

## Week of February 12, 2012

### SUNDAY

#### READING 1 LV 13:1-2, 44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "If someone has on his skin a scab or pustule or blotch which appears to be the sore of leprosy, he shall be brought to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests among his descendants. If the man is leprous and unclean, the priest shall declare him unclean by reason of the sore on his head.

"The one who bears the sore of leprosy shall keep his garments rent and his head bare, and shall muffle his beard; he shall cry out, 'Unclean, unclean!' As long as the sore is on him he shall declare himself unclean, since he is in fact unclean. He shall dwell apart, making his abode outside the camp."

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 32:1-2, 5, 11

**R. (7) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Blessed is he whose fault is taken away,  
whose sin is covered.

Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt,  
in whose spirit there is no guile.

**R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
my guilt I covered not.

I said, "I confess my faults to the LORD,"  
and you took away the guilt of my sin.

**R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you just;  
exult, all you upright of heart.

**R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

#### READING 2 1 COR 10:31-11:1

Brothers and sisters,  
Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God. Avoid giving offense, whether to the Jews or Greeks or the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in every way, not seeking my own benefit but that of the many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

#### GOSPEL MK 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning the him sternly, he dismissed him at once.

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them."

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for

Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

### MONDAY

#### Reading 1 Jas 1:1-11

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
to the twelve tribes in the dispersion, greetings.

Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. And let perseverance be perfect, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. But if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and he will be given it. But he should ask in faith, not doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed about by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord, since he is a man of two minds, unstable in all his ways.

The brother in lowly circumstances should take pride in high standing, and the rich one in his lowliness, for he will pass away "like the flower of the field." For the sun comes up with its scorching heat and dries up the grass, its flower droops, and the beauty of its appearance vanishes. So will the rich person fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76

**R. (77a) Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

Before I was afflicted I went astray,  
but now I hold to your promise.

**R. Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

You are good and bountiful;  
teach me your statutes.

**R. Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

It is good for me that I have been afflicted,  
that I may learn your statutes.

**R. Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

The law of your mouth is to me more precious  
than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

**R. Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

I know, O LORD, that your ordinances are just,  
and in your faithfulness you have afflicted me.

**R. Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

Let your kindness comfort me  
according to your promise to your servants.

**R. Be kind to me, Lord, and I shall live.**

#### GOSPEL MK 8:11-13

The Pharisees came forward and began to argue with Jesus, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. He sighed from the depth of his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign?"

## Week of February 12, 2012

Amen, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation." Then he left them, got into the boat again, and went off to the other shore.

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### TUESDAY

#### READING 1 JAS 1:12-18

Blessed is he who perseveres in temptation, for when he has been proven he will receive the crown of life that he promised to those who love him. No one experiencing temptation should say, "I am being tempted by God"; for God is not subject to temptation to evil, and he himself tempts no one. Rather, each person is tempted when lured and enticed by his desire. Then desire conceives and brings forth sin, and when sin reaches maturity it gives birth to death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers and sisters: all good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change. He willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 94:12-13A, 14-15, 18-19

R. (12a) **Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.**

Blessed the man whom you instruct, O LORD,  
whom by your law you teach,  
Giving him rest from evil days.

R. **Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.**

For the LORD will not cast off his people,  
nor abandon his inheritance;  
But judgment shall again be with justice,  
and all the upright of heart shall follow it.

R. **Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.**

When I say, "My foot is slipping,"  
your mercy, O LORD, sustains me;  
When cares abound within me,  
your comfort gladdens my soul.

R. **Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.**

#### GOSPEL MK 8:14-21

The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. Jesus enjoined them, "Watch out, guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." They concluded among themselves that it was because they had no bread. When he became aware of this he said to them, "Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread? Do you not yet understand or comprehend? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear? And do you not remember, when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?" They answered him, "Twelve." "When I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many full baskets of fragments did you pick up?" They answered him, "Seven." He said to them, "Do you still not understand?"

### WEDNESDAY

#### READING 1 JAS 1:19-27

Know this, my dear brothers and sisters:  
everyone should be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger for anger does not accomplish the righteousness of God. Therefore, put away all filth and evil excess and humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls.

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his own face in a mirror. He sees himself, then goes off and promptly forgets what he looked like. But the one who peers into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres, and is not a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts; such a one shall be blessed in what he does.

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, his religion is vain. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 15:2-3A, 3BC-4AB, 5

R. (1b) **Who shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord?**

He who walks blamelessly and does justice;  
who thinks the truth in his heart  
and slanders not with his tongue.

