

April 6, 2025: The 5th Sunday of Lent
(The Scrutinies, Cycle A)
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First Reading**Ezekiel 37:12-14**

Thus says the Lord GOD:

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

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8****R. (7) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to my voice in supplication.

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

If you, O LORD, mark iniquities,
LORD, who can stand?

But with you is forgiveness,
that you may be revered.

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

I trust in the LORD;

my soul trusts in his word.

More than sentinels wait for the dawn,
let Israel wait for the LORD.

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

For with the LORD is kindness
and with him is plenteous redemption;
And he will redeem Israel
from all their iniquities.

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**Second Reading****Romans 8:8-11**

Brothers and sisters:

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

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Gospel Reading**John 11:1-45**

Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried His feet with her hair; it was her brother Lazarus who was ill.

So the sisters sent word to Him saying, "Master, the one You love is ill." When Jesus heard this He said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that He was ill, He remained for two days in the place where He was. Then after this He said to His disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone You, and You want to go back there?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." He said this, and then told them, "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him." So the disciples said to Him, "Master, if he is asleep, he will be saved." But Jesus was talking about His death, while they thought that He meant ordinary sleep. So then Jesus said to them clearly, "Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe. Let us go to him." So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with Him."

When Jesus arrived, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise."

Martha said to Him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying, "The Teacher is here and is asking for you." As soon as she heard this, she rose quickly and went to Him. For Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still where Martha had met Him. So when the Jews who were with her in the house comforting her saw Mary get up quickly and go out, they followed her, presuming that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet and said to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how He loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the One Who opened the eyes of the blind an have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to Him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days."

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Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You for hearing Me. I know that You always hear Me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." And when He had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what He had done began to believe in Him.

OR:

John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

The sisters of Lazarus sent word to Jesus, saying, "Master, the one You love is ill." When Jesus heard this He said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that he was ill, He remained for two days in the place where He was. Then after this He said to His disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

When Jesus arrived, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. 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, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, the One Who is coming into the world."

He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Sir, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how He loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the One Who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to Him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You for hearing Me. I know that You always hear Me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." And when He had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what He had done began to believe in Him.

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April 6, 2025: The 5th Sunday of Lent (Cycle C)

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First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD, who opens a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters, who leads out chariots and horsemen, a powerful army, till they lie prostrate together, never to rise, snuffed out and quenched like a wick. Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the desert I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers. Wild beasts honor me, jackals and ostriches, for I put water in the desert and rivers in the wasteland for my chosen people to drink, the people whom I formed for myself, that they might announce my praise.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6

R. (3) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Then they said among the nations,

“The LORD has done great things for them.”

The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad indeed.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the torrents in the southern desert.

Those that sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading

Philippians 3:8-14

Brothers and sisters:

I consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have accepted the loss of all things

and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having any righteousness of my own based on the law but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God, depending on faith to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the sharing of His sufferings by being conformed to His death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

It is not that I have already taken hold of it or have already attained perfect maturity, but I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it, since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ Jesus. Brothers and sisters, I for my part do not consider myself to have taken possession. Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.

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April 6, 2025: The 5th Sunday of Lent (Cycle C)
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Gospel Reading

John 8:1-11

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

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April 13, 2025: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
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At the Procession with Palms**Luke 19:28-40**

Jesus proceeded on His journey up to Jerusalem. As He drew near to Bethphage and Bethany at the place called the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples. He said, "Go into the village opposite you, and as you enter it you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. And if anyone should ask you, 'Why are you untying it?' you will answer, 'The Master has need of it.'" So those who had been sent went off and found everything just as He had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying this colt?" They answered, "The Master has need of it." So they brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks over the colt, and helped Jesus to mount. As He rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; and now as He was approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of His disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen. They proclaimed:

"Blessed is the king who comes
in the Name of the Lord.
Peace in Heaven
and glory in the highest."

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." He said in reply, "I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!"

First Reading**Isaiah 50:4-7**

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

The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24****R (2a) My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?**

All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads:

"He relied on the LORD; let Him deliver him, let Him rescue him, if He loves him."

R. My God, my God, why have You abandoned Me?

Indeed, many dogs surround me,
a pack of evildoers closes in upon me;
They have pierced my hands and my feet;
I can count all my bones.

R. My God, my God, why have You abandoned Me?

They divide my garments among them,
and for my vesture they cast lots.

But You, O LORD, be not far from me;
O my help, hasten to aid me.

R. My God, my God, why have You abandoned Me?

I will proclaim Your Name to my brethren;
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you:

"You who fear the LORD, praise Him;

all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to Him;
revere Him, all you descendants of Israel!"

R. My God, my God, why have You abandoned Me?

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Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

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

Gospel Reading

Luke 22:14—23:56

This Gospel is typically read by multiple readers. It is divided into four parts: Christ (✝), Narrator (N.), Voice (V.), and the Crowd (C.). The Crowd parts are read aloud by the people in the congregation.

✝ The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

N. When the hour came, Jesus took His place at table with the Apostles. He said to them,

✝ "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for, I tell you, I shall not eat it again until there is fulfillment in the Kingdom of God."

N. Then He took a cup, gave thanks, and said,

✝ "Take this and share it among yourselves; for I tell you that from this time on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the Kingdom of God comes."

N. Then He took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying,

✝ "This is My body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of Me."

N. And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying,

✝ "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which will be shed for you.

"And yet behold, the hand of the one who is to betray Me is with Me on the table; for the Son of Man indeed goes as it has been determined; but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed."

