

SUNDAY, March 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Prayer for the Morning

The Lord is light and salvation: let us praise him!

Glory to the Father... Amen.

Hymn Meter: SM

It is a comely thing
To glorify and praise
Our God, the everlasting Word,
And Lord of endless days.
The trembling cherubim
Before him fold their wings,
And all the heavenly hosts adore
The mighty King of kings.
We would our offering give—
O Christ, to thee we pray,
For thou did break the bonds of death
When dawned the glorious day.
O Christ, the source of light,
With light my soul inspire;
Come, make my heart the bright abode
Of thy celestial fire.

Psalm 27:1-3, 7-9a, 13-14

*The light came into the world, but people preferred
darkness to light, because their works were evil.*

(Jn 3:19)

*Habits of the heart can become blinders to the spirit.
Lent challenges us to look and see the light of God's
saving love shining upon the world from the face of
Christ lifted up on the cross for our salvation. Let us live
by the light of that love.*

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom
shall I shrink?
When evil-doers draw near to devour my flesh, it is
they, my enemies and foes, who stumble and fall.
Though an army encamp against me my heart would
not fear.
Though war break out against me even then would I
trust.
O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and
answer.
Of you my heart has spoken: "Seek his face." It is your
face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my
help.
I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of
the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the
Lord!
Glory to the Father

Word of God Romans 13:11b-13

Our salvation is nearer now than when we first
believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let
us then throw off the works of darkness [and] put on
the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as
in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in
promiscuity and licentiousness, not in rivalry and
jealousy.

*Light produces every kind of goodness and
righteousness and truth.* *(Eph 5:9)*

Canticle of Zechariah

*The lamp of the body is your eye. When your eye is
sound, then your whole body is filled with light, but
when it is bad, then your body is in darkness.*

(Lk 11:34)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to
his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a
mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he
would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all
who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to
set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to
worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his
sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most
High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation by the
forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on
high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell
in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our
feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father...

Intercessions

Let us pray for the gift of light, that we may see and
live the mystery of Christ crucified in our daily lives.

R/Light of Christ, light our way.

You have called us to take up our cross and follow you:

R/

You have called us to seek your Kingdom: **R/**

You have called us to see the least of our brothers and
sisters as your body: **R/**

You have called us to face death with hope: **R/**

Personal intentions

Our Father....

O God, the night is dark, and the road before us long. Lead us as you once led your people across the -desert. By the light of Christ lifted up on the cross, show us your way and lead us to the Promised Land opened for us by the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

Mass - Sunday, March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Reading 1 **2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23**

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the Lord's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the Lord, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the Lord against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this -proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

Reading 2 **Ephesians 2:4-10**

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved—, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

Gospel **John 3:14-21**

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

Men of St. Joseph Prayer

St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God's commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God's will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family's salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!

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