

ORDINARY TIME III



SUNDAY MISSAL

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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Cf. Ps 68 (67):6-7, 36)

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray *(pause)*

O God, protector of those who hope in you,
without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is
holy,
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may use the good things that pass
in such a way as to hold fast even now
to those that ever endure.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS *(see pp. 3-12)*

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings
which we bring from the abundance of your gifts,
that through the powerful working of your grace
these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way
of life

and lead us to eternal gladness.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Ps 103(102):2)

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

Or

(Mt 5:7-8)

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray *(pause)*

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament,
the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son;
grant, we pray, that this gift,
which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling,
may profit us for salvation.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*You have asked for wisdom.*)

A reading from the first Book of Kings

(3:5, 7-12)

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." —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (119:57,72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130)

R. Lord, I love your commands. (*Ps 119:97a*)

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*)

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*)

For I love your commands more than gold, however fine. For in all your precepts I go forward; every false way I hate. (*R*)

Wonderful are your decrees; therefore I observe them. The revelation of your words sheds light, giving understanding to the simple. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*God predestined us to be conformed to the image of his Son.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (8:28-30)

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. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. Mt 11:25*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you Father, Lord of heaven and earth; for you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

(R)

(Long Form)

GOSPEL (*He sells all that he has and buys the field.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (13:44-52)

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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Short Form)

GOSPEL (*He sells all that he has and buys the field.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (13:44-46)

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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*They shall eat and there shall be some left over.*)

A reading from the second Book of Kings (4:42-44)

A man came from Baal-shalishah bringing to Elisha, the man of God, twenty barley loaves made from the firstfruits, and fresh grain in the ear. Elisha said, "Give it to the people to eat." But his servant objected, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" Elisha insisted, "Give it to the people to eat. For thus says the Lord, 'They shall eat and there shall be some left over.'" And when they had eaten, there was some left over, as the Lord had said. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18)

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs. (*Cf. Ps 145:16*)

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 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 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*)

SECOND READING (*One body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (4:1-6)

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. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Lk 7:16*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

A great prophet has risen in our midst. God has visited his people. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*He distributed as much as they wanted to those who were reclining.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:1-15)

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. — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*Let not my Lord grow angry if I speak.*)

A reading from the Book of Genesis

(18:20-32)

In those days, the Lord said: "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great, and their sin so grave, that I must go down and see whether or not their actions fully correspond to the cry against them that comes to me. I mean to find out."

While Abraham's visitors walked on farther toward Sodom, the Lord remained standing before Abraham. Then Abraham drew nearer and said: "Will you sweep away the innocent with the guilty? Suppose there were fifty innocent people in the city; would you wipe out the place, rather than spare it for the sake of the fifty innocent people within it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to make the innocent die with the guilty, so that the innocent and the guilty would be treated alike! Should not the judge of all the world act with justice?" The Lord replied, "If I find fifty innocent people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." Abraham spoke up again: "See how I am presuming to speak to my Lord, though I am but dust and ashes! What if there are five less than fifty innocent people? Will you destroy the whole city because of those five?" He answered, "I will not destroy it, if I find forty-five there." But Abraham persisted, saying, "What if only forty are found there?" He replied, "I will forebear doing it for the sake of the forty." Then Abraham said, "Let not my Lord grow impatient if I go on. What if only thirty are found there?" He replied, "I will forebear doing it if I can find but thirty there." Still Abraham went on, "Since

I have thus dared to speak to my Lord, what if there are no more than twenty?" The Lord answered, "I will not destroy it, for the sake of the twenty." But he still persisted: "Please, let not my Lord grow angry if I speak up this last time. What if there are at least ten there?" He replied, "For the sake of those ten, I will not destroy it." —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8)

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me. (*Ps 138:3a*)

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*)

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*)

The Lord is exalted, yet the lowly he sees, and the proud he knows from afar. Though I walk amid distress, you preserve me; against the anger of my enemies you raise your hand. (*R*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*God has brought you to life along with Christ, having forgiven us all our transgressions.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians (2:12-14)

Brothers and sisters: You were buried with Christ in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And even when you were dead in transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, he brought you to life along with him, having forgiven us all our transgressions; obliterating the bond against us, with its legal claims, which was opposed to us, he also removed it from our midst, nailing it to the cross. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Rom 8:15bc*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

You have received a Spirit of adoption, through which we cry, Abba, Father. (R)

GOSPEL (*Ask and you will receive.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (11:1-13)

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread and forgive us our sins for we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us, and do not subject us to the final test."

And he said to them, "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 the visitor 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?" —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Ps 70 (69):2, 6)

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray *(pause)*

Draw near to your servants, O Lord,
and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness,
that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide,
you may restore what you have created
and keep safe what you have restored.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS *(see pp. 15-23)*

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray,
and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice,
make of us an eternal offering to you.
Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Wis 16:20)

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

Or

(Jn 6:35)

I am the bread of life, says the Lord;
whoever comes to me will not hunger
and whoever believes in me will not thirst.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

Accompany with constant protection, O Lord,
those you renew with these heavenly gifts
and, in your never-failing care for them,
make them worthy of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*Hasten and eat.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (55:1-3)

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. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18)

R. The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs. (*Cf. Ps 145:16*)

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 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 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*)

SECOND READING *(No creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.)*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (8:35, 37-39)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Mt 4:4b)*

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. (R)

GOSPEL *(They all ate and were satisfied.)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (14:13-21)

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. —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*I will rain down bread from heaven for you.*)

A reading from the Book of Exodus (16:2-4, 12-15)

The whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, “Would that we had died at the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, as we sat by our fleshpots and ate our fill of bread! But you had to lead us into this desert to make the whole community die of famine!”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I will now rain down bread from heaven for you. Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not.

“I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them: In the evening twilight you shall eat flesh, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread, so that you may know that I, the Lord, am your God.”

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp.