N. And they began to debate among themselves who among them would do such a deed.

Then an argument broke out among them about which of them should be regarded as the greatest. He said to them,

✝ "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them and those in authority over them are addressed as 'Benefactors'; but among you it shall not be so. Rather, let the greatest among you be as the youngest, and the leader as the servant. For who is greater: the one seated at table or the one who serves? Is it not the one seated at table? I am among you as the One Who serves. It is you who have stood by Me in My trials; and I confer a Kingdom on you, just as My Father has conferred one on Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My Kingdom; and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

"Simon, Simon, behold Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed that your own faith may not fail; and once you have turned back, you must strengthen your brothers."

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N. He said to Him,

V. "Lord, I am prepared to go to prison and to die with You."

N. But He replied,

V. "I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know Me."

N. He said to them,

✚ "When I sent you forth without a money bag or a sack or sandals, were you in need of anything?"

C. "No, nothing,"

N. they replied. He said to them,

✚ "But now one who has a money bag should take it, and likewise a sack, and one who does not have a sword should sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in Me, namely, *He was counted among the wicked*; and indeed what is written about Me is coming to fulfillment."

N. Then they said,

C. "Lord, look, there are two swords here."

N. But He replied,

✚ "It is enough!"

N. Then going out, He went, as was His custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed Him. When He arrived at the place He said to them,

✚ "Pray that you may not undergo the test."

N. After withdrawing about a stone's throw from them and kneeling, He prayed, saying,

✚ "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from Me; still, not My will but Yours be done."

N. And to strengthen Him an angel from Heaven appeared to Him. He was in such agony and He prayed so fervently that His sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground.

When He rose from prayer and returned to His disciples, He found them sleeping from grief.

He said to them,

✚ "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not undergo the test."

N. While He was still speaking, a crowd approached and in front was one of the Twelve, a man named Judas. He went up to Jesus to kiss Him. Jesus said to him,

✚ "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

N. His disciples realized what was about to happen, and they asked,

C. "Lord, shall we strike with a sword?"

N. And one of them struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said in reply,

✚ "Stop, no more of this!"

N. Then He touched the servant's ear and healed him.

And Jesus said to the chief priests and temple guards and elders who had come for Him,

✚ "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? Day after day I was with you in the temple area, and you did not seize Me; but this is your hour, the time for the power of darkness."

N. After arresting Him they led Him away and took Him into the house of the high priest; Peter was following at a distance. They lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat around it, and Peter sat down with them. When a maid saw him seated in the light, she looked intently at him and said,

V. "This man too was with Him."

N. But he denied it saying,

V. "Woman, I do not know Him."

N. A short while later someone else saw him and said,

V. "You too are one of them";

N. but Peter answered,

V. "My friend, I am not."

N. About an hour later, still another insisted,

V. "Assuredly, this man too was with Him, for he also is a Galilean."

N. But Peter said,

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V. "My friend, I do not know what you are talking about."

N. Just as he was saying this, the cock crowed, and the Lord turned and looked at Peter; and Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny Me three times."

He went out and began to weep bitterly.

The men who held Jesus in custody were ridiculing and beating Him. They blindfolded Him and questioned Him, saying,

C. "Prophecy! Who is it that struck You?"

N. And they reviled Him in saying many other things against Him.

When day came the council of elders of the people met, both chief priests and scribes, and they brought Him before their Sanhedrin. They said,

C. "If You are the Christ, tell us,"

N. but He replied to them,

✦ "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I question, you will not respond. But from this time on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

N. They all asked,

C. "Are You then the Son of God?"

N. He replied to them,

✦ "You say that I am."

N. Then they said,

C. "What further need have we for testimony? We have heard it from His Own mouth."

N. Then the whole assembly of them arose and brought Him before Pilate. They brought charges against Him, saying,

C. "We found this Man misleading our people; He opposes the payment of taxes to Caesar and maintains that He is the Christ, a king."

N. Pilate asked Him,

V. "Are You the king of the Jews?"

N. He said to him in reply,

✦ "You say so."

N. Pilate then addressed the chief priests and the crowds,

V. "I find this Man not guilty."

N. But they were adamant and said,

C. "He is inciting the people with His teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where He began even to here."

N. On hearing this Pilate asked if the Man was a Galilean; and upon learning that He was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod who was in Jerusalem at that time. Herod was very glad to see Jesus; he had been wanting to see Him for a long time, for he had heard about Him and had been hoping to see Him perform some sign. He questioned Him at length, but He gave him no answer. The chief priests and scribes, meanwhile, stood by accusing Him harshly. Herod and his soldiers treated Him contemptuously and mocked Him, and after clothing Him in resplendent garb, he sent Him back to Pilate. Herod and Pilate became friends that very day, even though they had been enemies formerly.

Pilate then summoned the chief priests, the rulers, and the people and said to them,

V. "You brought this Man to me and accused Him of inciting the people to revolt. I have conducted my investigation in your presence and have not found this Man guilty of the charges you have brought against Him, nor did Herod, for he sent Him back to us. So no capital crime has been committed by Him. Therefore I shall have Him flogged and then release Him."

N. But all together they shouted out,

C. "Away with this Man! Release Barabbas to us."

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N. — Now Barabbas had been imprisoned for a rebellion that had taken place in the city and for murder.—Again Pilate addressed them, still wishing to release Jesus, but they continued their shouting,

C. “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”

N. Pilate addressed them a third time,

V. “What evil has this Man done? I found Him guilty of no capital crime. Therefore I shall have Him flogged and then release Him.”

N. With loud shouts, however, they persisted in calling for His crucifixion, and their voices prevailed. The verdict of Pilate was that their demand should be granted. So he released the man who had been imprisoned for rebellion and murder, for whom they asked, and he handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they wished.

As they led Him away they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus. A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented Him. Jesus turned to them and said,

✦ “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children for indeed, the days are coming when people will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.’ At that time people will say to the mountains, ‘Fall upon us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us!’ for if these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?”

N. Now two others, both criminals, were led away with Him to be executed.

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Him and the criminals there, one on His right, the other on His left. Then Jesus said,

✦ “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.”

