

Week of July 25, 2010

SUNDAY

Reading 1

[Gn 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 forbear 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 forbear 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."

[Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8](#)

Responsorial Psalm

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

I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with all my heart,

for you have heard the words of my mouth;

in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;

I will worship at your holy temple

and give thanks to your name.

R. **Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**

Because of your kindness and your truth;

for you have made great above all things

your name and your promise.

When I called you answered me;

you built up strength within me.

R. **Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**

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. **Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**

Your right hand saves me.

The LORD will complete what he has done for me;

your kindness, O LORD, endures forever;

forsake not the work of your hands.

R. **Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.**

[Col 2:12-14](#)

Reading 2

Brothers and sisters:

You were buried with him 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.

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[Lk 11:1-13](#)

Gospel

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?"

MONDAY

Reading 1

[Jer 13:1-11](#)

The LORD said to me: Go buy yourself a linen loincloth;
wear it on your loins, but do not put it in water.

I bought the loincloth, as the LORD commanded,
and put it on.

A second time the word of the LORD came to me
thus:

Take the loincloth which you bought and are
wearing,

and go now to the Parath;

there hide it in a cleft of the rock.

Obedient to the LORD's command, I went to the
Parath

and buried the loincloth.

After a long interval, the LORD said to me:

Go now to the Parath and fetch the loincloth
which I told you to hide there.

Again I went to the Parath, sought out and took the
loincloth

from the place where I had hid it.

But it was rotted, good for nothing!

Then the message came to me from the LORD:

Thus says the LORD:

So also I will allow the pride of Judah to rot,
the great pride of Jerusalem.

This wicked people who refuse to obey my words,
who walk in the stubbornness of their hearts,

and follow strange gods to serve and adore them,
shall be like this loincloth which is good for

nothing.

For, as close as the loincloth clings to a man's loins,
so had I made the whole house of Israel

and the whole house of Judah cling to me, says the
LORD;

to be my people, my renown, my praise, my beauty.

But they did not listen.

[Deuteronomy 32:18-19, 20, 21](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (see 18a) **You have forgotten God who gave
you birth.**

You were unmindful of the Rock that begot you,

You forgot the God who gave you birth.

When the LORD saw this, he was filled with

loathing

and anger toward his sons and daughters.

R. **You have forgotten God who gave you
birth.**

"I will hide my face from them," he said,

"and see what will then become of them.

What a fickle race they are,

sons with no loyalty in them!"

R. **You have forgotten God who gave you
birth.**

"Since they have provoked me with their 'no-god'

and angered me with their vain idols,

I will provoke them with a 'no-people';

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with a foolish nation I will anger them."

R. You have forgotten God who gave you birth.

[Mt 13:31-35](#)

Gospel

Jesus proposed a parable to the crowds.

"The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field.

It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.

It becomes a large bush, and the 'birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.'"

He spoke to them another parable.

"The Kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour

until the whole batch was leavened."

All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables.

He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet:

*I will open my mouth in parables,
I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation
of the world.*

TUESDAY

Reading 1

[Jer 14:17-22](#)

Let my eyes stream with tears
day and night, without rest,
Over the great destruction which overwhelms
the virgin daughter of my people,
over her incurable wound.

If I walk out into the field,
look! those slain by the sword;

If I enter the city,
look! those consumed by hunger.

Even the prophet and the priest
forage in a land they know not.
Have you cast Judah off completely?
Is Zion loathsome to you?

Why have you struck us a blow
that cannot be healed?

We wait for peace, to no avail;
for a time of healing, but terror comes instead.

We recognize, O LORD, our wickedness,
the guilt of our fathers;
that we have sinned against you.

For your name's sake spurn us not,

disgrace not the throne of your glory;
remember your covenant with us, and break it not.
Among the nations' idols is there any that gives
rain?

Or can the mere heavens send showers?

Is it not you alone, O LORD,

our God, to whom we look?

You alone have done all these things.

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

Responsorial Psalm

**R. (9) For the glory of your name, O Lord,
deliver us.**

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

**R. For the glory of your name, O Lord,
deliver us.**

Help us, O God our savior,

because of the glory of your name;

Deliver us and pardon our sins

for your name's sake.

**R. For the glory of your name, O Lord,
deliver us.**

Let the prisoners' sighing come before you;
with your great power free those doomed to death.

