

Week of December 26, 2010

**SUNDAY**

Reading 1

[Sir 3:2-6, 12-14](#)

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother. My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins—a house raised in justice to you.

[Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5](#)

Responsorial Psalm

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

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

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

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

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

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

Behold, thus is the man blessed  
who fears the LORD.

The LORD bless you from Zion:  
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem  
all the days of your life.

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

[Col 3:12-21](#)

Reading 2

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish

one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

or

[Col 3:12-17](#)

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

[Mt 2:13-15, 19-23](#)

Gospel

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

**MONDAY**

Reading 1

1 Jn 1:1-4

Beloved:

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

Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12

Responsorial Psalm

**R. (12) Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;  
let the many isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are around him,  
justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne.

**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

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

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

**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

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

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

**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Gospel

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

the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.

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**TUESDAY**

December 28, 2010

**Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs**

Reading 1

1 Jn 1:5–2:2

Beloved:

This is the message that we have heard from Jesus Christ and proclaim to you: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say, "We have fellowship with him," while we continue to walk in darkness, we lie and do not act in truth. But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the Blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin. If we say, "We are without sin," we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing. If we say, "We have not sinned," we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My children, I am writing this to you so that you may not commit sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is expiation for our sins, and not for our sins only but for those of the whole world.

Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8

Responsorial Psalm

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

Had not the LORD been with us—  
When men rose up against us,  
then would they have swallowed us alive,  
When their fury was inflamed against us.

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

Then would the waters have overwhelmed us;  
The torrent would have swept over us;  
over us then would have swept the raging waters.  
**R. Our soul has been rescued like a bird from the fowler's snare.**

Broken was the snare,  
and we were freed.

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

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

Week of December 26, 2010

Mt 2:13-18

Gospel

When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, *Out of Egypt I called my son*. When Herod realized that he had been deceived by the magi, he became furious. He ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi.

Then was fulfilled what had been said through Jeremiah the prophet:  
*A voice was heard in Ramah,  
sobbing and loud lamentation;  
Rachel weeping for her children,  
and she would not be consoled,  
since they were no more.*

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**WEDNESDAY**

Reading 1

1 Jn 2:3-11

Beloved:

The way we may be sure that we know Jesus is to keep his commandments. Whoever says, "I know him," but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps his word, the love of God is truly perfected in him. This is the way we may know that we are in union with him: whoever claims to abide in him ought to walk just as he walked. Beloved, I am writing no new commandment to you but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. And yet I do write a new commandment to you, which holds true in him and among you, for the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. Whoever says he is in the light, yet hates his brother, is still in the darkness. Whoever loves his brother remains in the light, and there is nothing in him to cause a fall. Whoever hates his brother is in darkness; he walks in darkness and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6

Responsorial Psalm

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

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

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

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

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

The LORD made the heavens.  
Splendor and majesty go before him;  
praise and grandeur are in his sanctuary.

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

Lk 2:22-35

Gospel

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, *Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord*, and to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord. Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Lord, now let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled: my own eyes have seen the salvation which you prepared in the sight of every people, a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

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**THURSDAY**

Reading 1

[1 Jn 2:12-17](#)

I am writing to you, children, because your sins have been forgiven for his name's sake. I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have conquered the Evil One. I write to you, children, because you know the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong and the word of God remains in you, and you have conquered the Evil One. Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, sensual lust, enticement for the eyes, and a pretentious life, is not from the Father but is from the world. Yet the world and its enticement are passing away. But whoever does the will of God remains forever.

[Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10](#)

Responsorial Psalm

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

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

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

Bring gifts, and enter his courts;  
worship the LORD in holy attire.

Tremble before him, all the earth.

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

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

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

[Lk 2:36-40](#)

Gospel

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

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**FRIDAY**

Reading 1

[1 Jn 2:18-21](#)

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

[Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13](#)

Responsorial Psalm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[Jn 1:1-18](#)

Gospel

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came to be

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through him, but the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God. And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only-begotten Son, full of grace and truth. John testified to him and cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'The one who is coming after me ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'" From his fullness we have all received, grace in place of grace, because while the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. The only-begotten Son, God, who is at the Father's side, has revealed him.

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### SATURDAY

#### Reading 1

[Nm 6:22-27](#)

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

[Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8](#)

Responsorial Psalm

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

May God have pity on us and bless us;

may he let his face shine upon us.

So may your way be known upon earth;

among all nations, your salvation.

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

May the nations be glad and exult

because you rule the peoples in equity;

the nations on the earth you guide.

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

May the peoples praise you, O God;

may all the peoples praise you!

May God bless us,

and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

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

[Gal 4:4-7](#)

#### Reading 2

Brothers and sisters:

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

[Lk 2:16-21](#)

#### Gospel

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

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