N. They divided His garments by casting lots. The people stood by and watched; the rulers, meanwhile, sneered at Him and said,

C. “He saved others, let Him save Himself if He is the chosen One, the Christ of God.”

N. Even the soldiers jeered at Him. As they approached to offer Him wine they called out, **C. “If You are King of the Jews, save Yourself.”**

N. Above Him there was an inscription that read, “This is the King of the Jews.”

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying,

V. “Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us.”

N. The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply,

V. “Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this Man has done nothing criminal.”

N. Then he said,

V. “Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom.”

N. He replied to him,

✦ “Amen, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

N. It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

✦ “Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit”;

N. and when He had said this He breathed His last.

Here all kneel and pause for a short time.

N. The centurion who witnessed what had happened glorified God and said,

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V. "This Man was innocent beyond doubt."

N. When all the people who had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts; but all His acquaintances stood at a distance, including the women who had followed Him from Galilee and saw these events.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, had not consented to their plan of action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea and was awaiting the Kingdom of God. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid Him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried. It was the day of preparation, and the sabbath was about to begin. The women who had come from Galilee with Him followed behind, and when they had seen the tomb and the way in which His body was laid in it, they returned and prepared spices and perfumed oils. Then they rested on the sabbath according to the commandment.

OR:

Luke 23:1-49

N. The elders of the people, chief priests and scribes, arose and brought Jesus before Pilate.

They brought charges against Him, saying,

C. "We found this Man misleading our people; He opposes the payment of taxes to Caesar and maintains that He is the Christ, a king."

N. Pilate asked Him,

V. "Are You the king of the Jews?"

N. He said to him in reply,

✠ "You say so."

N. Pilate then addressed the chief priests and the crowds,

V. "I find this Man not guilty."

N. But they were adamant and said,

C. "He is inciting the people with His teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where He began even to here."

N. On hearing this Pilate asked if the Man was a Galilean; and upon learning that He was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod who was in Jerusalem at that time. Herod was very glad to see Jesus; he had been wanting to see Him for a long time, for he had heard about Him and had been hoping to see Him perform some sign. He questioned Him at length, but He gave him no answer. The chief priests and scribes, meanwhile, stood by accusing Him harshly. Herod and his soldiers treated Him contemptuously and mocked Him, and after clothing Him in resplendent garb, he sent Him back to Pilate. Herod and Pilate became friends that very day, even though they had been enemies formerly.

Pilate then summoned the chief priests, the rulers, and the people and said to them,

V. "You brought this Man to me and accused Him of inciting the people to revolt. I have conducted my investigation in your presence and have not found this Man guilty of the charges you have brought against Him, nor did Herod, for he sent Him back to us. So no capital crime has been committed by Him. Therefore I shall have Him flogged and then release Him."

N. But all together they shouted out,

C. "Away with this Man! Release Barabbas to us."

N. — Now Barabbas had been imprisoned for a rebellion that had taken place in the city and for murder.—Again Pilate addressed them, still wishing to release Jesus, but they continued their shouting,

C. "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

N. Pilate addressed them a third time,

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April 13, 2025: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
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V. "What evil has this Man done? I found Him guilty of no capital crime. Therefore I shall have Him flogged and then release Him."

N. With loud shouts, however, they persisted in calling for His crucifixion, and their voices prevailed. The verdict of Pilate was that their demand should be granted. So he released the man who had been imprisoned for rebellion and murder, for whom they asked, and he handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they wished.

As they led Him away they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus. A large crowd of people followed Jesus, including many women who mourned and lamented Him. Jesus turned to them and said,

✦ "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me; weep instead for yourselves and for your children for indeed, the days are coming when people will say, 'Blessed are the barren, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed.' At that time people will say to the mountains, 'Fall upon us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!' for if these things are done when the wood is green what will happen when it is dry?"

N. Now two others, both criminals, were led away with Him to be executed.

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Him and the criminals there, one on His right, the other on His left. Then Jesus said,

✦ "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."

N. They divided His garments by casting lots. The people stood by and watched; the rulers, meanwhile, sneered at Him and said,

C. "He saved others, let Him save Himself if He is the chosen One, the Christ of God."

N. Even the soldiers jeered at Him. As they approached to offer Him wine they called out, **C. "If You are King of the Jews, save Yourself."**

N. Above Him there was an inscription that read, "This is the King of the Jews."

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying,

V. "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us."

N. The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply,

V. "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this Man has done nothing criminal."

N. Then he said,

V. "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom."

N. He replied to him,

✦ "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.

Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

✦ "Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit";

N. and when He had said this He breathed His last.

Here all kneel and pause for a short time.

N. The centurion who witnessed what had happened glorified God and said,

V. "This Man was innocent beyond doubt."

N. When all the people who had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts; but all His acquaintances stood at a distance, including the women who had followed Him from Galilee and saw these events.

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April 17, 2025: Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
(page 1)

First Reading**Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall stand at the head of your calendar; you shall reckon it the first month of the year. Tell the whole community of Israel: On the tenth of this month every one of your families must procure for itself a lamb, one apiece for each household. If a family is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join the nearest household in procuring one and shall share in the lamb in proportion to the number of persons who partake of it. The lamb must be a year-old male and without blemish. You may take it from either the sheep or the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, and then, with the whole assembly of Israel present, it shall be slaughtered during the evening twilight. They shall take some of its blood and apply it to the two doorposts and the lintel of every house in which they partake of the lamb. That same night they shall eat its roasted flesh with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

"This is how you are to eat it: with your loins girt, sandals on your feet and your staff in hand, you shall eat like those who are in flight. It is the Passover of the LORD. For on this same night I will go through Egypt, striking down every firstborn of the land, both man and beast, and executing judgment on all the gods of Egypt—I, the LORD! But the blood will mark the houses where you are. Seeing the blood, I will pass over you; thus, when I strike the land of Egypt, no destructive blow will come upon you.

