heard the Lord saying to me:  
“To the angel of the Church in Ephesus, write this:  
  
“‘The one who holds the seven stars in his right hand  
and walks in the midst of the seven gold lampstands says this:  
“I know your works, your labor, and your endurance,  
and that you cannot tolerate the wicked;  
you have tested those who call themselves Apostles but are not,  
and discovered that they are impostors.  
Moreover, you have endurance and have suffered for my name,  
and you have not grown weary.  
Yet I hold this against you:  
you have lost the love you had at first.  
Realize how far you have fallen.  
Repent, and do the works you did at first.  
Otherwise, I will come to you  
and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.”’”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/1:1)

R. (Rev. 2:17) **Those who are victorious I will feed from the tree 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 are victorious I will feed from the tree 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 are victorious I will feed from the tree 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 are victorious I will feed from the tree of life.**

**Day 353**

# November 18, 2014

### Tuesday of the Thirty-third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 498

#### Reading 1 [RV 3:1-6, 14-22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/3:1)

I, John, heard the Lord saying to me:  
“To the angel of the Church in Sardis, write this:  
  
“‘The one who has the seven spirits of God  
and the seven stars says this: “I know your works,  
that you have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead.  
Be watchful and strengthen what is left, which is going to die,  
for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God.  
Remember then how you accepted and heard; keep it, and repent.  
If you are not watchful, I will come like a thief,  
and you will never know at what hour I will come upon you.  
However, you have a few people in Sardis  
who have not soiled their garments;  
they will walk with me dressed in white,  
because they are worthy.  
  
“‘The victor will thus be dressed in white,  
and I will never erase his name from the book of life  
but will acknowledge his name in the presence of my Father  
and of his angels.  
  
“‘Whoever has ears ought to hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’”  
  
“To the angel of the Church in Laodicea, write this:  
  
“‘The Amen, the faithful and true witness,  
the source of God’s creation, says this:  
“I know your works;  
I know that you are neither cold nor hot.  
I wish you were either cold or hot.  
So, because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold,  
I will spit you out of my mouth.  
For you say, ‘I am rich and affluent and have no need of anything,’  
and yet do not realize that you are wretched,  
pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.  
I advise you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich,  
and white garments to put on  
so that your shameful nakedness may not be exposed,  
and buy ointment to smear on your eyes so that you may see.  
Those whom I love, I reprove and chastise.  
Be earnest, therefore, and repent.  
  
“‘Behold, I stand at the door and knock.  
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door,  
then I will enter his house and dine with him,  
and he with me.  
I will give the victor the right to sit with me on my throne,  
as I myself first won the victory  
and sit with my Father on his throne.  
  
“‘Whoever has ears ought to hear  
what the Spirit says to the churches.’”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 15:2-3A, 3BC-4AB, 5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/15:2)

R. (Rev. 3: 21) **I will seat the victor beside me on my throne.**  
He who walks blamelessly and does justice;  
who thinks the truth in his heart  
and slanders not with his tongue.  
R. **I will seat the victor beside me on my throne.**  
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. **I will seat the victor beside me on my throne.**  
Who lends not his money at usury  
and accepts no bribe against the innocent.  
He who does these things  
shall never be disturbed.  
R. **I will seat the victor beside me on my throne.**

**Day 354**

# November 19, 2014

### Wednesday of the Thirty-third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 499

#### Reading 1 [RV 4:1-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/4:1)

I, John, had a vision of an open door to heaven,  
and I heard the trumpetlike voice  
that had spoken to me before, saying,  
“Come up here and I will show you what must happen afterwards.”  
At once I was caught up in spirit.   
A throne was there in heaven, and on the throne sat one  
whose appearance sparkled like jasper and carnelian.  
Around the throne was a halo as brilliant as an emerald.  
Surrounding the throne I saw twenty-four other thrones  
on which twenty-four elders sat,  
dressed in white garments and with gold crowns on their heads.  
From the throne came flashes of lightning,  
rumblings, and peals of thunder.  
Seven flaming torches burned in front of the throne,  
which are the seven spirits of God.  
In front of the throne was something that resembled  
a sea of glass like crystal.  
  