In the morning a dew lay all about the camp, and when the dew evaporated, there on the surface of the desert were fine flakes like hoarfrost on the ground. On seeing it, the Israelites asked one another, "What is this?" for they did not know what it was. But Moses told them, "This is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat." —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (78:3-4, 23-24, 25,54)

R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven. (*Ps 78:24b*)

What we have heard and know, and what our fathers have declared to us, we will declare to the generation to come, the glorious deeds of the Lord and his strength and the wonders that he wrought. (*R*)

He commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven; he rained manna upon them for food and gave them heavenly bread. (*R*)

Man ate the bread of angels, food he sent them in abundance. And he brought them to his holy land, to the mountains his right hand had won. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Put on the new self that has been created in God's way.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (4:17, 20-24)

Brothers and sisters: I declare and testify in the Lord that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds; that is not how you learned Christ, assuming that you have heard of him and were taught in

him, as truth is in Jesus, that you should put away the old self of your former way of life, corrupted through deceitful desires, and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self, created in God's way in righteousness and holiness of truth. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Mt 4:4b*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*Whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:24-35)

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." So they said to him, "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 him, "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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*What profit comes to a man from all his toil?*)

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes (1:2; 2:21-23)

Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth, vanity of vanities!
All things are vanity!

Here is one who has labored with wisdom and knowledge and skill, and yet to another who has not labored over it, he must leave property. This also is vanity and a great misfortune. For what profit comes to man from all the toil and anxiety of heart with which he has labored under the sun? All his days sorrow and grief is his occupation; even at night his mind is not at rest. This also is vanity. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13)

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (*Ps*
95:8)

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*)

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*)

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*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*Seek what is above, where Christ is.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians (3:1-5, 9-11)

Brothers and sisters: If 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.

Put to death, then, the parts of you that are earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry. Stop lying to one another, since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on

the new self, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all and in all. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Mt 5:3*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*The things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (12:13-21)

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 all who store

up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Cf. Ps 74 (73):20, 19, 22, 23)

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray *(pause)*

Almighty ever-living God,
whom, taught by the Holy Spirit,
we dare to call our Father,
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts
the spirit of adoption as your sons and daughters,
that we may merit to enter into the inheritance
which you have promised.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS *(see pp. 26-37)*

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, to accept the offerings of your Church,
for in your mercy you have given them to be offered
and by your power you transform them
into the mystery of our salvation.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Ps 147: 12, 14)

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Or

(Cf. Jn 6:51)

The bread that I will give, says the Lord,
is my flesh for the life of the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray *(pause)*

May the communion in your Sacrament
that we have consumed, save us, O Lord,
and confirm us in the light of your truth.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*Go outside and stand on the mountain before the Lord.*)

A reading from the first Book of Kings (19:9a, 11-13a)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (85:9,10, 11-12, 13-14)

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. (*Ps 85:8*)

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*)

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*)

R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85:8)

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)

SECOND READING (*I could wish that I were accursed for the sake of my own people.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (9:1-5)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. Ps 130:5*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for his word. (R)

GOSPEL (*Command me to come to you on the water.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (14:22-33)

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." — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*Strengthened by that food, he walked to the mountain of God.*)

A reading from the first Book of Kings (19:4-8)

Elijah went a day's journey into the desert, until he came to a broom tree and sat beneath it. He prayed for death, saying: "This is enough, O Lord! Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers." He lay down and fell asleep under the broom tree, but then an angel touched him and ordered him to get up and eat. Elijah looked and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. After he ate and drank, he lay down again, but the angel of the Lord came back a second time, touched him, and ordered, "Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you!" He got up, ate and drank; then strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God, Horeb. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9)

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (*Ps 34:9a*)

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*)

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*)

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (*Ps 34:9a*)

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may not blush with shame. When the afflicted man called out, the Lord heard, and from all his distress he saved him. (*R*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*Walk in love, just like Christ.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (4:30-5:2)

Brothers and sisters: Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were sealed for the day of redemption. All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and reviling must be removed from you, along with all malice. And be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.

So 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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Jn 6:51*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live forever. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*I am the living bread that came down from heaven.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:41-51)

The Jews murmured about Jesus because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven," and they said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? Do we not know his father and mother? Then how can he say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Stop murmuring among yourselves. 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*Just as you punished our adversaries, you glorified us whom you had summoned.*)

A reading from the Book of Wisdom (18:6-9)

The night of the passover was known beforehand to our fathers, that, with sure knowledge of the oaths in which they put their faith, they might have courage. Your people awaited the salvation of the just and the destruction of their foes. For when you punished our adversaries, in this you glorified us whom you had summoned. For in secret the holy children of the good were offering sacrifice and putting into effect with one accord the divine institution. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (33:1,12, 18-19, 20-22)

R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.
(*Ps 33:12b*)

Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting. Blessed the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen for his own inheritance. (*R*)

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*)

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*)

(Long Form)

SECOND READING (*Abraham looked forward to the city whose architect and maker is God.*)

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (11:1-2, 8-19)

Brothers and sisters: Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen. Because of it the ancients were well attested.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he sojourned in the promised land as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs of the same promise; for he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and maker is God. By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age—and Sarah herself was sterile—for he thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy. So it was that there came forth from one man, himself as good as dead, descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sands on the seashore.

All these died in faith. They did not receive what had been promised but saw it and greeted it from afar and acknowledged themselves to be strangers and aliens on earth, for those who speak thus show that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land from which they had come, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better homeland, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready

to offer his only son, of whom it was said, “Through Isaac descendants shall bear your name.” He reasoned that God was able to raise even from the dead, and he received Isaac back as a symbol. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

(Short Form)

SECOND READING (*Abraham looked forward to the city whose architect and maker is God.*)

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (11:1-2, 8-12)

Brothers and sisters: Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen. Because of it the ancients were well attested.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he sojourned in the promised land as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs of the same promise; for he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and maker is God. By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age—and Sarah herself was sterile—for he thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy. So it was that there came forth from one man, himself as good as dead, descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sands on the seashore. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Mt 24:42a, 44*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia

Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day the Son of Man will come. (R)

(Long Form)

GOSPEL (*You also must be prepared.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (12:32-48)

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your belongings and give alms. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

"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. 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, the master will put the servant 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Short Form)

GOSPEL (*You also must be prepared.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (12:35-40)

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. 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Ps 84 (83):10-11)

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray (*pause*)

O God, who have prepared for those who love you
good things which no eye can see,
fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love,
so that, loving you in all things and above all things,
we may attain your promises,
which surpass every human desire.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS (*see pp. 40-47*)

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive our oblation, O Lord,
by which is brought about a glorious exchange,
that, by offering what you have given,
we may merit to receive your very self.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Ps 130 (129):7)

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

Or

(Jn 6:51-52)

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the
Lord.

Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments,
we humbly implore your mercy, Lord,
that, conformed to his image on earth,
we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*I will bring foreigners to my holy mountain.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (56:1, 6-7)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (67:2-3, 5, 6,8)

R. O God, let all the nations praise you! (*Ps 67:4*)

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 the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth you guide. (*R*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*The gifts and the call of God for Israel are irrevocable.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

(11:13-15, 29-32)

Brothers and sisters: I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. Mt 4:23*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people. (R)

GOSPEL (*O woman, great is your faith!*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (15:21-28)

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. — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*Come, eat of my food and drink of the wine I have mixed.*)

A reading from the Book of Proverbs (9:1-6)

Wisdom has built her house, she has set up her seven columns; she has dressed her meat, mixed her wine, yes, she has spread her table. She has sent out her maidens; she calls from the heights out over the city: "Let whoever is simple turn in here; to the one who lacks understanding, she says, Come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed! Forsake foolishness that you may live; advance in the way of understanding." — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7)

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (*Ps 34:9a*)

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*)

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*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*Understand what is the will of the Lord.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (5:15-20)

Brothers and sisters: Watch carefully how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord. And do not get drunk on wine, in which lies debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Jn 6:56*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*My flesh is true food and my blood is true drink.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:51-58)

Jesus said to the 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*A man of strife and contention to all the land.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (38:4-6, 8-10)

In those days, the princes said to the king: "Jeremiah ought to be put to death; he is demoralizing the soldiers who are left in this city, and all the people, by speaking such things to them; he is not interested in the welfare of our people, but in their ruin." King Zedekiah answered: "He is in your power"; for the king could do nothing with them. And so they took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern of Prince Malchiah, which was in the quarters of the guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the cistern, only mud, and Jeremiah sank into the mud.

Ebed-melech, a court official, went there from the palace and said to him: "My lord king, these men have been at fault in all they have done to the prophet Jeremiah, casting him into the cistern. He will die of famine on the spot, for there is no more food in the city." Then the king ordered Ebed-melech the Cushite to take three men along with him, and draw the prophet Jeremiah out of the cistern before he should die. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (40:2, 3, 4, 18)

R. Lord, come to my aid! (*Ps 40:14b*)

I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me. (*R*)

R. Lord, come to my aid! (*Ps 40:14b*)

The Lord heard my cry. He drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the mud of the swamp; he set my feet upon a crag; he made firm my steps. (*R*)

And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God. Many shall look on in awe and trust in the Lord. (*R*)

Though I am afflicted and poor, yet the Lord thinks of me. You are my help and my deliverer; O my God, hold not back! (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Let us persevere in running the race that lies before us.*)

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (12:1-4)

Brothers and sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God. Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Jn 10:27*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*I have come not to establish peace, but rather division.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (12:49-53)

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."
—The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Cf. Ps 86 (85):1-3)

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day
long.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray *(pause)*

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful
to unite in a single purpose,
grant your people to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, amid the uncertainties of this world,
our hearts may be fixed on that place
where true gladness is found.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS *(see pp. 50-59)*

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption
through the one sacrifice offered once for all,
bestow graciously on us, we pray,
the gifts of unity and peace in your Church.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Ps 104 (103):13-15)

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.

Or

(Jn 6:54)

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
has eternal life, says the Lord,
and I will raise him up on the last day.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray,
the healing work of your mercy
and graciously perfect and sustain us,
so that in all things we may please you.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*I will place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (22:19-23)

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 Hilkiyah; 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." —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (138:1-2, 2-3, 6,8)

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands. (*Ps 138:8bc*)

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*)

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*)

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands. (*Ps 138:8bc*)

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)

SECOND READING (*From God and through him and for him are all things.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (11:33-36)

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 Lord or who has been his counselor? Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?* For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Mt 16:18*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. (R)

GOSPEL (*You are Peter, and to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (16:13-20)

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. —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*We will serve the Lord, for he is our God.*)

A reading from the Book of Joshua (24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b)

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges and their officers. When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people: “If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

But the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods. For it was the Lord, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed

those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.” —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21)

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (*Ps 34:9a*)

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 has eyes for the just, and ears for their cry. The Lord confronts the evildoers, to destroy remembrance of them from the earth. (*R*)

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*)

Many are the troubles of the just one, but out of them all the Lord delivers him; he watches over all his bones; not one of them shall be broken. (*R*)

(Long Form)

SECOND READING (*This is a great mystery, regarding Christ and the Church.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (5:21-32)

Brothers and sisters: Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, he himself the savior of the body. As the church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. *For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.* This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

(Short Form)

SECOND READING (*This is a great mystery, regarding Christ and the Church.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians (5:2a, 25-32)

Brothers and sisters: Live in love, as Christ loved us. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. *For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.* This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Jn 6:63c, 68c*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (6:60-69)

Many of Jesus' disciples 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 accompanied 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (66:18-21)

Thus says the Lord: I know their works and their thoughts, and I come to gather nations of every language; they shall come and see my glory. I will set a sign among

them; from them I will send fugitives to the nations: to Tarshish, Put and Lud, Mosoch, Tubal and Javan, to the distant coastlands that have never heard of my fame, or seen my glory; and they shall proclaim my glory among the nations. They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on horses and in chariots, in carts, upon mules and dromedaries, to Jerusalem, my holy mountain, says the Lord, just as the Israelites bring their offering to the house of the Lord in clean vessels. Some of these I will take as priests and Levites, says the Lord. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(117:1, 2)

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

Or Alleluia.