"This day shall be a memorial feast for you, which all your generations shall celebrate with pilgrimage to the LORD, as a perpetual institution."

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18.**

R. (cf. 1 Cor 10:16) Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.

How shall I make a return to the LORD
for all the good He has done for me?
The cup of salvation I will take up,
and I will call upon the Name of the LORD.

R. Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.

Precious in the eyes of the LORD
is the death of His faithful ones.
I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;
you have loosed my bonds.

R. Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.

To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and I will call upon the Name of the LORD.
My vows to the LORD I will pay
in the presence of all His people.

R. Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ.

Second Reading**1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

Brothers and sisters:

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night He was handed over, took bread, and, after He had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is My Body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until He comes.

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April 17, 2025: Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
(page 2)

Gospel Reading**John 13:1-15**

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that His hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved His Own in the world and He loved them to the end. The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand Him over. So, during supper, fully aware that the Father had put everything into His power and that He had come from God and was returning to God, He rose from supper and took off His outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around His waist. Then He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around His waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to Him, "Master, are You going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later." Peter said to Him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with Me." Simon Peter said to Him, "Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."

Jesus said to him, "Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over; so you are clean, but not all." For He knew who would betray Him; for this reason, He said, "Not all of you are clean."

So when He had washed their feet and put His garments back on and reclined at table again, He said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you? You call Me 'Teacher' and 'Master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the Master and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet.

I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

April 18, 2025: Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

(page 1)

First Reading

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

See, My servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted. Even as many were amazed at him so marred was his look beyond human semblance and his appearance beyond that of the sons of man so shall he startle many nations, because of him kings shall stand speechless; for those who have not been told shall see, those who have not heard shall ponder it.

Who would believe what we have heard? To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up like a sapling before him, like a shoot from the parched earth; there was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him, nor appearance that would attract us to him. He was spurned and avoided by people, a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity, one of those from whom people hide their faces, spurned, and we held him in no esteem.

Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured, while we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins; upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; but the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all.

Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth. Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away, and who would have thought any more of his destiny? When he was cut off from the land of the living, and smitten for the sin of his people, a grave was assigned him among the wicked and a burial place with evildoers, though he had done no wrong nor spoken any

falsehood. But the LORD was pleased to crush him in infirmity.

If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him.

Because of his affliction he shall see the light in fullness of days; through his suffering, My servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear. Therefore I will give him his portion among the great, and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty, because he surrendered himself to death and was counted among the wicked; and he shall take away the sins of many, and win pardon for their offenses.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25

R. (Lk 23:46) Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit.

In You, O LORD, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

In Your justice rescue me.

Into Your hands I commend my spirit;
You will redeem me, O LORD, O faithful God.

R. Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit.

For all my foes I am an object of reproach,
a laughingstock to my neighbors, and a dread
to my friends;

they who see me abroad flee from me.

I am forgotten like the unremembered dead;
I am like a dish that is broken.

R. Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit.

But my trust is in You, O LORD;

I say, "You are my God.

In Your hands is my destiny; rescue me
from the clutches of my enemies and my persecutors."

R. Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit.

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**April 18, 2025: Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
(page 2)**

Let Your face shine upon Your servant;
save me in Your kindness.

Take courage and be stouthearted,
all you who hope in the LORD.

R. Father, into Your hands I commend My Spirit.

Second Reading**Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9**

Brothers and sisters:

Since we have a great High Priest Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a High Priest Who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

In the days when Christ was in the flesh, He offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the One Who was able to save Him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Son though He was, He learned obedience from what He suffered; and when He was made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him.

Gospel Reading**John 18:1—19:42**

This Gospel is typically read by multiple readers. It is divided into four parts: Christ (✙), Narrator (N.), Voice (V.), and the Crowd (C.). The Crowd parts are read aloud by the people in the congregation.

✙ The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
N. Jesus went out with His disciples across the Kidron valley to where there was a garden, into which He and His disciples entered. Judas His betrayer also knew the

place, because Jesus had often met there with His disciples. So Judas got a band of soldiers and guards from the chief priests and the Pharisees and went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to Him, went out and said to them,

✙ "Whom are you looking for?"

N. They answered Him,

C. "Jesus the Nazorean."

N. He said to them,

✙ "I AM."

N. Judas His betrayer was also with them. When He said to them, "I AM," they turned away and fell to the ground. So He again asked them,

✙ "Whom are you looking for?"

N. They said,

C. "Jesus the Nazorean."

N. Jesus answered,

✙ "I told you that I AM. So if you are looking for Me, let these men go."

N. This was to fulfill what He had said, "I have not lost any of those you gave Me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, ✙ "Put your sword into its scabbard. Shall I not drink the cup that the Father gave Me?"

N. So the band of soldiers, the tribune, and the Jewish guards seized Jesus, bound Him, and brought Him to Annas first. He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had counseled the Jews that it was better that one Man should die rather than the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Now the other disciple was known to the high priest, and he entered the courtyard of the high priest with Jesus. But Peter stood at the gate outside. So the other disciple, the acquaintance of the high priest, went out and spoke to the gatekeeper and brought Peter in. Then the maid who was the gatekeeper said to Peter,

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**April 18, 2025: Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
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V. "You are not one of this Man's disciples, are you?"

N. He said,

V. "I am not."

N. Now the slaves and the guards were standing around a charcoal fire that they had made, because it was cold, and were warming themselves. Peter was also standing there keeping warm.

The high priest questioned Jesus about His disciples and about His doctrine. Jesus answered him,

✦ "I have spoken publicly to the world. I have always taught in a synagogue or in the temple area where all the Jews gather, and in secret I have said nothing. Why ask Me? Ask those who heard Me what I said to them. They know what I said."

