

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.*

COLLECT

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God,
the constant gladness of being devoted to you,
for it is full and lasting happiness
to serve with constancy
the author of all that is good.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Malachi 3:19-20

A reading from the prophet Malachi.

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant
and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming
is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them
neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of
righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 97

**RESPONSE: *The Lord comes to rule the peoples with
fairness.***

1. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp
with the sound of music.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
acclaim the King, the Lord. **R.**
2. Let the sea and all within it, thunder;
the world, and all its peoples.
Let the rivers clap their hands
and the hills ring out their joy
at the presence of the Lord. **R.**
3. For the Lord comes,
he comes to rule the earth.
He will rule the world with justice
and the peoples with fairness. **R.**

SECOND READING 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not
idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at
anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and
day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you.
This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make
ourselves an example for you to follow.

We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone
have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that
there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work
themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus
Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly
working and earning the food that they eat.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Stay awake, praying at all times
for the strength to stand with confidence
before the Son of Man.
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Stand erect, hold your heads high,
because your liberation is near at hand.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL Luke 21:5-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was
adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, "All
these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not
a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed."
And they put to him this question: "Master," they said, "when will
this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to
take place?"

"Take care not to be deceived," he said, "because many will
come using my name and saying, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near
at hand.' Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and
revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must
happen but the end is not so soon." Then he said to them, "Nation
will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will
be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there;
there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute
you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to
imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because
of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness.
Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence,
because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that
none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will
be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends;
and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men
on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost.
Your endurance will win you your lives."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, O Lord, we pray,
that what we offer in the sight of your majesty
may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you
and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.*

Or

*Amen, I say to you: Whatever you ask in prayer,
believe that you will receive,
and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery,
humbly imploring, O Lord,
that what your Son commanded us to do
in memory of him

may bring us growth in charity.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.