

Monday of the fifteenth week in Ordinary Time - 7/16/2018

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading: Isaiah 1:10-17

Make yourselves clean, take your evil out of my sight.

Hear the word of the Lord, your rulers of Sodom; listen to the command of our God, you people of Gomorrah.

'What are your endless sacrifices to me? says the Lord. I am sick of holocausts of rams and the fat of calves. The blood of bulls and of goats revolts me. When you come to present yourselves before me, who asked you to trample over my courts? Bring me your worthless offerings no more, the smoke of them fills me with disgust. New Moons, sabbaths, assemblies - I cannot endure festival and solemnity. Your New Moons and your pilgrimages I hate with all my soul. They lie heavy on me. I am tired of bearing them.

'When you stretch out your hands I turn my eyes away. You may multiply your prayers, I shall not listen. Your hands are covered with blood, wash, make yourselves clean.

'Take your wrong-doing out of my sight. Cease to do evil. Learn to do good, search for justice, help the oppressed, be just to the orphan, plead for the widow.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 49:8-9. 16-17. 21. 23

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

'I find no fault with your sacrifices, your offerings are always before me. I do not ask more bullocks from your farms, nor goats from among your herds. **R.**

'How can you recite my commandments and take my covenant on your lips, you who despise my law and throw my words to the winds? **R.**

'You do this, and should I keep silence? Do you think that I am like you? A sacrifice of thanksgiving honours me and I will show God's salvation to the upright.' **R.**

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 5:10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 10:34 - 11:1

I have not come to bring peace, but the sword.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth: it is not peace I have come to bring, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. A man's enemies will be those of his own household.

'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

When Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples he moved on from there to teach and preach in their towns.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Tuesday of the fifteenth week in Ordinary

Time - 7/17/2018

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading: Isaiah 7:1-9

If you do not stand by me, you will perish.

In the reign of Ahaz son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Razon the king of Afam went up against Jerusalem with Pekah son of Remaliah, king of Israel, to lay siege to it; but he was unable to capture it.

The news was brought to the House of David. 'Aram,' they said, 'has reached Ephraim.' Then the heart of the king and the hearts of the people shuddered as the trees of the forest shudder in front of the wind. The Lord said to Isaiah, 'Go with your son Shear-jashub, and meet Ahaz at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the Fuller's Field road, and say to him:

"Pay attention, keep calm, have no fear, do not let your heart sink because of these two smouldering stumps of firebrands, or because Aram, Ephraim and the son of Remaliah have plotted to ruin you, and have said: Let us invade Judah and terrorise it and seize it for ourselves, and set up a king there, the son of Tabeel. The Lord says this: It shall not come true; it shall not be. The capital of Aram is Damascus, the head of Damascus, Razon; the capital of Ephraim, Samaria, the head of Samaria, the son of Remaliah. Six or five years more and shattered Ephraim shall no longer be a people. But if you do not stand by me, you will not stand at all."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 47:2-8

R. God upholds his city for ever.

The Lord is great and worthy to be praised in the city of our God. His holy mountain rises in beauty, the joy of all the earth. **R.**

Mount Zion, true pole of the earth, the Great King's city! God, in the midst of its citadels, has shown himself its stronghold. **R.**

For the kings assembled together, together they advanced. They saw, at once they were astounded; dismayed, they fled in fear. **R.**

A trembling seized them there, like the pangs of birth, or as the east wind destroys the ships of Tarshish. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation: cf Ps 94:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11:20-24

It will not go as hard with Tyre and Sidon and the land of Sodom on Judgement Day as with you.

Jesus began to reproach the towns in which most of his miracles had been worked, because they refused to repent.

'Alas for you, Chorazin! Alas for you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. And still, I tell you that it will not go as hard on Judgement day with Tyre and Sidon as with you. And as for you, Capernaum, did you want to be exalted as high as heaven? You shall be thrown down to hell. For if the miracles done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have been standing yet. And still, I tell you that it will not go as hard as with the land of Sodom on Judgement day as with you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Wednesday of the fifteenth week in Ordinary Time - 7/18/2018

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading: Isaiah 10:5-7. 13-16

Does the axe claim more credit than the one who wields it?