In the center and around the throne,  
there were four living creatures  
covered with eyes in front and in back.  
The first creature resembled a lion, the second was like a calf,  
the third had a face like that of a man,  
and the fourth looked like an eagle in flight.  
The four living creatures, each of them with six wings,  
were covered with eyes inside and out.  
Day and night they do not stop exclaiming:  
“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and who is, and who is to come.”  
Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks  
to the one who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever,  
the twenty-four elders fall down  
before the one who sits on the throne  
and worship him, who lives forever and ever.  
They throw down their crowns before the throne, exclaiming:  
  
“Worthy are you, Lord our God,  
to receive glory and honor and power,  
for you created all things;  
because of your will they came to be and were created.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 150:1B-2, 3-4, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/150:1)

R. (1b) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, mighty God!**  
Praise the LORD in his sanctuary,  
praise him in the firmament of his strength.  
Praise him for his mighty deeds,  
praise him for his sovereign majesty.  
R. **Holy, holy, holy Lord, mighty God!**  
Praise him with the blast of the trumpet,  
praise him with lyre and harp,  
Praise him with timbrel and dance,  
praise him with strings and pipe.  
R. **Holy, holy, holy Lord, mighty God!**  
Praise him with sounding cymbals,  
praise him with clanging cymbals.  
Let everything that has breath  
praise the LORD! Alleluia.  
R. **Holy, holy, holy Lord, mighty God!**

**Day 355**

# November 20, 2014

### Thursday of the Thirty-third Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 500

#### Reading 1 [RV 5:1-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/5:1)

I, John, saw a scroll in the right hand of the one who sat on the throne.  
It had writing on both sides and was sealed with seven seals.  
Then I saw a mighty angel who proclaimed in a loud voice,  
“Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?”  
But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth  
was able to open the scroll or to examine it.  
I shed many tears because no one was found worthy  
to open the scroll or to examine it.  
One of the elders said to me, “Do not weep.  
The lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, has triumphed,  
enabling him to open the scroll with its seven seals.”  
  
Then I saw standing in the midst of the throne  
and the four living creatures and the elders  
a Lamb that seemed to have been slain.  
He had seven horns and seven eyes;  
these are the seven spirits of God sent out into the whole world.  
He came and received the scroll from the right hand  
of the one who sat on the throne.  
When he took it,  
the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders  
fell down before the Lamb.  
Each of the elders held a harp and gold bowls filled with incense,  
which are the prayers of the holy ones.  
They sang a new hymn:  
  
“Worthy are you to receive the scroll  
and break open its seals,  
for you were slain and with your Blood you purchased for God  
those from every tribe and tongue, people and nation.  
You made them a kingdom and priests for our God,  
and they will reign on earth.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 149:1B-2, 3-4, 5-6A AND 9B](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/149:1)

R. (Rev. 5:10) **The Lamb has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God.**  
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 Lamb has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God.**  
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 Lamb has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God.**  
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 Lamb has made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God.**  
or:  
R. **Alleluia.**

**Day 356**

# November 21, 2014

### Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lectionary: 501

#### Reading 1 [RV 10:8-11](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/10:8)

I, John, heard a voice from heaven speak to me.  
Then the voice spoke to me and said:  
“Go, take the scroll that lies open in the hand of the angel  
who is standing on the sea and on the land.”  
So I went up to the angel and told him to give me the small scroll.  
He said to me, “Take and swallow it.  
It will turn your stomach sour,  
but in your mouth it will taste as sweet as honey.”  
I took the small scroll from the angel’s hand and swallowed it.  
In my mouth it was like sweet honey,  
but when I had eaten it, my stomach turned sour.  
Then someone said to me, “You must prophesy again  
about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/119:14)