Praise the Lord, all you nations; glorify him, all you peoples! (*R*)

For steadfast is his kindness toward us, and the fidelity of the Lord endures forever. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Those whom the Lord loves, he disciplines.*)

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

(12:5-7, 11-13)

Brothers and sisters, You have forgotten the exhortation addressed to you as children: “My son, do not disdain the discipline of the Lord or lose heart when reproved by him; for whom the Lord loves, he disciplines; he scourges every son he acknowledges.” Endure your trials as “discipline”; God treats you as sons. For what

“son” is there whom his father does not discipline? At the time, all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it.

So strengthen your drooping hands and your weak knees. Make straight paths for your feet, that what is lame may not be disjointed but healed. — The Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Jn 14:6*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. (R)

GOSPEL (*They will come from east and west and recline at table in the kingdom of God.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (13:22-30)

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.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Cf. Ps 86 (85):3, 5)

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray (*pause*)

God of might, giver of every good gift,
put into our hearts the love of your name,
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,
you may nurture in us what is good
and, by your watchful care,
keep safe what you have nurtured.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS (*see pp. 62-70*)

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacred offering, O Lord,
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,
that what it celebrates in mystery
it may accomplish in power.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Ps 31 (30):20)

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

Or

(Mt 5:9-10)

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray *(pause)*

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbor.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*The word of the Lord has brought me derision.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (20:7-9)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9)

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God. (*Ps 63:2b*)

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*)

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*)

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*)

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God. (*Ps 63:2b*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (12:1-2)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. Eph 1:17-18*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (16:21-27)

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 everyone according to his conduct.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*You shall not add to what I command you...Keep the commands of the Lord.*)

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy (4:1-2, 6-8)

Moses said to the people: “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. In your observance of the commandments of the Lord, your God, which I enjoin upon you, you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it. 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?" —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5)

R. The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord. (*Ps 15:1a*)

Whoever walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart and slanders not with his tongue. (*R*)

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 lends not his money at usury and accepts no bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things shall never be disturbed. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Be doers of the word.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint James (1:17-18, 21b-22, 27)

Dearest 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.

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.

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. —
The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Jas 1:18)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Father willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. (R)

GOSPEL (*You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23)

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 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.

“From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*Humble yourself and you will find favor with God.*)

A reading from the Book of Sirach (3:17-18, 20, 28-29)

My child, conduct your affairs with humility, and you will be loved more than a giver of gifts. Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God. What is too sublime for you, seek not, into things beyond your strength search not. The mind of a sage appreciates proverbs, and an attentive ear is the joy of the wise. Water quenches a flaming fire, and alms atone for sins. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11)

R. God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor. (*Cf. Ps 68:11b*)

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*)

R. God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor. (*Cf. Ps 68:11b*)

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*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*You have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God.*)

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (12:18-19, 22-24a)

Brothers and sisters: You have not approached that which could be touched and a blazing fire and gloomy darkness and storm and a trumpet blast and a voice speaking words such that those who heard begged that no message be further addressed to them. No, you have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and countless angels in festal gathering, and the assembly of the firstborn enrolled in heaven, and God the judge of all, and the spirits of the just made perfect, and Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and the sprinkled blood that speaks more eloquently than that of Abel. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Mt 11:29ab*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord, and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart. (R)

GOSPEL (*Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, everyone who humbles himself will be exalted.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (14:1, 7-14)

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully.

He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honor. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, 'Give your place to this man,' and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place. Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Then he said to the host who invited him, "When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment. Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to

repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Ps 119 (118):137, 124)

You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray (*pause*)

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS (*see pp. 73-80*)

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace,
graciously grant that, through this offering,
we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty
and, by partaking of the sacred mystery,
we may be faithfully united in mind and heart.

Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Cf. Ps 42 (41):2-3)

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Or

(Jn 8:12)

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

Grant that your faithful, O Lord,
whom you nourish and endow with life
through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament,
may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts
that we may merit an eternal share in his life.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING *(If you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, I will hold you responsible for his death.)*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel (33:7-9)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9)

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. *(Ps 95:8)*

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)*

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)*

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)*

SECOND READING (*Love is the fulfillment of the law.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (13:8-10)

Brothers and sisters: Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*2 Cor 5:19*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. (R)

GOSPEL (*If your brother or sister listens to you, you have won them over.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (18:15-20)

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.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING *(The ears of those who are deaf will be cleared; and the tongue of those who are mute will sing.)*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (35:4-7a)

Thus says the Lord: 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. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the steppe. The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (146:7, 8-9, 9-10)

R. Praise the Lord, my soul! (*Ps 146:1b*)

Or Alleluia.

The God of Jacob keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets captives free. (*R*)

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*)

R. Praise the Lord, my soul! (*Ps 146:1b*)

Or Alleluia.

The fatherless and the widow the Lord sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts. The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Did not God choose the poor to be heirs of the kingdom?*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint James (2:1-5)

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 in 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? — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. Mt 4:23*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (7:31-37)

Again 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*Who can conceive what the Lord intends?*)

A reading from the Book of Wisdom (9:13-18b)

Who can know God's counsel, or who can conceive what the Lord intends? For the deliberations of mortals are timid, and unsure are our plans. For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns. And scarce do we guess the things on earth, and what is within our grasp we find with difficulty; but when things are in heaven, who can search them out? Or who ever knew your counsel, except you had

given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus were the paths of those on earth made straight. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17)

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge. (*Ps 90:1*)

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*)

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*)

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*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*Receive him no longer as a slave but as a beloved brother.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Philemon (9-10, 12-17)

I, Paul, an old man, and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus, urge you on behalf of my child Onesimus, whose father I have become in my imprisonment; 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. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Ps 119:135*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Let your face shine upon your servant; and teach me your laws. (R)

GOSPEL (*Anyone of you who does not renounce all possessions cannot be my disciple.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (14:25-33)

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to

finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Cf. *Sir* 36:18)

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray (*pause*)

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS (*see pp. 83-94*)

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look with favor on our supplications, O Lord,
and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings,
that what each has offered to the honor of your name
may serve the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Cf. Ps 36 (35):8)

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your
wings.