The Lord of hosts says this:

'Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger, the club brandished by me in my fury! I sent him against a godless nation; I gave him commission against a people that provokes me, to pillage and to plunder freely and to stamp down like the mud in the streets. But he did not plan it so. No, in his heart was to destroy, to go on cutting nations to pieces without limit.'

For he has said:

'By the strength of my own arm I have done this and by my own intelligence, for understanding is mine; have pushed back the frontiers of peoples and plundered their treasures. I have brought their inhabitants down to the dust. As if they were bird's nest, my hand has seized the riches of the peoples. As people pick up deserted eggs I have picked up the whole earth, with not a wing fluttering, not a beak opening, not a chirp.'

Does the axe claim more credit than the man who wields it or the saw more strength than the man who handles it? It would be like the cudgel controlling the man who raises it, or the club moving what is not made of wood! And so the Lord of hosts is going to send a wasting sickness on his stout warriors; beneath his plenty, a burning will burn like a consuming fire.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 93:5-10. 14-15

R. The Lord will not abandon his people.

They crush your people, Lord, they afflict the ones you have chosen. They kill the widow and the stranger and murder the fatherless child. **R.**

And they say: 'The Lord does not see; the God of Jacob pays no heed.' Mark this most senseless of people; fools, when will you understand? **R.**

Can he who made the ear not hear? Can he who formed the eye not see? Will he who trains nations not punish? Will he who teaches men not have knowledge? **R.**

The Lord will not abandon his people nor forsake those who are his own: for judgement shall again be just and all true hearts shall uphold it. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation: cf Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-27

The Lord hides these things from the wise and reveals them to children.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the cleaver and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Thursday of the fifteenth week in Ordinary Time - 7/19/2018

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading: Isaiah 26:7-9. 12. 16-19

Come to life and rejoice, all you who lie in the dust.

The path of the upright man is straight, you smooth the way of the upright. Following the path of your judgements, we hoped in you, Lord, your name, your memory are all my soul desires.

At night my soul longs for you and my spirit in me seeks for you; when your judgements appear on earth the inhabitants of the world learn the meaning of integrity.

Lord, you are giving us peace, since you treat us as our deeds deserve.

Distressed, we search for you, Lord; the misery of oppression was your punishment for us. As a woman with child near her time writhes and cries out in her pangs, so are we, O Lord, in your presence: we have conceived, we writhe as if we were giving birth; we have not given the spirit of salvation to the earth, no more inhabitants of the world are born.

Your dead will come to life, their corpses will rise; awake, exult, all you who lie in the dust, for your dew is a radiant dew and the land of ghosts will give birth.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 101:13-21

R. From heaven the Lord looks down on the earth.

You, O Lord, will endure for ever and your name from age to age. You will arise and have mercy on Zion: for this is the time to have mercy, for your servants love her very stones, are moved with pity even for her dust. **R.**

The nations shall fear the name of the Lord and all the earth's kings your glory, when the Lord shall build up Zion again and appear in all his glory. Then he will turn to the prayers of the helpless; he will not despise their prayers. **R.**

Let this be written for ages to come that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord; for the Lord leaned down from his sanctuary on high. He looked down from heaven to the earth that he might hear the groans of the prisoners and free those condemned to die. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11:28-30

I am gentle and humble in heart.

Jesus exclaimed: 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Friday of the fifteenth week in Ordinary

Time - 7/20/2018

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading: Isaiah 38:1-6. 21-22. 7-8

I have heard your prayer and seen your tears.

Hezekiah fell ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came and said to him, 'The Lord says this, "Put your affairs in order, for you are going to die, you will not live."' Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and addressed this prayer to the Lord, 'Ah, Lord, remember, I beg you, how I have behaved faithfully and with sincerity of heart in your presence and done what is right in your eyes.' And Hezekiah shed many tears.

Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah, 'Go and say to Hezekiah, "The Lord, the God of David your ancestor, says this: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears. I will cure you: in three days' time you shall go up to the Temple of the Lord. I will add fifteen years to your life. I will save you from the hands of the king of Assyria, I will protect this city."'

