

Anzac Day

Saturday 25 Apr 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Rev 14:13

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Let them rest from their labours,

FIRST READING

Wis 3:1-9 or

A reading from the book of Wisdom

He accepted them as a holocaust.

The souls of the virtuous are in the hands of God, no torment shall ever touch them. In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die, their going looked like a disaster, their leaving us, like annihilation; but they are in peace. If they experienced punishment as men see it, their hope was rich with immortality; slight was their affliction, great will their blessings be. God has put them to the test and proved them worthy to be with him; he has tested them like gold in a furnace, and accepted them as a holocaust. When the time comes for his visitation they will shine out; as sparks run through the stubble, so will they. They shall judge nations, rule over peoples, and the Lord will be their king for ever. They who trust in him will understand the truth, those who are faithful will live with him in love; for grace and mercy await those he has chosen

or

Wis 3:1-6. 9

A reading from the book of Wisdom

He accepted them as a holocaust.

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or

Is 9:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Wide is the dominion of the Lord, in a peace that has no end.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who lived in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing up the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of

Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by fire. For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will do this.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 114:5-6; 115:10-11. 15-16, R. v.9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me. **(R.)**
2. I trusted, even when I said: 'I am sorely afflicted,' and when I said in my alarm: 'No man can be trusted'. **(R.)**
3. O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. **(R.)**

or

Ps 71:2-4. 7-8. 12-13. 17, R. v.7

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the King, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**
2. May the mountains bring forth peace for the people and the hills, justice. May he defend the poor of the people and save the children of the needy. **(R.)**
3. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. **(R.)**
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**
5. May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 1:18-25

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The language of the cross may be illogical to those who are not on the way to salvation, but those of us who are on the way see it as God's power to save. As scripture says: I shall destroy the wisdom of the wise and bring to nothing all the learning of the learned. Where are the philosophers now? Where are the scribes? Where are any of our thinkers today? Do you see now

how God has shown up the foolishness of human wisdom? If it was God's wisdom that human wisdom should not know God, it was because God wanted to save those who have faith through the foolishness of the message that we preach. And so, while the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ: to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness but to those who have been called whether they are Jews or Greeks a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

or

Eph 2:13-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them. Alleluia!

or

Alleluia, alleluia!

Peace I leave with you, says the Lord; my own peace I give you. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 12:23-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it is for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

or

Jn 12:23-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.'

or

Jn 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Peace is what I give to you.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Jn 15:13

Greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends, says the Lord.