

**ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 22,2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel

Rend your hearts, not your garments.

Even now, says the LORD,
return to me with your whole heart,
with fasting, and weeping, and mourning;

Rend your hearts, not your garments,
and return to the LORD, your God.

For gracious and merciful is he,
slow to anger, rich in kindness,
and relenting in punishment.

Perhaps he will again relent
and leave behind him a blessing,

Offerings and libations
for the LORD, your God.

Blow the trumpet in Zion!

proclaim a fast,

call an assembly;

Gather the people,
notify the congregation;

Assemble the elders,
gather the children

and the infants at the breast;

Let the bridegroom quit his room
and the bride her chamber.

Between the porch and the altar

let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep,

And say, "Spare, O LORD, your people,
and make not your heritage a reproach,
with the nations ruling over them!

Why should they say among the peoples,
'Where is their God?' "

Then the LORD was stirred to concern for his land
and took pity on his people.

The word of the Lord.

**ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 22,2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the
Corinthians

*Be reconciled to God. Behold, now is the accept-
able time.*

Brothers and sisters:

We are ambassadors for Christ,
as if God were appealing through us.

We implore you on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know
sin,

so that we might become the righteousness of God in
him.

Working together, then,
we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in
vain.

For he says:

In an acceptable time I heard you,
and on the day of salvation I helped you.

Behold, now is a very acceptable time;
behold, now is the day of salvation.

The word of the Lord.

**FIRST SUNDAY LENT
FEBRUARY 26, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of Genesis

*God's covenant with Noah when he was delivered
from the flood.*

God said to Noah and to his sons with him:
"See, I am now establishing my covenant with you
and your descendants after you
and with every living creature that was with you:
all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals
that were with you and came out of the ark.

I will establish my covenant with you,
that never again shall all bodily creatures be de-
stroyed
by the waters of a flood;
there shall not be another flood to devastate the
earth."

God added:

"This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come,
of the covenant between me and you
and every living creature with you:

I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign
of the covenant between me and the earth.

When I bring clouds over the earth,
and the bow appears in the clouds,

I will recall the covenant I have made
between me and you and all living beings,
so that the waters shall never again become a flood
to destroy all mortal beings."

The word of the Lord.

**FIRST SUNDAY LENT
FEBRUARY 26, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Peter

*The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which
saves you now.*

Beloved:

Christ suffered for sins once,
the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous,
that he might lead you to God.

Put to death in the flesh,
he was brought to life in the Spirit.

In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison,
who had once been disobedient
while God patiently waited in the days of Noah
during the building of the ark,
in which a few persons, eight in all,
were saved through water.

This prefigured baptism, which saves you now.

It is not a removal of dirt from the body
but an appeal to God for a clear conscience,
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
who has gone into heaven
and is at the right hand of God,
with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.
The word of the Lord..

**SECOND SUNDAY LENT
MARCH 4, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test.
He called to him, "Abraham!"
"Here I am!" he replied.

Then God said:

"Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love,
and go to the land of Moriah.

There you shall offer him up as a holocaust
on a height that I will point out to you."

When they came to the place of which God had told
him,

Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood
on it.

Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his
son.

But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven,
"Abraham, Abraham!"

"Here I am!" he answered.

"Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger.

"Do not do the least thing to him.

I know now how devoted you are to God,
since you did not withhold from me your own be-
loved son."

As Abraham looked about,
he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket.

So he went and took the ram
and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from
heaven and said:

"I swear by myself, declares the LORD,
that because you acted as you did
in not withholding from me your beloved son,

I will bless you abundantly
and make your descendants as countless
as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore;
your descendants shall take possession
of the gates of their enemies,

and in your descendants all the nations of the earth
shall find blessing-

all this because you obeyed my command."

The word of the Lord.

**SECOND SUNDAY LENT
MARCH 4, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

God did not spare his own Son.

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son

but handed him over for us all,

how will he not also give us everything else along
with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us, who will condemn?

Christ Jesus it is who died-or, rather, was raised-

who also is at the right hand of God,

who indeed intercedes for us.

The word of the Lord.

**THIRD SUNDAY LENT
MARCH 11, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of Exodus

The law was given through Moses.

In those days, God delivered all these commandments:

"I, the LORD, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery.

You shall not have other gods besides me.

You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or worship them.

For I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, inflicting punishment for their fathers' wickedness on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation; but bestowing mercy down to the thousandth generation on the children of those who love me and keep my commandments.

"You shall not take the name of the LORD, your God, in vain.

For the LORD will not leave unpunished the one who takes his name in vain.

"Remember to keep holy the sabbath day.

Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD, your God.

No work may be done then either by you, or your son or daughter, or your male or female slave, or your beast, or by the alien who lives with you.

In six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them; but on the seventh day he rested.

That is why the LORD has blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.

"Honor your father and your mother, that you may have a long life in the land which the LORD, your God, is giving you.

You shall not kill.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass, nor anything else that belongs to him."

The word of the Lord.