Then we, your people and the sheep of your
pasture,

will give thanks to you forever;

through all generations we will declare your praise.

**R. For the glory of your name, O Lord,
deliver us.**

[Mt 13:36-43](#)

Gospel

Jesus dismissed the crowds and went into the
house.

His disciples approached him and said,

"Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son
of Man,

the field is the world, the good seed the children of
the Kingdom.

The weeds are the children of the Evil One,
and the enemy who sows them is the Devil.

The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters
are angels.

Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire,
so will it be at the end of the age.

The Son of Man will send his angels,
and they will collect out of his Kingdom

all who cause others to sin and all evildoers.

They will throw them into the fiery furnace,
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.

Then the righteous will shine like the sun

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in the Kingdom of their Father.
Whoever has ears ought to hear."

WEDNESDAY

Reading 1

[Jer 15:10, 16-21](#)

Woe to me, mother, that you gave me birth!
a man of strife and contention to all the land!
I neither borrow nor lend,
yet all curse me.
When I found your words, I devoured them;
they became my joy and the happiness of my heart,
Because I bore your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
I did not sit celebrating
in the circle of merry-makers;
Under the weight of your hand I sat alone
because you filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain continuous,
my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?
You have indeed become for me a treacherous
brook,
whose waters do not abide!
Thus the LORD answered me:
If you repent, so that I restore you,
in my presence you shall stand;
If you bring forth the precious without the vile,
you shall be my mouthpiece.
Then it shall be they who turn to you,
and you shall not turn to them;
And I will make you toward this people
a solid wall of brass.
Though they fight against you,
they shall not prevail,
For I am with you,
to deliver and rescue you, says the LORD.
I will free you from the hand of the wicked,
and rescue you from the grasp of the violent.

[Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (17d) **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**

Rescue me from my enemies, O my God;
from my adversaries defend me.
Rescue me from evildoers;
from bloodthirsty men save me.

R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**

For behold, they lie in wait for my life;
mighty men come together against me,
Not for any offense or sin of mine, O LORD.

R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**

O my strength! for you I watch;
for you, O God, are my stronghold,
As for my God, may his mercy go before me;
may he show me the fall of my foes.

R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**

But I will sing of your strength
and revel at dawn in your mercy;
You have been my stronghold,
my refuge in the day of distress.

R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**

O my strength! your praise will I sing;
for you, O God, are my stronghold,
my merciful God!

R. **God is my refuge on the day of distress.**

[Mt 13:44-46](#)

Gospel

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."

THURSDAY

Reading 1

[Jer 18:1-6](#)

This word came to Jeremiah from the LORD:
Rise up, be off to the potter's house;
there I will give you my message.
I went down to the potter's house and there he was,
working at the wheel.
Whenever the object of clay which he was making
turned out badly in his hand,
he tried again,
making of the clay another object of whatever sort
he pleased.

Then the word of the LORD came to me:

Can I not do to you, house of Israel,
as this potter has done? says the LORD.
Indeed, like clay in the hand of the potter,
so are you in my hand, house of Israel.

[Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (5a) **Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.**

or:

R. **Alleluia.**

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Praise the LORD, O my soul;
I will praise the LORD all my life;
I will sing praise to my God while I live.

R. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Put not your trust in princes,
in the sons of men, in whom there is no salvation.
When his spirit departs he returns to his earth;
on that day his plans perish.

R. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Blessed he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD, his God.
Who made heaven and earth,
the sea and all that is in them.

R. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob.

or:

R. Alleluia.

[Jn 11:19-27](#) or [Lk 10:38-42](#)

Gospel

Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary
to comfort them about their brother [Lazarus, who
had died].

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,
she went to meet him;

but Mary sat at home.

Martha said to Jesus,

"Lord, if you had been here,
my brother would not have died.

But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,
God will give you."

Jesus said to her,

"Your brother will rise."

Martha said to him,

"I know he will rise,
in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus told her,

"I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,
and anyone who lives and believes in me will never
die.

Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord.

I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the
Son of God,
the one who is coming into the world."

or

Jesus entered a village
where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed
him.

She had a sister named Mary
who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him
speak.

Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him
and said,

"Lord, do you not care
that my sister has left me by myself to do the
serving?"

Tell her to help me."

The Lord said to her in reply,

"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried
about many things.

