

Week of February 27, 2011

**SUNDAY**

Reading 1

[Is 49:14-15](#)

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

[Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 8-9](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (6a) **Rest in God alone, my soul.**

Only in God is my soul at rest;  
from him comes my salvation.

He only is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold; I shall not be disturbed at all.

R. **Rest in God alone, my soul.**

Only in God be at rest, my soul,  
for from him comes my hope.

He only is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold; I shall not be disturbed.

R. **Rest in God alone, my soul.**

With God is my safety and my glory,  
he is the rock of my strength; my refuge is in God.

Trust in him at all times, O my people!

Pour out your hearts before him.

R. **Rest in God alone, my soul.**

[1 Cor 4:1-5](#)

Reading 2

Brothers and sisters:

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

[Mt 6:24-34](#)

Gospel

Jesus said to his disciples: "No one can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. "Therefore I tell you, do not

worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span? Why are you anxious about clothes? Learn from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? So do not worry and say, 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil."

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**MONDAY**

Reading 1

[Sir 17:20-24](#)

To the penitent God provides a way back, he encourages those who are losing hope and has chosen for them the lot of truth. Return to him and give up sin, pray to the LORD and make your offenses few. Turn again to the Most High and away from your sin, hate intensely what he loathes, and know the justice and judgments of God, Stand firm in the way set before you, in prayer to the Most High God. Who in the nether world can glorify the Most High in place of the living who offer their praise? Dwell no longer in the error of the ungodly, but offer your praise before death. No more can the dead give praise than those who have never lived; You who are alive and well shall praise and glorify God in his mercies. How great the mercy of the LORD, his forgiveness of those who return to him!

[Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (11a) **Let the just exult and rejoice in the Lord.**

Blessed is he whose fault is taken away,  
whose sin is covered.

Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt,  
in whose spirit there is no guile.

R. **Let the just exult and rejoice in the Lord.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
my guilt I covered not.

I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD,"

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and you took away the guilt of my sin.

**R. Let the just exult and rejoice in the Lord.**

For this shall every faithful man pray to you in time of stress.

Though deep waters overflow,  
they shall not reach him.

**R. Let the just exult and rejoice in the Lord.**

You are my shelter; from distress you will preserve me;  
with glad cries of freedom you will ring me round.

**R. Let the just exult and rejoice in the Lord.**

[Mk 10:17-27](#)

Gospel

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

*You shall not kill;  
you shall not commit adultery;  
you shall not steal;  
you shall not bear false witness;  
you shall not defraud;  
honor your father and your mother."*

He replied and said to him, "Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said to him, "You are lacking in one thing. Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." At that statement, his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the Kingdom of God!" The disciples were amazed at his words. So Jesus again said to them in reply, "Children, how hard it is to enter the Kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the Kingdom of God." They were exceedingly astonished and said among themselves, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For men it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God."

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**TUESDAY**

Reading 1

[Sir 35:1-12](#)

To keep the law is a great oblation, and he who observes the commandments sacrifices a peace offering. In works of charity one offers fine flour, and when he gives alms he presents his sacrifice of

praise. To refrain from evil pleases the LORD, and to avoid injustice is an atonement. Appear not before the LORD empty-handed, for all that you offer is in fulfillment of the precepts. The just one's offering enriches the altar and rises as a sweet odor before the Most High. The just one's sacrifice is most pleasing, nor will it ever be forgotten. In a generous spirit pay homage to the LORD, be not sparing of freewill gifts. With each contribution show a cheerful countenance, and pay your tithes in a spirit of joy. Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously, according to your means. For the LORD is one who always repays, and he will give back to you sevenfold. But offer no bribes, these he does not accept! Trust not in sacrifice of the fruits of extortion. For he is a God of justice, who knows no favorites.

[Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23](#)

Responsorial Psalm

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

"Gather my faithful ones before me,  
those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice."

And the heavens proclaim his justice;  
for God himself is the judge.