R. (103a) **How sweet to my taste is your promise!**  
In the way of your decrees I rejoice,  
as much as in all riches.  
R. **How sweet to my taste is your promise!**  
Yes, your decrees are my delight;  
they are my counselors.  
R. **How sweet to my taste is your promise!**  
The law of your mouth is to me more precious  
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.  
R. **How sweet to my taste is your promise!**  
How sweet to my palate are your promises,  
sweeter than honey to my mouth!  
R. **How sweet to my taste is your promise!**  
Your decrees are my inheritance forever;  
the joy of my heart they are.  
R. **How sweet to my taste is your promise!**  
I gasp with open mouth  
in my yearning for your commands.  
R. **How sweet to my taste is your promise!**

**Day 357**

# November 22, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr Lectionary: 502

#### Reading 1 [RV 11:4-12](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/11:4)

I, John, heard a voice from heaven speak to me:  
Here are my two witnesses:  
These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands  
that stand before the Lord of the earth.  
If anyone wants to harm them, fire comes out of their mouths  
and devours their enemies.  
In this way, anyone wanting to harm them is sure to be slain.  
They have the power to close up the sky  
so that no rain can fall during the time of their prophesying.  
They also have power to turn water into blood  
and to afflict the earth with any plague as often as they wish.  
  
When they have finished their testimony,  
the beast that comes up from the abyss  
will wage war against them and conquer them and kill them.  
Their corpses will lie in the main street of the great city,  
which has the symbolic names “Sodom” and “Egypt,”  
where indeed their Lord was crucified.  
Those from every people, tribe, tongue, and nation  
will gaze on their corpses for three and a half days,  
and they will not allow their corpses to be buried.  
The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them  
and be glad and exchange gifts  
because these two prophets tormented the inhabitants of the earth.  
But after the three and a half days,  
a breath of life from God entered them.  
When they stood on their feet, great fear fell on those who saw them.  
Then they heard a loud voice from heaven say to them, “Come up here.”  
So they went up to heaven in a cloud as their enemies looked on.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 144:1, 2, 9-10](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/144:1)

R. (1b) **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 mercy 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 358**

# November 23, 2014

« [November 22](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/112214.cfm)  |  [November 24](http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/112414.cfm) »

### The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Lectionary: 160

#### Reading 1[EZ 34:11-12, 15-17](http://www.usccb.org/bible/ezekiel/34:11)

Thus says the Lord GOD:  
I myself will look after and tend my sheep.   
As a shepherd tends his flock  
when he finds himself among his scattered sheep,  
so will I tend my sheep.  
I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered  
when it was cloudy and dark.   
I myself will pasture my sheep;  
I myself will give them rest, says the Lord GOD.   
The lost I will seek out,  
the strayed I will bring back,  
the injured I will bind up,  
the sick I will heal,  
but the sleek and the strong I will destroy,  
shepherding them rightly.  
  
As for you, my sheep, says the Lord GOD,  
I will judge between one sheep and another,  
between rams and goats.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/23:1)

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.  
R/**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**  
Beside restful waters he leads me;  
he refreshes my soul.  
He guides me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
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.**

#### Reading 2[1 COR 15:20-26, 28](http://www.usccb.org/bible/1corinthians/15:20)

Brothers and sisters:  
Christ has been raised from the dead,  
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.   
For since death came through man,  
the resurrection of the dead came also through man.  
For just as in Adam all die,  
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,  
but each one in proper order:  
Christ the firstfruits;  
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;  
then comes the end,  
when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father,  
when he has destroyed every sovereignty  
and every authority and power.   
For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.   
The last enemy to be destroyed is death.  
When everything is subjected to him,  
then the Son himself will also be subjected  
to the one who subjected everything to him,  
so that God may be all in all.

**Day 359**

# November 24, 2014

### Memorial of Saint Andrew Dŭng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs Lectionary: 503

#### Reading 1 [RV 14:1-3, 4B-5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/14:1)

I, John, looked and there was the Lamb standing on Mount Zion,  
and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand  
who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads.  
I heard a sound from heaven  
like the sound of rushing water or a loud peal of thunder.  
The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps.  
They were singing what seemed to be a new hymn before the throne,  
before the four living creatures and the elders.  
No one could learn this hymn except the hundred and forty-four thousand  
who had been ransomed from the earth.  
These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever he goes.  
They have been ransomed as the first fruits  
of the human race for God and the Lamb.  
On their lips no deceit has been found; they are unblemished.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 42:1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/24:1)