There is need of only one thing.

Mary has chosen the better part
and it will not be taken from her."

FRIDAY

Reading 1

[Jer 26:1-9](#)

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim,
son of Josiah, king of Judah,
this message came from the LORD:

Thus says the LORD:

Stand in the court of the house of the LORD
and speak to the people of all the cities of Judah
who come to worship in the house of the LORD;
whatever I command you, tell them, and omit
nothing.

Perhaps they will listen and turn back,
each from his evil way,
so that I may repent of the evil I have planned to
inflict upon them
for their evil deeds.

Say to them: Thus says the LORD:

If you disobey me,

not living according to the law I placed before you
and not listening to the words of my servants the
prophets,
whom I send you constantly though you do not
obey them,

I will treat this house like Shiloh,
and make this the city to which all the nations of
the earth
shall refer when cursing another.

Now the priests, the prophets, and all the people
heard Jeremiah speak these words in the house of
the LORD.

When Jeremiah finished speaking

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all that the LORD bade him speak to all the people, the priests and prophets laid hold of him, crying, "You must be put to death! Why do you prophesy in the name of the LORD: 'This house shall be like Shiloh,' and 'This city shall be desolate and deserted?'" And all the people gathered about Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

[Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (14c) **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

Those outnumber the hairs of my head who hate me without cause.

Too many for my strength are they who wrongfully are my enemies. Must I restore what I did not steal?

R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

Since for your sake I bear insult, and shame covers my face.

I have become an outcast to my brothers, a stranger to my mother's sons, Because zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who blaspheme you fall upon me.

R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

But I pray to you, O LORD, for the time of your favor, O God! In your great kindness answer me with your constant help.

R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

[Mt 13:54-58](#)

Gospel

Jesus came to his native place and taught the people in their synagogue.

They were astonished and said, "Where did this man get such wisdom and mighty deeds?

Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas? Are not his sisters all with us? Where did this man get all this?"

And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and in his own house."

And he did not work many mighty deeds there because of their lack of faith.

Reading 1

[Jer 26:11-16, 24](#)

The priests and prophets said to the princes and to all the people, "This man deserves death; he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears." Jeremiah gave this answer to the princes and all the people:

"It was the LORD who sent me to prophesy against this house and city all that you have heard.

Now, therefore, reform your ways and your deeds; listen to the voice of the LORD your God, so that the LORD will repent of the evil with which he threatens you.

As for me, I am in your hands; do with me what you think good and right.

But mark well: if you put me to death, it is innocent blood you bring on yourselves, on this city and its citizens.

For in truth it was the LORD who sent me to you, to speak all these things for you to hear."

Thereupon the princes and all the people

said to the priests and the prophets, "This man does not deserve death; it is in the name of the LORD, our God, that he speaks to us."

So Ahikam, son of Shaphan, protected Jeremiah, so that he was not handed over to the people to be put to death.

[Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34](#)

Responsorial Psalm

R. (14c) **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

Rescue me out of the mire; may I not sink! may I be rescued from my foes, and from the watery depths.

Let not the flood-waters overwhelm me, nor the abyss swallow me up, nor the pit close its mouth over me.

R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

But I am afflicted and in pain; let your saving help, O God, protect me.

I will praise the name of God in song, and I will glorify him with thanksgiving.

R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

"See, you lowly ones, and be glad; you who seek God, may your hearts revive! For the LORD hears the poor, and his own who are in bonds he spurns not."

R. **Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

[Mt 14:1-12](#)

Gospel

SATURDAY

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Herod the tetrarch heard of the reputation of Jesus and said to his servants, "This man is John the Baptist.

He has been raised from the dead; that is why mighty powers are at work in him." Now Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison

on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip,

for John had said to him,

"It is not lawful for you to have her."

Although he wanted to kill him, he feared the people,

for they regarded him as a prophet.

But at a birthday celebration for Herod, the daughter of Herodias performed a dance before the guests

and delighted Herod so much

that he swore to give her whatever she might ask for.

Prompted by her mother, she said,

"Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist."

The king was distressed,

but because of his oaths and the guests who were present,

he ordered that it be given, and he had John beheaded in the prison.

His head was brought in on a platter and given to the girl,

who took it to her mother.

His disciples came and took away the corpse and buried him; and they went and told Jesus.