N. When He had said this, one of the temple guards standing there struck Jesus and said,

V. "Is this the way You answer the high priest?" **N.** Jesus answered him,

✦ "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike Me?"

N. Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing there keeping warm. And they said to him,

C. "**You are not one of His disciples, are you?**" **N.** He denied it and said,

V. "I am not."

N. One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said,

V. "Didn't I see you in the garden with Him?"

N. Again Peter denied it. And immediately the cock crowed.

Then they brought Jesus from Caiaphas to the praetorium. It was morning. And they themselves did not enter the praetorium, in order not to be defiled so that they could eat the Passover. So Pilate came out to them and said,

V. "What charge do you bring against this Man?"

N. They answered and said to him,

C. "**If He were not a criminal, we would not have handed Him over to you.**"

N. At this, Pilate said to them,

V. "Take Him yourselves, and judge Him according to your law."

N. The Jews answered him,

C. "**We do not have the right to execute anyone,**"

N. in order that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled that He said indicating the kind of death He would die. So Pilate went back into the praetorium and summoned Jesus and said to Him,

V. "Are you the King of the Jews?"

N. Jesus answered,

✦ "Do you say this on your own or have others told you about Me?"

N. Pilate answered,

V. "I am not a Jew, am I? Your Own nation and the chief priests handed You over to me. What have You done?"

N. Jesus answered,

✦ "My Kingdom does not belong to this world. If My Kingdom did belong to this world, My attendants would be fighting to keep Me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, My Kingdom is not here."

N. So Pilate said to Him,

V. "Then You are a king?"

N. Jesus answered,

✦ "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to My Voice."

N. Pilate said to Him,

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V. "What is truth?"

N. When he had said this, he again went out to the Jews and said to them,

V. "I find no guilt in Him. But you have a custom that I release one prisoner to you at Passover. Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?"

N. They cried out again,

C. **"Not this One but Barabbas!"**

N. Now Barabbas was a revolutionary.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him scourged. And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on His head, and clothed Him in a purple cloak, and they came to Him and said,

C. **"Hail, King of the Jews!"**

N. And they struck Him repeatedly. Once more Pilate went out and said to them,

V. "Look, I am bringing Him out to you, so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him."

N. So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak. And he said to them,

V. "Behold, the Man!"

N. When the chief priests and the guards saw Him they cried out,

C. **"Crucify Him, crucify Him!"**

N. Pilate said to them,

V. "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him. I find no guilt in Him."

N. The Jews answered,

C. **"We have a law, and according to that law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."**

N. Now when Pilate heard this statement, he became even more afraid, and went back into the praetorium and said to Jesus,

V. "Where are you from?"

N. Jesus did not answer him. So Pilate said to Him,

V. "Do You not speak to me? Do You not know that I have power to release You and I have power to crucify You?"

N. Jesus answered him,

✦ "You would have no power over Me if it had not been given to you from above. For this reason the one who handed Me over to you has the greater sin."

N. Consequently, Pilate tried to release Him; but the Jews cried out,

C. **"If you release Him, you are not a Friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar."**

N. When Pilate heard these words he brought Jesus out and seated Him on the judge's bench in the place called Stone Pavement, in Hebrew, Gabbatha. It was preparation day for Passover, and it was about noon. And he said to the Jews,

V. "Behold, your king!"

N. They cried out,

C. **"Take Him away, take Him away! Crucify Him!"**

N. Pilate said to them,

V. "Shall I crucify your king?"

N. The chief priests answered,

C. **"We have no king but Caesar."**

N. Then he handed Him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross Himself, He went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha. There they crucified Him, and with Him two others, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews." Now many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

C. **"Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that He said, 'I am the King of the Jews.'"**

N. Pilate answered,

V. "What I have written, I have written."

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N. When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His clothes and divided them into four shares, a share for each soldier. They also took His tunic, but the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top down. So they said to one another,

C. "Let's not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be,"

N. in order that the passage of Scripture might be fulfilled that says:

*They divided my garments among them,
and for my vesture they cast lots.*

This is what the soldiers did. Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple there whom He loved He said to His mother,

✦ "Woman, behold, your son."

N. Then He said to the disciple,

✦ "Behold, your mother."

N. And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled, Jesus said,

✦ "I thirst."

N. There was a vessel filled with common wine. So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop and put it up to His mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, He said,

✦ "It is finished."

N. And bowing His head, He handed over the Spirit.

Here all kneel and pause for a short time.

N. Now since it was preparation day, in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the sabbath, for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken and that they be taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into His side, and immediately blood and water flowed out. An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true; he knows that he is speaking the truth, so that you also may come to believe. For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:

Not a bone of it will be broken.

And again another passage says:

*They will look upon him whom they have
pierced.*

After this, Joseph of Arimathea, secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus.

And Pilate permitted it. So he came and took His body. Nicodemus, the one who had first come to Him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom. Now in the place where He had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried. So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day; for the tomb was close by.

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April 19, 2025: The Resurrection of the Lord Holy
Saturday At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter
(page 1)

Reading I

Genesis 1:1—2:2

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters.

Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw how good the light was. God then separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness He called "night." Thus evening came, and morning followed—the first day.

Then God said, "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters, to separate one body of water from the other." And so it happened: God made the dome, and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it. God called the dome "the sky." Evening came, and morning followed—the second day.

Then God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin, so that the dry land may appear." And so it happened: the water under the sky was gathered into its basin, and the dry land appeared. God called the dry land "the earth," and the basin of the water he called "the sea." God saw how good it was. Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth vegetation: every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it." And so it happened: the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it. God saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed—the third day.

Then God said: "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years, and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth." And so it happened: God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night; and he made the stars.

God set them in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day.