Or (Cf. 1 Cor 10:16)

The chalice of blessing that we bless
is a communion in the Blood of Christ;
and the bread that we break
is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray,
take possession of our minds and bodies,
so that its effects, and not our own desires,
may always prevail in us.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.*)

A reading from the Book of Sirach (27:30-28:7)

Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight. The vengeful will suffer the Lord's vengeance, for he remembers their sins in detail. Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven. Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord? Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself, can he seek pardon for his own sins? If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath, who will forgive his sins? Remember your last days, set enmity aside; remember death and decay, and cease from sin! Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor; remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion. (*Ps 103:8*)

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*)

He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills, redeems your life from destruction, he crowns you with kindness and compassion. (*R*)

R. The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion. (*Ps 103:8*)

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*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (14:7-9)

Brothers and sisters: None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Jn 13:34*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I give you a new commandment, says the Lord; love one another as I have loved you. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*I say to you, forgive not seven times, but seventy-seven times.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (18:21-35)

Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?"

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 your brother from your heart." — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*I gave my back to those who beat me.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (50:5-9a)

The Lord God 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 the man confront me. See, the Lord God is my help; who will prove me wrong? — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9)

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living. (*Ps 116:9*)

Or Alleluia.

I love the Lord because he has heard my voice in supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called. (*R*)

The cords of death encompassed me; the snares of the netherworld seized upon me; I fell into distress and sorrow, and I called upon the name of the Lord, "O Lord, save my life!" (*R*)

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living. (*Ps*
116:9)

Or Alleluia.

Gracious is the Lord and just; yes, our God is merciful. The Lord keeps the little ones; I was brought low, and he saved me. (*R*)

For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the Lord in the land of the living. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Faith, if it does not have works, is dead.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint James (2:14-18)

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. —
The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Gal 6:14*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord through which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*You are the Christ...the Son of Man must suffer greatly.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (8:27-35)

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."

He 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

First Reading (*The Lord relented in the punishment he had threatened to inflict on his people.*)

A reading from the Book of Exodus (32:7-11, 13-14)

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!' I see how stiff-necked this people is," continued the Lord to Moses. "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? 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. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(51:3-4, 12-13, 17,19)

R. I will rise and go to my father. (*Lk 15:18*)

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 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*)

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit; a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Christ came to save sinners.*)

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy (1:12-17)

Beloved: I am grateful to him who has strengthened me, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he considered me trustworthy in appointing me to the ministry. I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and arrogant, but I have been mercifully treated because I acted out of ignorance in my unbelief. Indeed, the grace of our Lord has been abundant, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of these I am the foremost. But for that reason I was mercifully treated, so that in me, as the foremost, Christ Jesus might display all his patience as an example for those who would come to believe in him for everlasting life. To the king of ages,

incorruptible, invisible, the only God, honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*2 Cor 5:19*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. (R)

(Long Form)

GOSPEL (*There will be great joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (15:1-32)

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 he addressed this parable. "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy and, upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

"Or what woman having ten coins and losing one would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it, she calls together her friends and neighbors and says to

them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.' In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Then he said, "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.’” — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Short Form)

GOSPEL *(There will be great joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (15:1-10)

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 he addressed this parable. “What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy and, upon his

arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

"Or what woman having ten coins and losing one would not light a lamp and sweep the house, searching carefully until she finds it? And when she does find it, she calls together her friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found the coin that I lost.' In just the same way, I tell you, there will be rejoicing among the angels of God over one sinner who repents." — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray (*pause*)

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred
Law

upon love of you and of our neighbor,
grant that, by keeping your precepts,
we may merit to attain eternal life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

READINGS (*see pp. 97-105*)

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive with favor, O Lord, we pray,
the offerings of your people,
that what they profess with devotion and faith
may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Ps 119 (118):4-5)

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

Or

(Jn 10:14)

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

Graciously raise up, O Lord,
those you renew with this Sacrament,
that we may come to possess your redemption
both in mystery and in the manner of our life.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*My thoughts are not your thoughts.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (55:6-9)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18)

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him. (*Ps 145:18a*)

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, 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 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*)

SECOND READING (*For me to live is Christ.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

(1:20c-24, 27a)

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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. Acts 16:14b*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. (R)

GOSPEL (*Are you envious because I am generous?*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (20:1-16a)

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." —The Gospel of the Lord.
 R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*Let us condemn him to a shameful death.*)

A reading from the Book of Wisdom (2:12, 17-20)

The wicked say: 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. 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, God will defend him and deliver him from the hand of his foes. With revilement and torture let us put the just one 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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(54:3-4, 5, 6-8)

R. The Lord upholds my life. (*Ps 54:6b*)

O God, by your name save me, and by your might defend my cause. O God, hear my prayer; listen to the words of my mouth. (*R*)

For the haughty men have risen up against me, the ruthless seek my life; they set not God before their eyes. (*R*)

Behold, God is my helper; the Lord sustains my life. Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint James

(3:16-4:3)

Beloved: 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.

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. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. 2 Thes 2:14*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God has called us through the Gospel to possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*The Son of Man is to be handed over...Whoever wishes to be first will be the servant of all.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (9:30-37)

Jesus and his disciples 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. 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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*Against those who buy the poor for money.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos (8:4-7)

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 ephah, add to the shekel, and fix our scales for cheating! We will buy the lowly for silver, and the poor for a pair of sandals; even the refuse of the wheat we will sell!" The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Never will I forget a thing they have done! —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8)

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor. (*Cf. Ps 113:1a, 7b*)

Or 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)

R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor. (*Cf. Ps 113:1a, 7b*)
Or Alleluia.

High above all nations is the Lord; above the heavens is his glory. Who is like the Lord, our God, who is enthroned on high and looks upon the heavens and the earth below? (*R*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*Let prayers be offered for everyone to God who wills everyone to be saved.*)

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy (2:1-8)

Beloved: First of all, I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone, for kings and for all in authority, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all devotion and dignity. This is good and pleasing to God our savior, who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth. For there is one God. There is also one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as ransom for all. This was the testimony at the proper time. For this I was appointed preacher and apostle—I am speaking the truth, I am not lying— teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

It is my wish, then, that in every place the men should pray, lifting up holy hands, without anger or argument.— The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. 2 Cor 8:9*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. (*R*)

(Long Form)

GOSPEL (*You cannot serve both God and mammon.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (16:1-13)

Jesus said to his disciples, "A rich man had a steward who was reported to him for squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another the steward said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' The steward said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently.