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

"Hear, my people, and I will speak;  
Israel, I will testify against you;  
God, your God, am I.

Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you,  
for your burnt offerings are before me always."

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

"Offer to God praise as your sacrifice  
and fulfill your vows to the Most High.

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

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

[Mk 10:28-31](#)

Gospel

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

**WEDNESDAY**

Reading 1

[Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17](#)

Come to our aid, O God of the universe, look upon us, show us the light of your mercies, and put all the nations in dread of you! Thus they will know, as we know, that there is no God but you, O Lord. Give new signs and work new wonders. Gather all the tribes of Jacob, that they may inherit the land as of old, Show mercy to the people called by your name; Israel, whom you named your firstborn. Take pity on your holy city, Jerusalem, your dwelling place. Fill Zion with your majesty, your temple with your glory. Give evidence of your deeds of old; fulfill the prophecies spoken in your name, Reward those who have hoped in you, and let your prophets be proved true. Hear the prayer of your servants, for you are ever gracious to your people; and lead us in the way of justice. Thus it will be known to the very ends of the earth that you are the eternal God.

[Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (Sirach 36:1b) **Show us, O Lord, the light of your kindness.**

Remember not against us the iniquities of the past;  
may your compassion quickly come to us,  
for we are brought very low.

R. **Show us, O Lord, the light of your kindness.**

Help us, O God our savior,  
because of the glory of your name;  
Deliver us and pardon our sins  
for your name's sake.

R. **Show us, O Lord, the light of your kindness.**

Let the prisoners' sighing come before you;  
with your great power free those doomed to death.  
Then we, your people and the sheep of your pasture,  
will give thanks to you forever;  
through all generations we will declare your praise.

R. **Show us, O Lord, the light of your kindness.**

[Mk 10:32-45](#)

Gospel

The disciples were on the way, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus went ahead of them. They were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. Taking the Twelve aside again, he began to tell them what was going to happen to him. "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to

death and hand him over to the Gentiles who will mock him, spit upon him, scourge him, and put him to death, but after three days he will rise." Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." He replied, "What do you wish me to do for you?" They answered him, "Grant that in your glory we may sit one at your right and the other at your left." Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the chalice that I drink or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" They said to him, "We can." Jesus said to them, "The chalice that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right or at my left is not mine to give but is for those for whom it has been prepared." When the ten heard this, they became indignant at James and John. Jesus summoned them and said to them, "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many."

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**THURSDAY**

Reading 1

[Sir 42:15-25](#)

Now will I recall God's works; what I have seen, I will describe. At God's word were his works brought into being; they do his will as he has ordained for them. As the rising sun is clear to all, so the glory of the LORD fills all his works; Yet even God's holy ones must fail in recounting the wonders of the LORD, Though God has given these, his hosts, the strength to stand firm before his glory. He plumbs the depths and penetrates the heart; heir innermost being he understands. The Most High possesses all knowledge, and sees from of old the things that are to come: He makes known the past and the future, and reveals the deepest secrets. No understanding does he lack; no single thing escapes him. Perennial is his almighty wisdom; he is from all eternity one and the same, With nothing added, nothing taken away; no need of a counselor for him! How beautiful are all his works! even to the spark and fleeting vision! The universe lives and abides forever; to meet each need, each creature is preserved. All of them differ, one from another, yet none of them has he made in vain, For each in turn, as it comes, is good; can one ever see enough of their splendor?

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Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Responsorial Psalm

R. (6a) **By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.**

Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;  
with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises.

Sing to him a new song;

pluck the strings skillfully, with shouts of gladness.

R. **By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.**

For upright is the word of the LORD  
and all his works are trustworthy.

He loves justice and right;

of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. **By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.**

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made;

by the breath of his mouth all their host.

He gathers the waters of the sea as in a flask;

in cellars he confines the deep.

R. **By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.**

Let all the earth fear the Lord;

let all who dwell in the world revere him.

For he spoke, and it was made;

he commanded, and it stood forth.