Then God said, "Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures, and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky." And so it happened: God created the great sea monsters and all kinds of swimming creatures with which the water teems, and all kinds of winged birds. God saw how good it was, and God blessed them, saying, "Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas; and let the birds multiply on the earth." Evening came, and morning followed—the fifth day.

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures: cattle, creeping things, and wild animals of all kinds." And so it happened: God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of cattle, and all kinds of creeping things of the earth. God saw how good it was. Then God said: "Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground." God created man in His image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that

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move on the earth." God also said: "See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food; and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground, I give all the green plants for food." And so it happened. God looked at everything He had made, and He found it very good. Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed. Since on the seventh day God was finished with the work He had been doing, He rested on the seventh day from all the work He had undertaken.

**OR:
Genesis 1:1, 26-31a**

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth, God said: "Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground." God created man in His image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth." God also said: "See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food; and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground, I give all the green plants for food." And so it happened. God looked at everything He had made, and found it very good.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35

R. (30) Lord, send out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!

You are clothed with majesty and glory,
robed in light as with a cloak.

R. Lord, send out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

You fixed the earth upon its foundation,
not to be moved forever;

with the ocean, as with a garment, you covered it;
above the mountains the waters stood.

R. Lord, send out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

You send forth springs into the watercourses
that wind among the mountains.

Beside them the birds of heaven dwell;

from among the branches they send forth their song.

R. Lord, send out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

You water the mountains from your palace;
the earth is replete with the fruit of your works.

You raise grass for the cattle,

and vegetation for man's use,

Producing bread from the earth.

R. Lord, send out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

How manifold are Your works, O LORD!

In wisdom You have wrought them all—
the earth is full of Your creatures.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

R. Lord, send out Your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

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OR:

Psalm 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22

R. (5b) The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Upright is the word of the LORD,
and all His works are trustworthy.

He loves justice and right;
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made;
by the breath of His mouth all their host.

He gathers the waters of the sea as in a flask;
in cellars He confines the deep.

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people He has chosen for His own inheritance.

From Heaven the LORD looks down;
He sees all mankind.

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Our soul waits for the LORD,
Who is our help and our shield.

May Your kindness, O LORD, be upon us
who have put our hope in You.

R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Reading II

Genesis 22:1-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." Early the next morning Abraham saddled his donkey, took with him his son Isaac and two of his servants as well, and with the wood that he had cut for the holocaust, set out for the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham got sight of the place from afar. Then he said to his servants: "Both of you stay here with the donkey, while the boy and I go on over yonder. We will worship and then come back to you." Thereupon Abraham took the wood for the holocaust and laid it on his son Isaac's shoulders, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two walked on together, Isaac spoke to his father Abraham: "Father!" Isaac said. "Yes, son," he replied. Isaac continued, "Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the sheep for the holocaust?" "Son," Abraham answered, "God Himself will provide the sheep for the holocaust." Then the two continued going forward.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Next he tied up his son Isaac, and put him on top of the wood on the altar. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from Heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Abraham named the site

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Yahweh-yireh; hence people now say, "On the mountain the LORD will see."

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from Heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from Me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed My command."

OR:

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you."

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from Heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am," he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from Heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from Me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly

and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed My command."

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11

R. (1) You are my inheritance, O Lord.

O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,
You it is Who hold fast my lot.

I set the LORD ever before me;

with Him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,
my body, too, abides in confidence;

because You will not abandon my soul to the
netherworld,

nor will You suffer Your faithful one to undergo
corruption.

R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.

You will show me the path to life,

fullness of joys in Your presence,

the delights at Your right hand forever.

R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.

Reading III

Exodus 14:15—15:1

The LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to Me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. And you, lift up your staff and, with hand outstretched over the sea, split the sea in two, that the Israelites may pass through it on dry land. But I will make the Egyptians so obstinate that they will go in after them. Then I will receive glory through Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots and charioteers. The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I

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receive glory through Pharaoh and his chariots and charioteers."

The angel of God, who had been leading Israel's camp, now moved and went around behind them. The column of cloud also, leaving the front, took up its place behind them, so that it came between the camp of the Egyptians and that of Israel. But the cloud now became dark, and thus the night passed without the rival camps coming any closer together all night long.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD swept the sea with a strong east wind throughout the night and so turned it into dry land. When the water was thus divided, the Israelites marched into the midst of the sea on dry land, with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

The Egyptians followed in pursuit; all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and charioteers went after them right into the midst of the sea. In the night watch just before dawn the LORD cast through the column of the fiery cloud upon the Egyptian force a glance that threw it into a panic; and He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could hardly drive. With that the Egyptians sounded the retreat before Israel, because the LORD was fighting for them against the Egyptians.

Then the LORD told Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may flow back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and their charioteers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea flowed back to its normal depth. The Egyptians were fleeing head on toward the sea, when the LORD hurled them into its midst. As the water flowed back, it covered the chariots and the charioteers of Pharaoh's whole army which had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not a single one of them escaped. But the Israelites

had marched on dry land through the midst of the sea, with the water like a wall to their right and to their left. Thus the LORD saved Israel on that day from the power of the Egyptians. When Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the seashore and beheld the great power that the LORD had shown against the Egyptians, they feared the LORD and believed in Him and in His servant Moses. Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD: I will sing to the LORD, for He is gloriously triumphant; horse and chariot He has cast into the sea.

Responsorial Psalm

Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18

R. (1b) Let us sing to the Lord; He has covered Himself in glory.

I will sing to the LORD, for He is gloriously triumphant;
horse and chariot He has cast into the sea.

My strength and my courage is the LORD,
and He has been my Savior.

He is my God, I praise Him;
the God of my father, I extol Him.

R. Let us sing to the Lord; He has covered Himself in glory.

The LORD is a warrior,
LORD is His Name!

Pharaoh's chariots and army He hurled into the sea;
the elite of His officers were submerged in the Red Sea.