"For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest

wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant 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 both God and mammon.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Short Form)

GOSPEL (*You cannot serve both God and mammon.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (16:10-13)

Jesus said to his disciples: “The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant 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 both God and mammon.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Dn 3:31, 29, 30, 43, 42)

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgment,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray *(pause)*

O God, who manifest your almighty power
above all by pardoning and showing mercy,
bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us
and make those hastening to attain your promises
heirs to the treasures of heaven.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS *(see pp. 108-116)*

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, O merciful God,
that this our offering may find acceptance with you
and that through it the wellspring of all blessing
may be laid open before us.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 149-154)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Cf. Ps 119 (118):49-50)

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Or

(1 Jn 3:16)

By this we came to know the love of God:
that Christ laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord,
restore us in mind and body,
that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ,
to whose suffering we are united
whenever we proclaim his Death.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IN ORDINARY TIME

(see pp. 155-159)

READINGS

Year A

FIRST READING (*By turning from wickedness, a wicked person shall preserve his life.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel (18:25-28)

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, and 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. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9)

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord. (*Ps 25:6a*)

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 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*)

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*)

(Long Form)

SECOND READING (*Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians (2:1-11)

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. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

(Short Form)

SECOND READING (*Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians (2:1-5)

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. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Jn 10:27*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. (R)

GOSPEL (*He changed his mind and went. Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of heaven before you.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (21:28-32)

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 he 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." — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

FIRST READING (*Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the Lord were prophets!*)

A reading from the Book of Numbers (11:25-29)

The Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. Taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, the Lord bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied.

Now two men, one named Eldad and the other Medad, were not in the gathering but had been left in the camp. They too had been on the list, but had not gone out to the tent; yet the spirit came to rest on them also, and they prophesied in the camp. So, when a young man quickly told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp," Joshua, son of Nun, who from his youth had been Moses' aide, said, "Moses, my lord, stop them." But Moses answered him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the Lord were prophets! Would that the Lord might bestow his spirit on them all!" — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(19:8, 10, 12-13, 14)

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart. (*Ps 19:9a*)

The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decree of the Lord is trustworthy, giving wisdom to the simple. (*R*)

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true, all of them just. (*R*)

Though your servant is careful of them, very diligent in keeping them, yet who can detect failings? Cleanse me from my unknown faults! (*R*)

From wanton sin especially, restrain your servant; let it not rule over me. Then shall I be blameless and innocent of serious sin. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Your wealth has rotted away.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint James

(5:1-6)

Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire. You have stored up treasure for the last days. Behold, the wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts for the day of slaughter. You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous one; he offers you no resistance. —The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. Jn 17:17b, 17a*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Your word, O Lord, is truth; consecrate us in the truth. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*Whoever is not against us is for us. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

(9:38-43, 45, 47-48)

At that time, 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. 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 it 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'". —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

FIRST READING (*Their wanton revelry shall be done away with.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos (6:1a, 4-7)

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts: Woe to the complacent in Zion! Lying upon beds of ivory, stretched comfortably on their couches, they eat lambs taken from the flock, and calves from the stall! Improvising to the music of the harp, like David, they devise their own accompaniment. They drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the best oils; yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph! Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (146:7, 8-9, 9-10)

R. Praise the Lord, my soul! (*Ps 146:1b*)

Or Alleluia.

Blessed is he who keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets captives free. (*R*)

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*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*Keep the commandment until the appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ.*)

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy (6:11-16)

But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession, to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ that the blessed and only ruler will make manifest at the proper time, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, and whom no human being has seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal power. Amen. — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Cf. 2 Cor 8:9*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. (R)

GOSPEL (*You received what was good, Lazarus what was bad; now he is comforted, whereas you are tormented.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (16:19-31)

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.'" —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

6 August

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Feast

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Cf. Mt 17:5)

In a resplendent cloud the Holy Spirit appeared.
The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray (*pause*)

O God, who in the glorious Transfiguration
of your Only Begotten Son
confirmed the mysteries of faith by the witness of the
Fathers
and wonderfully prefigured our full adoption to sonship,
grant, we pray, to your servants,
that, listening to the voice of your beloved Son,
we may merit to become co-heirs with him.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS (*see pp. 120-124*)

When this Feast falls on a Sunday, the Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Sanctify, O Lord, we pray,
these offerings here made to celebrate
the glorious Transfiguration of your Only Begotten Son,
and by his radiant splendor
cleanse us from the stains of sin.
Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

PREFACE

(The mystery of the Transfiguration.)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.

For he revealed his glory in the presence of chosen witnesses
and filled with the greatest splendor that bodily form
which he shares with all humanity,
that the scandal of the Cross
might be removed from the hearts of his disciples
and that he might show
how in the Body of the whole Church is to be fulfilled
what so wonderfully shone forth first in its Head.

And so, with the Powers of heaven,
we worship you constantly on earth,
and before your majesty
without end we acclaim:

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Cf. 1 Jn 3:2)

When Christ appears, we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

May the heavenly nourishment we have received,
O Lord, we pray,
transform us into the likeness of your Son,
whose radiant splendor you willed to make manifest
in his glorious Transfiguration.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

READINGS

FIRST READING (*His clothing was snow bright.*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel (7:9-10, 13-14)

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.—The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (97:1-2, 5-6, 9)

R. The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth. (*Ps 97:1a and 9a*)

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*)

R. The Lord is king, the Most High over all the earth. (*Ps 97:1a and 9a*)

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*)

Because you, O Lord, are the Most High over all the earth, exalted far above all gods. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven.*)

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Peter (1:16-19)

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.—The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Mt 17:5c*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him. (*R*)

Year A

GOSPEL (*His face shone like the sun.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (17:1-9)

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." — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year B

GOSPEL (*This is my beloved Son.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (9:2-10)

Jesus took Peter, James, and his brother John, and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.—The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Year C

GOSPEL (*While Jesus was praying his face changed in appearance.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (9:28b-36)

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up a mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen. — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

15 August

**THE ASSUMPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Solemnity

At the Vigil Mass

This Mass is used on the evening of 14 August, either before or after First Vespers (Evening Prayer I) of the Solemnity.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary,
who today were exalted above the choirs of Angels
into eternal triumph with Christ.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray (*pause*)

O God, who, looking on the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
raised her to this grace,
that your Only Begotten Son was born of her according to the flesh
and that she was crowned this day with surpassing glory,
grant through her prayers,
that, saved by the mystery of your redemption,
we may merit to be exalted by you on high.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

Ordinary Time

READINGS (*see pp. 129-131*)

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive, we pray, O Lord,
the sacrifice of conciliation and praise,
which we celebrate on the Assumption of the holy Mother
of God,
that it may lead us to your pardon
and confirm us in perpetual thanksgiving.
Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

PREFACE

(The Glory of Mary assumed into heaven.)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.