R. **Who shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord?**

Who harms not his fellow man,  
nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor;  
By whom the reprobate is despised,  
while he honors those who fear the LORD.

R. **Who shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord?**

Who lends not his money at usury  
and accepts no bribe against the innocent.  
He who does these things  
shall never be disturbed.

R. **Who shall live on your holy mountain, O Lord?**

#### GOSPEL MK 8:22-26

When Jesus and his disciples arrived at Bethsaida, people brought to him a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village. Putting spittle on his eyes he laid his hands on the man and asked, "Do you see anything?" Looking up the man replied, "I see people looking like trees and walking." Then he laid hands on the man's eyes a second time and he saw clearly; his sight was restored and he could see everything distinctly. Then he sent him home and said, "Do not even go into the village."

## Week of February 12, 2012

### THURSDAY

#### READING 1 JAS 2:1-9

My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. For if a man with gold rings and fine clothes comes into your assembly, and a poor person with shabby clothes also comes in, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here, please," while you say to the poor one, "Stand there," or "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil designs?

Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom that he promised to those who love him? But you dishonored the poor. Are not the rich oppressing you? And do they themselves not haul you off to court? Is it not they who blaspheme the noble name that was invoked over you? However, if you fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

**R. (7a) The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**

I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall be ever in my mouth.  
Let my soul glory in the LORD;  
the lowly will hear me and be glad.

**R. The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**

Glorify the LORD with me,  
let us together extol his name.  
I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
and delivered me from all my fears.

**R. The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy,  
and your faces may not blush with shame.  
When the poor one called out, the LORD heard,  
and from all his distress he saved him.

**R. The Lord hears the cry of the poor.**

#### GOSPEL MK 8:27-33

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

### FRIDAY

#### READING 1 JAS 2:14-24, 26

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works. You believe that God is one. You do well. Even the demons believe that and tremble. Do you want proof, you ignoramus, that faith without works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered his son Isaac upon the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by the works. Thus the Scripture was fulfilled that says,

*Abraham believed God,  
and it was credited to him as righteousness,  
and he was called the friend of God.*

See how a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. For just as a body without a spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

**R. (see 1b) Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.**

Blessed the man who fears the LORD,  
who greatly delights in his commands.  
His posterity shall be mighty upon the earth;  
the upright generation shall be blessed.

**R. Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.**

Wealth and riches shall be in his house;  
his generosity shall endure forever.  
Light shines through the darkness for the upright;  
he is gracious and merciful and just.

**R. Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.**

Well for the man who is gracious and lends,  
who conducts his affairs with justice;  
He shall never be moved;  
the just man shall be in everlasting remembrance.

**R. Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.**

#### GOSPEL MK 8:34-9:1

Jesus summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the Gospel will save it. What profit is there for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? What could one give in exchange for his life? Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this faithless and sinful generation, the

## Week of February 12, 2012

Son of Man will be ashamed of when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

He also said to them, "Amen, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the Kingdom of God has come in power."

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### SATURDAY

#### READING 1 JAS 3:1-10

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you realize that we will be judged more strictly, for we all fall short in many respects. If anyone does not fall short in speech, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body also. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we also guide their whole bodies. It is the same with ships: even though they are so large and driven by fierce winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot's inclination wishes. In the same way the tongue is a small member and yet has great pretensions.

Consider how small a fire can set a huge forest ablaze. The tongue is also a fire. It exists among our members as a world of malice, defiling the whole body and setting the entire course of our lives on fire, itself set on fire by Gehenna. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this need not be so.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 12:2-3, 4-5, 7-8

**R. (8a) You will protect us, Lord.**

Help, O LORD! for no one now is dutiful;  
faithfulness has vanished from among the children of men.  
Everyone speaks falsehood to his neighbor;  
with smooth lips they speak, and double heart.

**R. You will protect us, Lord.**

May the LORD destroy all smooth lips,  
every boastful tongue,  
Those who say, "We are heroes with our tongues;  
our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"

**R. You will protect us, Lord.**

The promises of the LORD are sure,  
like tried silver, freed from dross, sevenfold refined.

You, O LORD, will keep us  
and preserve us always from this generation.

**R. You will protect us, Lord.**

#### GOSPEL MK 9:2-13

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good

that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; then from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, the disciples no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant. Then they asked him, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" He told them, "Elijah will indeed come first and restore all things, yet how is it written regarding the Son of Man that he must suffer greatly and be treated with contempt? But I tell you that Elijah has come and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written of him."

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