'Bring a fig poultice,' Isaiah said. 'Apply it to the ulcer and he will recover.' Hezekiah said, 'What is the sign to tell me that I shall be going up to the Temple of the Lord?' 'Here' Isaiah replied 'is the sign from the Lord that he will do what he has said. Look, I shall make the shadow cast by the declining sun go back ten steps on the steps of Ahaz.' And the sun went back the ten steps by which it had declined.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Is 38:10-12. 16

R. You saved my life, O Lord, I shall not die.

I said, 'So I must go away, my life half spent, assigned to the world below for the rest of my years.' **R.**

I said, 'No more shall I see the Lord in the land of the living, no more shall I look upon men within this world.' **R.**

'My home is pulled up and removed like a shepherd's tent. Like a weaver you have rolled up my life, you cut it from the loom.' **R.**

'For you, Lord, my heart will live, you gave me back my spirit; you cured me, kept me alive, changed my sickness into health.' **R.**

Gospel Acclamation: John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 12:1-8

The Son of Man is master of the sabbath.

Jesus took a walk one sabbath day through the cornfields. His disciples were hungry and began to pick ears of corn and eat them. The Pharisees noticed it and said to him, 'Look, your disciples are doing something that is forbidden on the sabbath.' But he said to them, 'Have you not read what David did when he and his followers were hungry - how he went into the house of God and how they ate the loaves of offering which neither he nor his followers were allowed to eat, but which were for the priests alone? Or again, have you not read in the Law that on the sabbath day the Temple priests break the sabbath without being blamed for it? Now here, I tell you, is something greater than the Temple. And if you had understood the meaning of the words: What I want is mercy, not sacrifice, you would not have condemned the blameless. For the Son of Man is master of the sabbath.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Saturday of the fifteenth week in Ordinary

Time - 7/21/2018

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

First Reading: Micah 2:1-5

They seized the fields and houses that they coveted.

Woe to those who plot evil, who lie in bed planning mischief! No sooner is it dawn than they do it. - their hands have the strength for it. Seizing the fields that they covet, they take over houses as well, owner and house they confiscate together, taking both man and inheritance. So the Lord says this: Now it is I who plot such mischief against this breed as your necks will not escape; nor will you be able to walk proudly, so evil will be the time for you. On that day they will make a satire on you, sing a dirge and say, 'We are stripped of everything; my people's portion is measured out and shared, no one will give back to them, our fields are awarded to our despoiler.' Therefore you will have no one to measure out a share in the community of the Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 98:1-4. 7-8. 14

R. Do not forget the poor, O Lord!

Lord, why do you stand afar off and hide yourself in times of distress? The poor man is devoured by the pride of the wicked: he is caught in the schemes that others have made. **R.**

For the wicked man boasts of his heart's desires; the covetous blasphemes and spurns the Lord. In his pride the wicked says: 'He will not punish. There is no God.' Such are his thoughts. **R.**

His mouth is full of cursing, guile, oppression, mischief and deceit under his tongue. He lies in wait among the reeds; the innocent he murders in secret. **R.**

But you have seen the trouble and sorrow, you note it, you take it in hand. The helpless trusts himself to you; for you are the helper of the orphan. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation: 2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 12:14-21

He did not show himself to them that what had been said would be fulfilled.

The Pharisees went out and began to plot against Jesus, discussing how to destroy him.

Jesus knew this and with drew from the district. Many followed him and he cured them all, but warned them not to make him known. This was to fulfil the prophecy of Isaiah:

Here is my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved, the favourite of my soul. I will endow him with my spirit, and he will proclaim the true faith to the nations. He will not brawl or shout, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets. He will not break the crushed reed, nor put out the smouldering wick till he has led the truth to victory: in his name the nations will put their hope.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Sunday of the sixteenth week in Ordinary

Time - 7/22/2018

Entrance Antiphon

See, I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

The remnant of the flock I will gather to me, and bring them back to their pastures.

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered - it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds - it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost - it is the Lord who speaks!

'See the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. and this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18

Christ, our peace, has made us one.

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34

They were as sheep without a shepherd.

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.