For today the Virgin Mother of God
was assumed into heaven
as the beginning and image
of your Church's coming to perfection
and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people;
rightly you would not allow her
to see the corruption of the tomb
since from her own body she marvelously brought forth
your incarnate Son, the Author of all life.

And so, in company with the choirs of Angels,
we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Cf. Lk 11:27)

Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary,
which bore the Son of the eternal Father.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

Having partaken of this heavenly table,
we beseech your mercy, Lord our God,
that we, who honor the Assumption of the Mother of God,
may be freed from every threat of harm.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING

Bow down for the blessing.

(The priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)

May God, who through the childbearing of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
willed in his great kindness to redeem the human
race,
be pleased to enrich you with his blessing.
R. Amen.

May you know always and everywhere the protection
of her,
through whom you have been found worthy to receive
the author of life.

R. Amen.

May you, who have devoutly gathered on this day,
carry away with you the gifts of spiritual joys and
heavenly rewards.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

READINGS

FIRST READING (*They brought in the ark of God and set it within the tent which David had pitched for it.*)

A reading from the first Book of Chronicles (15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2)

David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring the ark of the Lord to the place that he had prepared for it. David also called together the sons of Aaron and the Levites.

The Levites bore the ark of God on their shoulders with poles, as Moses had ordained according to the word of the Lord. David commanded the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their kinsmen as chanters, to play on musical instruments, harps, lyres, and cymbals, to make a loud sound of rejoicing.

They brought in the ark of God and set it within the tent which David had pitched for it. Then they offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings to God. When David had finished offering up the burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord.—
The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14)

R. Lord, go up to the place of your rest, you and the ark of your holiness. (*Ps 132:8*)

Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jaar. Let us enter his dwelling, let us worship at his footstool. (*R*)

R. Lord, go up to the place of your rest, you and the ark of your holiness. (*Ps 132:8*)

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*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*God gave us the victory through Jesus Christ.*)

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

(15:54b-57)

Brothers and sisters: When that which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about:

Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

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

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*Lk 11:28*)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are they who hear the word of God and observe it. (*R*)

GOSPEL (*Blessed is the womb that carried you!*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (11:27-28)

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." —The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

15 August
THE ASSUMPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Solemnity

At the Mass during the Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Cf. Rev 12:1)

A great sign appeared in heaven:
a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her
feet,
and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Or

Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
as we celebrate the feast day in honor of the Virgin Mary,
at whose Assumption the Angels rejoice
and praise the Son of God.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray *(pause)*

Almighty ever-living God,
who assumed the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother of
your Son,
body and soul into heavenly glory,
grant, we pray,
that, always attentive to the things that are above,
we may merit to be sharers of her glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

READINGS (*see pp. 136-139*)

The Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, our tribute of homage,
rise up to you, O Lord,
and, through the intercession of the most Blessed Virgin
Mary,
whom you assumed into heaven,
may our hearts, aflame with the fire of love,
constantly long for you.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE

(The Glory of Mary assumed into heaven.)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.

For today the Virgin Mother of God
was assumed into heaven
as the beginning and image
of your Church's coming to perfection
and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people;
rightly you would not allow her
to see the corruption of the tomb
since from her own body she marvelously brought forth
your incarnate Son, the Author of all life.

And so, in company with the choirs of Angels,
we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Lk 1:48-49)

All generations will call me blessed,
for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray (*pause*)

Having received the Sacrament of salvation,
we ask you to grant, O Lord,
that, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
whom you assumed into heaven,
we may be brought to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING

Bow down for the blessing.

(The priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)

May God, who through the childbearing of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
willed in his great kindness to redeem the human race,
be pleased to enrich you with his blessing.
R. Amen.

May you know always and everywhere the protection of
her,
through whom you have been found worthy to receive
the author of life.
R. Amen.

May you, who have devoutly gathered on this day,
carry away with you the gifts of spiritual joys and
heavenly rewards.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

READINGS

FIRST READING (*A woman clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet.*)

A reading from the Book of Revelation (11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab)

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

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

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

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(45:10, 11, 12, 16)

R. The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.
(*Ps 45:10bc*)

Hear, O daughter, and see; turn your ear, forget your people
and your father's house. (*R*)

So shall the king desire your beauty; for he is your lord. (*R*)

They are borne in with gladness and joy; they enter the
palace of the king. (*R*)

SECOND READING (*Christ, the firstfruits; then those who belong to him.*)

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

(15:20-27)

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." — The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Mary is taken up to heaven; a chorus of angels exults. (R)

GOSPEL (*The Almighty has done great things for me; he has raised up the lowly.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (1:39-56)

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.—The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

14 September

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Feast

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(Cf. Gal 6:14)

We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection,
through whom we are saved and delivered.

The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

COLLECT

Let us pray *(pause)*

O God, who willed that your Only Begotten Son
should undergo the Cross to save the human race,
grant, we pray,
that we, who have known his mystery on earth,
may merit the grace of his redemption in heaven.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. R. Amen.

READINGS *(see pp. 143-145)*

When this Feast falls on a Sunday, the Creed is said.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, O Lord,
which on the altar of the Cross
canceled the offense of the whole world,
cleanse us, we pray, of all our sins.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

PREFACE

(The victory of the glorious Cross.)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you placed the salvation of the human race
on the wood of the Cross,
so that, where death arose,
life might again spring forth
and the evil one, who conquered on a tree,
might likewise on a tree be conquered,
through Christ our Lord.