R. Let us sing to the Lord; He has covered Himself in glory.

The flood waters covered them,
they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O LORD, magnificent in power,
Your right hand, O LORD, has shattered the enemy.

R. Let us sing to the Lord; He has covered Himself in glory.

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You brought in the people You redeemed
and planted them on the mountain of Your
inheritance—
the place where You made Your seat, O LORD,
the sanctuary, LORD, which Your hands established.
The LORD shall reign forever and ever.

**R. Let us sing to the Lord; He has covered Himself in
glory.**

Reading IV

Isaiah 54:5-14

The One who has become your husband is your Maker;
His Name is the LORD of hosts; your Redeemer is the Holy
One of Israel, called God of all the earth. The LORD calls
you back, like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, a wife
married in youth and then cast off, says your God. For a
brief moment I abandoned you, but with great
tenderness I will take you back. In an outburst of wrath,
for a moment I hid my face from you; but with enduring
love I take pity on you, says the LORD, your Redeemer.
This is for Me like the days of Noah, when I swore that
the waters of Noah should never again deluge the earth;
so I have sworn not to be angry with you, or to rebuke
you. Though the mountains leave their place and the hills
be shaken, my love shall never leave you nor My
covenant of peace be shaken, says the LORD, Who has
mercy on you. O afflicted one, storm-battered and
unconsoled,

I lay your pavements in carnelians, and your foundations
in sapphires; I will make your battlements of rubies, your
gates of carbuncles, and all your walls of precious stones.
All your children shall be taught by the LORD, and great
shall be the peace of your children. In justice shall you be
established, far from the fear of oppression, where
destruction cannot come near you.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13

R. (2a) I will praise You, Lord, for You have rescued me.

I will extol You, O LORD, for You drew me clear
and did not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O LORD, You brought me up from the netherworld;
You preserved me from among those going down into
the pit.

R. I will praise You, Lord, for You have rescued me.

Sing praise to the LORD, You his faithful ones,
and give thanks to His holy Name.

For His anger lasts but a moment;
a lifetime, His good will.

At nightfall, weeping enters in,
but with the dawn, rejoicing.

R. I will praise You, Lord, for You have rescued me.

Hear, O LORD, and have pity on me;
O LORD, be my helper.

You changed my mourning into dancing;

O LORD, my God, forever will I give You thanks.

R. I will praise You, Lord, for You have rescued me.

Reading V

Isaiah 55:1-11

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. As I made him a
witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of
nations, so shall you summon a nation you knew not, and
nations that knew you not shall run to you, because of

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the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked man 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.

For just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

R. (3) You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

God indeed is my Savior;

I am confident and unafraid.

My strength and my courage is the LORD,
and He has been my Savior.

With joy you will draw water
at the fountain of salvation.

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim His Name;
among the nations make known His deeds,
proclaim how exalted is His Name.

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Sing praise to the LORD for His glorious achievement;
let this be known throughout all the earth.

Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,

for great in your midst

is the Holy One of Israel!

R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Reading VI

Baruch 3:9-15, 32—4:4

Hear, O Israel, the commandments of life: listen, and know prudence! How is it, Israel, that you are in the land of your foes, grown old in a foreign land, defiled with the dead, accounted with those destined for the netherworld? You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom! Had you walked in the way of God, you would have dwelt in enduring peace. Learn where prudence is, where strength, where understanding; that you may know also where are length of days, and life, where light of the eyes, and peace. Who has found the place of wisdom, who has entered into her treasuries? The One who knows all things knows her; He has probed her by His knowledge—The One who established the earth for all time, and filled it with four-footed beasts; He who dismisses the light, and it departs, calls it, and it obeys Him trembling; before whom the stars at their posts shine and rejoice; when He calls them, they answer, "Here we are!" shining with joy for their Maker. Such is our God; no other is to be compared to Him: He has traced out the whole way of understanding, and has given her to Jacob, His servant, to Israel, His beloved son.

Since then she has appeared on earth, and moved among people. She is the book of the precepts of God, the law

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that endures forever; all who cling to her will live, but those will die who forsake her. Turn, O Jacob, and receive her:

walk by her light toward splendor. Give not your glory to another, your privileges to an alien race.

Blessed are we, O Israel; for what pleases God is known to us!

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11

R. (John 6:68c) Lord, You have the words of everlasting life.

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

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

R. Lord, You have the words of everlasting life.

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

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

R. Lord, You have the words of everlasting life.

The fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;

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

R. Lord, You have the words of everlasting life.

They are more precious than gold,
than a heap of purest gold;

sweeter also than syrup
or honey from the comb.

R. Lord, You have the words of everlasting life.

Reading VII

Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28

The word of the LORD came to me, saying: Son of man, when the house of Israel lived in their land, they defiled it by their conduct and deeds. Therefore I poured out My fury upon them because of the blood that they poured out on the ground, and because they defiled it with idols. I scattered them among the nations, dispersing them over foreign lands; according to their conduct and deeds I judged them. But when they came among the nations wherever they came, they served to profane My holy Name, because it was said of them: "These are the people of the LORD, yet they had to leave their land." So I have relented because of My holy Name which the house of Israel profaned among the nations where they came. Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD: Not for your sakes do I act, house of Israel, but for the sake of My holy Name, which you profaned among the nations to which you came.

I will prove the holiness of My great Name, profaned among the nations, in whose midst you have profaned it. Thus the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD, when in their sight I prove My holiness through you. For I will take you away from among the nations, gather you from all the foreign lands, and bring you back to your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you to cleanse you from all your impurities, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you, taking from your bodies your stony hearts and giving you natural hearts. I will put My spirit within you and make you live by My statutes, careful to observe My decrees. You shall live in the land I gave your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.

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Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4***When baptism is celebrated.*

**R. (42:2) Like a deer that longs for running streams,
my soul longs for you, my God.**

Athirst is my soul for God, the living God.