R. **By the word of the Lord the heavens were made.**

Mk 10:46-52

Gospel

As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me." And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he kept calling out all the more, "Son of David, have pity on me." Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

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FRIDAY

Reading 1

Sir 44:1, 9-13

Now will I praise those godly men, our ancestors, each in his own time. But of others there is no memory, for when they ceased, they ceased. And they are as though they had not lived, they and their children after them. Yet these also were godly men whose virtues have not

been forgotten; Their wealth remains in their families, their heritage with their descendants; Through God's covenant with them their family endures, their posterity, for their sake. And for all time their progeny will endure, their glory will never be blotted out.

Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b

Responsorial Psalm

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

R. **Alleluia.**

Sing to the LORD a new song

of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in their maker,

let the children of Zion rejoice in their king.

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

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Let them praise his name in the festive dance,

let them sing praise to him with timbrel and harp.

For the LORD loves his people,

and he adorns the lowly with victory.

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

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Let the faithful exult in glory;

let them sing for joy upon their couches;

Let the high praises of God be in their throats.

This is the glory of all his faithful. Alleluia.

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

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

Mk 11:11-26

Gospel

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple area. He looked around at everything and, since it was already late, went out to Bethany with the Twelve. The next day as they were leaving Bethany he was hungry. Seeing from a distance a fig tree in leaf, he went over to see if he could find anything on it. When he reached it he found nothing but leaves; it was not the time for figs. And he said to it in reply, "May no one ever eat of your fruit again!" And his disciples heard it. They came to Jerusalem, and on entering the temple area he began to drive out those selling and buying there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. He did not permit anyone to carry anything through the temple area. Then he taught them saying, "Is it not written:

*My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples? But you have made it a den of thieves."*

The chief priests and the scribes came to hear of it and were seeking a way to put him to death, yet they

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feared him because the whole crowd was astonished at his teaching. When evening came, they went out of the city. Early in the morning, as they were walking along, they saw the fig tree withered to its roots. Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." Jesus said to them in reply, "Have faith in God. Amen, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it shall be done for him. Therefore I tell you, all that you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive it and it shall be yours. When you stand to pray, forgive anyone against whom you have a grievance, so that your heavenly Father may in turn forgive you your transgressions."

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**SATURDAY**

Reading 1

[Sir 51:12 cd-20](#)

I thank the LORD and I praise him; I bless the name of the LORD. When I was young and innocent, I sought wisdom openly in my prayer I prayed for her before the temple, and I will seek her until the end, and she flourished as a grape soon ripe. My heart delighted in her, My feet kept to the level path because from earliest youth I was familiar with her. In the short time I paid heed, I met with great instruction. Since in this way I have profited, I will give my teacher grateful praise. I became resolutely devoted to her— the good I persistently strove for. My soul was tormented in seeking her, My hand opened her gate and I came to know her secrets. I directed my soul to her, and in cleanness I attained to her.

[Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (9ab) **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,  
refreshing the soul.

The decree of the LORD is trustworthy,  
giving wisdom to the simple.

R. **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

The precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart.

The command of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eye.

R. **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

The fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;

The ordinances of the LORD are true,  
all of them just.

R. **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

They are more precious than gold,  
than a heap of purest gold;  
Sweeter also than syrup  
or honey from the comb.

R. **The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.**

[Mk 11:27-33](#)

Gospel

Jesus and his disciples returned once more to Jerusalem. As he was walking in the temple area, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders approached him and said to him, "By what authority are you doing these things? Or who gave you this authority to do them?" Jesus said to them, "I shall ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. Was John's baptism of heavenly or of human origin? Answer me." They discussed this among themselves and said, "If we say, 'Of heavenly origin,' he will say, 'Then why did you not believe him?' But shall we say, 'Of human origin?'" - they feared the crowd, for they all thought John really was a prophet. So they said to Jesus in reply, "We do not know." Then Jesus said to them, "Neither shall I tell you by what authority I do these things."