Through him the Angels praise your majesty,
Dominions adore and Powers tremble before you.
Heaven and the Virtues of heaven and the blessed
Seraphim
worship together with exultation.

May our voices, we pray, join with theirs
in humble praise, as we acclaim:
Or

PREFACE OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

(The power of the Cross)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For through the saving Passion of your Son
the whole world has received a heart
to confess the infinite power of your majesty,
since by the wondrous power of the Cross
your judgment on the world is now revealed
and the authority of Christ crucified.

And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints,
we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

(Jn 12:32)

When I am lifted up from the earth,
I will draw everyone to myself, says the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray *(pause)*

Having been nourished by your holy banquet,
we beseech you, Lord Jesus Christ,
to bring those you have redeemed
by the wood of your life-giving Cross
to the glory of the resurrection.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

READINGS

FIRST READING (*Whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.*)

A reading from the Book of Numbers (21:4b-9)

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.—The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38)

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord! (*Cf. Ps 78:7b*)

Listen, my people, to my teachings; 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*)

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord! (*Cf. Ps 78:7b*)

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*)

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*)

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*)

SECOND READING (*He humbled himself; because of this God greatly exalted him.*)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians (2:6-11)

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 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.—The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world. (R)

GOSPEL (*The Son of Man must be lifted up.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (3:13-17)

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. — The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prefaces of the Sundays
and Solemn Blessings
in Ordinary Time

PREFACE I OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(The Paschal Mystery and the People of God)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.

For through his Paschal Mystery,
he accomplished the marvelous deed,
by which he has freed us from the yoke of sin and death,
summoning us to the glory of being now called
a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people for your own possession,
to proclaim everywhere your mighty works,
for you have called us out of darkness
into your own wonderful light.

And so, with Angels and Archangels,
with Thrones and Dominions,
and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven,
we sing the hymn of your glory,
as without end we acclaim:

PREFACE II OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(The mystery of salvation)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.

For out of compassion for the waywardness that is ours,
he humbled himself and was born of the Virgin;
by the passion of the Cross he freed us from unending
death,
and by rising from the dead, he gave us life eternal.

And so, with Angels and Archangels,
with Thrones and Dominions,
and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven,
we sing the hymn of your glory,
as without end we acclaim:

PREFACE III OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(The salvation of man by a man)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For we know it belongs to your boundless glory,
that you came to the aid of mortal beings with your
divinity
and even fashioned for us a remedy out of mortality itself,
that the cause of our downfall
might become the means of our salvation,
through Christ our Lord.

Through him the host of Angels adores your majesty
and rejoices in your presence for ever.
May our voices, we pray, join with theirs
in one chorus of exultant praise, as we acclaim:

PREFACE IV OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(The history of salvation)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Christ our Lord.

For by his birth he brought renewal
to humanity's fallen state,
and by his suffering, canceled out our sins;
by his rising from the dead
he has opened the way to eternal life,
and by ascending to you, O Father,
he has unlocked the gates of heaven.

And so, with the company of Angels and Saints,
we sing the hymn of your praise,
as without end we acclaim:

PREFACE V OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(Creation)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you laid the foundations of the world
and have arranged the changing of times and seasons;
you formed man in your own image
and set humanity over the whole world in all its wonder,
to rule in your name over all you have made
and for ever praise you in your mighty works,
through Christ our Lord.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you,
as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

PREFACE VI OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(The pledge of the eternal Passover)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For in you we live and move and have our being,
and while in this body
we not only experience the daily effects of your care,
but even now possess the pledge of life eternal.

For, having received the first fruits of the Spirit,
through whom you raised up Jesus from the dead,
we hope for an everlasting share in the Paschal Mystery.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you,
as in joyful celebration, we acclaim:

PREFACE VII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(Salvation through the obedience of Christ)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you so loved the world
that in your mercy you sent us the Redeemer,
to live like us in all things but sin,
so that you might love in us what you loved in your Son,
by whose obedience we have been restored to those gifts
of yours
that, by sinning, we had lost in disobedience.

And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints,
we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

PREFACE VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

(The Church united by the unity of the Trinity)

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For when your children were scattered afar by sin,
through the Blood of your Son and the power of the
Spirit,
you gathered them again to yourself,
that a people, formed as one by the unity of the Trinity,
made the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy
Spirit,
might, to the praise of your manifold wisdom,
be manifest as the Church.

And so, in company with the choirs of Angels,
we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

SOLEMN BLESSING I

Bow down for the blessing.

(The priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

R. Amen.

May he let his face shine upon you
and show you his mercy.

R. Amen.

May he turn his countenance towards you
and give you his peace.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING II

Bow down for the blessing.

(The priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)

May the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING III

Bow down for the blessing.

(The priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)

May almighty God bless you in his kindness
and pour out saving wisdom upon you.

R. Amen.

May he nourish you always with the teachings of the
faith

and make you persevere in holy deeds.

R. Amen.

May he turn your steps towards himself
and show you the path of charity and peace.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING IV

Bow down for the blessing.

(The priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)

May the God of all consolation order your days in his
peace
and grant you the gifts of his blessing.

R. Amen.

May he free you always from every distress
and confirm your hearts in his love.

R. Amen.

So that on this life's journey
you may be effective in good works,
rich in the gifts of hope, faith and charity,
and may come happily to eternal life.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING V

Bow down for the blessing.

(The priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)

May almighty God always keep every adversity far
from you
and in his kindness pour out upon you the gifts of his
blessing.

R. Amen.

May God keep your hearts attentive to his words,
that they may be filled with everlasting gladness.

R. Amen.

And so, may you always understand what is good and
right,
and be found ever hastening along
in the path of God's commands,
made coheirs with the citizens of heaven.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING VI

Bow down for the blessing.

(The priest, with hands extended over the people, says the blessing.)

May God bless you with every heavenly blessing,
make you always holy and pure in his sight,
pour out in abundance upon you the riches of his glory,
and teach you with the words of truth;
may he instruct you in the Gospel of salvation,
and ever endow you with fraternal charity.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

SUNDAY MISSAL

Ordinary Time III

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