When shall I go and behold the face of God?

**R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul
longs for you, my God.**

I went with the throng

and led them in procession to the house of God,

Amid loud cries of joy and thanksgiving,

with the multitude keeping festival.

**R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul
longs for you, my God.**

Send forth Your light and Your fidelity;

they shall lead me on

And bring me to Your holy mountain,

to Your dwelling-place.

**R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul
longs for you, my God.**

Then will I go in to the altar of God,

the God of my gladness and joy;

then will I give You thanks upon the harp,

O God, my God!

**R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul
longs for you, my God.**

OR:**Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6***When baptism is not celebrated.*

**R. (3) You will draw water joyfully from the springs of
salvation.**

God indeed is my Savior;

I am confident and unafraid.

My strength and my courage is the LORD,

and He has been my Savior.

With joy you will draw water

at the fountain of salvation.

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of
salvation.**

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim His Name;

among the nations make known His deeds,

proclaim how exalted is His Name.

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of
salvation.**

Sing praise to the LORD for His glorious achievement;

let this be known throughout all the earth.

Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,

for great in your midst

is the Holy One of Israel!

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of
salvation.**

OR:**Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19***When baptism is not celebrated*

R. (12a) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

A clean heart create for me, O God,

and a steadfast spirit renew within me.

Cast me not out from Your presence,

and Your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Give me back the joy of Your salvation,

and a willing spirit sustain in me.

I will teach transgressors Your ways,

and sinners shall return to You.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

For You are not pleased with sacrifices;

should I offer a holocaust, You would not accept it.

My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;

a heart contrite and humbled, O God, You will not

spurn.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

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Epistle**Romans 6:3-11**

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were indeed buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like His, we shall also be united with Him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with Him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over Him. As to His death, He died to sin once and for all; as to his life, He lives for God. Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23****R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
for His mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say,
“His mercy endures forever.”

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The right hand of the LORD has struck with power;
the right hand of the LORD is exalted.

I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done;
it is wonderful in our eyes.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**Gospel Reading****Luke 24:1-12**

At daybreak on the first day of the week the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, “Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but He has been raised. Remember what He said to you while He was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners and be crucified, and rise on the third day.” And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and announced all these things to the eleven and to all the others. The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James; the others who accompanied them also told this to the Apostles, but their story seemed like nonsense and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, bent down, and saw the burial cloths alone; then he went home amazed at what had happened.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

April 20, 2025: Easter Sunday

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First Reading

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Peter proceeded to speak and said:

“You know what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put Him to death by hanging Him on a tree. This Man God raised on the third day and granted that He be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that He is the One appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in Him will receive forgiveness of sins through His Name.”

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

R. (24) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

or:

R. Alleluia.

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
for His mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say,
“His mercy endures forever.”

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

or:

R. Alleluia.

“The right hand of the LORD has struck with power; the
right hand of the LORD is exalted.

I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.”

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

or:

R. Alleluia.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done;
it is wonderful in our eyes.

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

or:

R. Alleluia.

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April 20, 2025: Easter Sunday

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Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

Brothers and sisters: If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with Him in glory.

OR:

1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Brothers and sisters: Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough? Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough, inasmuch as you are unleavened. For our Paschal Lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim

Offer your thankful praises!

A Lamb the sheep redeems;

Christ, who only is sinless,

Reconciles sinners to the Father.

Death and life have contended in that combat
stupendous:

The Prince of life, Who died, reigns immortal.

Speak, Mary, declaring

What you saw, wayfaring.

“The tomb of Christ, Who is living,

The glory of Jesus’ resurrection;

bright angels attesting,

The shroud and napkin resting.

Yes, Christ my hope is arisen;

to Galilee He goes before you.”

Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining.

Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!

Amen. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

John 20:1-9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put Him.”

So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered His head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that He had to rise from the dead.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/

April 27, 2025: Divine Mercy Sunday (the 2nd Sunday of Easter)
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First Reading**Acts 5:12-16**

Many signs and wonders were done among the people at the hands of the Apostles. They were all together in Solomon's portico. None of the others dared to join them, but the people esteemed them. Yet more than ever, believers in the Lord, great numbers of men and women, were added to them. Thus they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and mats so that when Peter came by, at least his shadow might fall on one or another of them. A large number of people from the towns in the vicinity of Jerusalem also gathered, bringing the sick and those disturbed by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24**

R. (1) Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting. Or: R. Alleluia.

Let the house of Israel say,
"His mercy endures forever."

Let the house of Aaron say,
"His mercy endures forever."

Let those who fear the LORD say,
"His mercy endures forever."

R. Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting. Or: R. Alleluia.

I was hard pressed and was falling,
but the LORD helped me.

My strength and my courage is the LORD,
and He has been my Savior.

The joyful shout of victory
in the tents of the just:

R. Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting. Or: R. Alleluia.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done;
it is wonderful in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;
let us be glad and rejoice in it.

R. Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting. Or: R. Alleluia.

Second Reading**Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19**

I, John, your brother, who share with you the distress, the kingdom, and the endurance we have in Jesus, found myself on the island called Patmos because I proclaimed God's word and gave testimony to Jesus. I was caught up in spirit on the Lord's day and heard behind me a voice as loud as a trumpet, which said, "Write on a scroll what you see." Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and when I turned, I saw seven gold lampstands and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, wearing an ankle-length robe, with a gold sash around his chest.

When I caught sight of him, I fell down at his feet as though dead. He touched me with his right hand and said, "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last, the one who lives. Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I hold the keys to death and the netherworld. Write down, therefore, what you have seen, and what is happening, and what will happen afterwards."

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April 27, 2025: Divine Mercy Sunday (the 2nd Sunday of Easter)
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Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

Now a week later His disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see My hands, and bring your hand and put it into My side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in His Name.

Gospel readings source: www.usccb.org/bible/readings/