R. (see 6) **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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.**Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**  
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. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

**Day 360**

# November 25, 2014

### Tuesday of the Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 504

#### Reading 1 [RV 14:14-19](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/14:14)

I, John, looked and there was a white cloud,  
and sitting on the cloud one who looked like a son of man,  
with a gold crown on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand.  
Another angel came out of the temple,  
crying out in a loud voice to the one sitting on the cloud,  
“Use your sickle and reap the harvest,  
for the time to reap has come,  
because the earth’s harvest is fully ripe.”  
So the one who was sitting on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth,  
and the earth was harvested.  
  
Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven  
who also had a sharp sickle.  
Then another angel came from the altar, who was in charge of the fire,  
and cried out in a loud voice  
to the one who had the sharp sickle,  
“Use your sharp sickle and cut the clusters from the earth’s vines,  
for its grapes are ripe.”  
So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and cut the earth’s vintage.  
He threw it into the great wine press of God’s fury.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 96:10, 11-12, 13](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/96:10)

R. (13b) **The Lord comes to judge the earth.**  
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. **The Lord comes to judge the earth.**  
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.**The Lord comes to judge the earth.**  
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 comes to judge the earth.**

**Day 361**

# November 26, 2014

### Wednesday of the Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 505

#### Reading 1 [RV 15:1-4](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/15:1)

I, John, saw in heaven another sign, great and awe-inspiring:  
seven angels with the seven last plagues,  
for through them God’s fury is accomplished.  
  
Then I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire.  
On the sea of glass were standing those  
who had won the victory over the beast  
and its image and the number that signified its name.  
They were holding God’s harps,  
and they sang the song of Moses, the servant of God,  
and the song of the Lamb:  
  
“Great and wonderful are your works,  
Lord God almighty.  
Just and true are your ways,  
O king of the nations.  
Who will not fear you, Lord,  
or glorify your name?  
For you alone are holy.  
All the nations will come  
and worship before you,  
for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 7-8, 9](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/98:1)

R. (Rev. 15: 3b) **Great and wonderful are all your works, Lord, mighty 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.**Great and wonderful are all your works, Lord, mighty 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. **Great and wonderful are all your works, Lord, mighty 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.  
R.**Great and wonderful are all your works, Lord, mighty God!**  
Before the LORD, for he comes,  
for he comes to rule the earth;  
He will rule the world with justice  
and the peoples with equity.  
R.**Great and wonderful are all your works, Lord, mighty God!**

**Day 362**

# November 27, 2014 | Thursday Of The Thirty-Fourth Week In Ordinary Time

### Thursday of the Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 506

#### Reading 1 [RV 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/18:1)

I, John, saw another angel coming down from heaven,  
having great authority,  
and the earth became illumined by his splendor.  
He cried out in a mighty voice:  
  
“Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great.  
She has become a haunt for demons.  
She is a cage for every unclean spirit,  
a cage for every unclean bird,  
a cage for every unclean and disgusting beast.”  
  
A mighty angel picked up a stone like a huge millstone  
and threw it into the sea and said:  
  
“With such force will Babylon the great city be thrown down,  
and will never be found again.  
No melodies of harpists and musicians,  
flutists and trumpeters,  
will ever be heard in you again.  
No craftsmen in any trade  
will ever be found in you again.  
No sound of the millstone  
will ever be heard in you again.  
No light from a lamp  
will ever be seen in you again.  
No voices of bride and groom  
will ever be heard in you again.  
Because your merchants were the great ones of the world,  
all nations were led astray by your magic potion.”  
  
After this I heard what sounded like  
the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying:  
  
“Alleluia!  
Salvation, glory, and might belong to our God,  
for true and just are his judgments.  
He has condemned the great harlot   
who corrupted the earth with her harlotry.  
He has avenged on her the blood of his servants.”  
  
They said a second time:  
  
“Alleluia! Smoke will rise from her forever and ever.”  
  
Then the angel said to me, “Write this:  
Blessed are those who have been called  
to the wedding feast of the Lamb.”

