

Sunday, March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Prayer for the Morning

God is our God, and we are his people: come, let us adore!
Glory to the Father...Amen.

Hymn **Meter: LM**

The love of God is shown to all
In Christ our Savior's wounded heart;
He asks us now to share his cross
And in his passion to take part.
We are the Father's gift to Christ
Who loves his own until the end;
His burden light we bear with joy,
And gladly to his yoke we bend.
Praise Father, Son and Spirit blest,
Eternal Trinity sublime,
Who make their home in humble hearts,
Indwelling to the end of time.

Canticle **Ezekiel 36:24-28**

I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (Jer 31:33)

Hearts of stone, broken by the idols chosen in place of God, broken as the stone tablets of the law were broken at the foot of Mount Sinai, cannot hold the living waters of God's love. Through the death and Resurrection of Christ, we will be given new hearts, washed clean in the tears of Christ.

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!

Word of God **Jeremiah 24:7**

I will give them a heart with which to understand that I am the Lord. They shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart.

My dwelling shall be with them; I will be their God and they shall be my people. (Ez 37:27)

Canticle of Zechariah

All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the Lord, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more. (Jer 31:34)

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

God is faithful to his promises. In hope, we pray:

R/Teach us, O Lord!

That we may learn anew this Lent the depths of your law of love: **R/**

That we may grow this Lent in our fidelity to the covenant into which we were baptized: **R/**

That those who are preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation may know the joy to be found through the renewal of heart you offer: **R/**

Personal intentions

Our Father....

O Lord our God, you make new the human race in the mystery of the cross. As we prepare to celebrate this mystery with love and devotion, renew and deepen us in our commitment to the Gospel, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Reading 1 **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

The days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers the day I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of Egypt; for they broke my covenant, and I had to show myself their master, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord. I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer will they have need to teach their friends and relatives how to know the Lord. All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the Lord, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more.

Reading 2 **Hebrews 5:7-9**

In the days when Christ Jesus 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 **John 12:20-33**

Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.

"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." The crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this indicating the kind of death he would die.

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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