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 100:1B-2, 3, 4, 5](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/100:1)

R. (Rev. 19: 9a) **Blessed are they who are called to the wedding feast of the Lamb.**  
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;  
serve the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful song.  
R.**Blessed are they who are called to the wedding feast of the Lamb.**  
Know that the LORD is God;  
he made us, his we are;  
his people, the flock he tends.  
R. **Blessed are they who are called to the wedding feast of the Lamb.**  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
his courts with praise;  
Give thanks to him; bless his name.  
R.**Blessed are they who are called to the wedding feast of the Lamb.**  
For he is good:  
the LORD, whose kindness endures forever,  
and his faithfulness, to all generations.  
R. **Blessed are they who are called to the wedding feast of the Lamb.**

**Day 363**

# November 28, 2014

### Friday of the Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 507

#### Reading 1 [RV 20:1-4, 11-21:2](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/20:1)

I, John, saw an angel come down from heaven,  
holding in his hand the key to the abyss and a heavy chain.  
He seized the dragon, the ancient serpent,  
which is the Devil or Satan,  
and tied it up for a thousand years and threw it into the abyss,  
which he locked over it and sealed,  
so that it could no longer lead the nations astray  
until the thousand years are completed.  
After this, it is to be released for a short time.  
  
Then I saw thrones; those who sat on them were entrusted with judgment.  
I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded  
for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God,  
and who had not worshiped the beast or its image  
nor had accepted its mark on their foreheads or hands.  
They came to life and they reigned with Christ for a thousand years.  
  
Next I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it.  
The earth and the sky fled from his presence  
and there was no place for them.  
I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne,  
and scrolls were opened.  
Then another scroll was opened, the book of life.  
The dead were judged according to their deeds,  
by what was written in the scrolls.  
The sea gave up its dead;  
then Death and Hades gave up their dead.  
All the dead were judged according to their deeds.  
Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire.  
(This pool of fire is the second death.)  
Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life  
was thrown into the pool of fire.  
  
Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth.  
The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,  
and the sea was no more.  
I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,  
coming down out of heaven from God,  
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 84:3, 4, 5-6A AND 8A](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/84:3)

R. (Rev. 21:3b)**Here God lives among his people.**  
My soul yearns and pines   
for the courts of the LORD.  
My heart and my flesh  
cry out for the living God.  
R. **Here God lives among his people.**  
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.**Here God lives among his people.**  
Blessed they who dwell in your house!  
continually they praise you.  
Blessed the men whose strength you are!  
They go from strength to strength.  
R. **Here God lives among his people.**

**Day 364**

# November 29, 2014

### Saturday of the Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 509

#### Reading 1 [RV 22:1-7](http://www.usccb.org/bible/revelation/22:1)

John said:  
An angel showed me the river of life-giving water,  
sparkling like crystal, flowing from the throne of God  
and of the Lamb down the middle of the street,  
On either side of the river grew the tree of life  
that produces fruit twelve times a year, once each month;  
the leaves of the trees serve as medicine for the nations.  
Nothing accursed will be found anymore.  
The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it,  
and his servants will worship him.  
They will look upon his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.  
Night will be no more, nor will they need light from lamp or sun,  
for the Lord God shall give them light,  
and they shall reign forever and ever.  
  
And he said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true,   
and the Lord, the God of prophetic spirits,  
sent his angel to show his servants what must happen soon.”  
“Behold, I am coming soon.”  
Blessed is the one who keeps the prophetic message of this book.

#### Responsorial Psalm [PS 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7AB](http://www.usccb.org/bible/psalms/95:1)

R. (1 Cor 16: 22b, see Rev. 22: 20c) **Marana tha! Come, Lord Jesus!**  
Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;  
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.  
R. **Marana tha! Come, Lord Jesus!**  
For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great king above all gods;  
In his hands are the depths of the earth,  
and the tops of the mountains are his.  
His is the sea, for he has made it,  
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.  
R. **Marana tha! Come, Lord Jesus!**  
Come, let us bow down in worship;  
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.  
R. **Marana tha! Come, Lord Jesus!**