**THIRD SUNDAY LENT
MARCH 11, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to many,

but to those who are called, the wisdom of God.

Brothers and sisters:

Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom,

but we proclaim Christ crucified,

a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike,

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,

and the weakness of God is stronger than human

strength.

The word of the Lord.

**FOURTH SUNDAY LENT
MARCH 18, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the second Book of Chronicles

*The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed
in the exile and liberation of his people.*

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 Chal-
deans 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!"

The word of the Lord..

**FOURTH SUNDAY LENT
MARCH 18, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

*Though dead in your transgressions, by grace you
have been saved.*

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.

The word of the Lord.

**FIFTHSUNDAY LENT
MARCH 25, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

*I will make a new covenant and remember their sin
no more.*

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.
The word of the Lord.

**FIFTHSUNDAY LENT
MARCH 25, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

*Christ learned obedience and became the source of
eternal salvation.*

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.

The word of the Lord.

**PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 1, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

*My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting
knowing, that I shall not be put to shame.*

The Lord God has given me
a well-trained tongue,
that I might know how to speak to the weary
a word that will rouse them.
Morning after morning
he opens my ear that I may hear;
and I have not rebelled,
have not turned back.
I gave my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;
my face I did not shield
from buffets and spitting.
The Lord GOD is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced;
I have set my face like flint,
knowing that I shall not be put to shame.
The word of the Lord.

**PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 1, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the
Philippians

*Christ humbled himself. Because of this God
greatly exalted him.*

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
something to be grasped.
Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness;
and found human in appearance,
he humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
Because of this, God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
which is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord,

**HOLY THURSDAY
APRIL 5, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of Exodus

The law regarding the Passover meal.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,

"This month shall stand at the head of your calendar; you shall reckon it the first month of the year.

Tell the whole community of Israel:

On the tenth of this month every one of your families must procure for itself a lamb, one apiece for each household.

If a family is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join the nearest household in procuring one and shall share in the lamb in proportion to the number of persons who partake of it.

The lamb must be a year-old male and without blemish. You may take it from either the sheep or the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, and then, with the whole assembly of Israel present, it shall be slaughtered during the evening twilight.

They shall take some of its blood and apply it to the two doorposts and the lintel of every house in which they partake of the lamb. That same night they shall eat its roasted flesh with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

"This is how you are supposed to eat it: with your loins girt, sandals on your feet and your staff in hand, you shall eat like those who are in flight.

It is the Passover of the LORD.

For on this same night I will go through Egypt, striking down every firstborn of the land, both man and beast, and executing judgment on all the gods of Egypt-I, the LORD!

But the blood will mark the houses where you are. Seeing the blood, I will pass over you; thus, when I strike the land of Egypt, no destructive blow will come upon you.

"This day shall be a memorial feast for you, which all your generations shall celebrate with pilgrimage to the LORD, as a perpetual institution."

The word of the Lord.

**HOLY THURSDAY
APRIL 5, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord.

Brothers and sisters:

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

The word of the Lord.

**GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 6, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

He himself was wounded for our sins.

(Fourth oracle of the Servant of the Lord).

See, my servant shall prosper,
he shall be raised high and greatly exalted.

Even as many were amazed at him—
so marred was his look beyond human semblance
and his appearance beyond that of the sons of man—
so shall he startle many nations,
because of him kings shall stand speechless;
for those who have not been told shall see,
those who have not heard shall ponder it.

Who would believe what we have heard?
To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

He grew up like a sapling before him,
like a shoot from the parched earth;
there was in him no stately bearing to make us look at
him,

nor appearance that would attract us to him.

He was spurned and avoided by people,
a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity,
one of those from whom people hide their faces,
spurned, and we held him in no esteem.

Yet it was our infirmities that he bore,
our sufferings that he endured,
while we thought of him as stricken,
as one smitten by God and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our offenses,
crushed for our sins;

upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole,
by his stripes we were healed.

We had all gone astray like sheep,
each following his own way;
but the LORD laid upon him
the guilt of us all.

Though he was harshly treated, he submitted
and opened not his mouth;

like a lamb led to the slaughter
or a sheep before the shearers,

he was silent and opened not his mouth.

Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away,
and who would have thought any more of his destiny?

When he was cut off from the land of the living,
and smitten for the sin of his people,

a grave was assigned him among the wicked
and a burial place with evildoers, though he had done
no wrong nor spoken any falsehood.
But the LORD was pleased to crush him in infirmity.

If he gives his life as an offering for sin,
he shall see his descendants in a long life,
and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished
through him.

Because of his affliction he shall see the light
in fullness of days; through his suffering, my
servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall
bear.

Therefore I will give him his portion among the great,
and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty,
because he surrendered himself to death and was
counted among the wicked; and he shall take away the
sins of many, and win pardon for their offenses.

The word of the Lord.

**GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 6, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

*Jesus learned obedience and became the source of
salvation for all who obey him.*

Brothers and sisters:

Since we have a great high priest who has passed
through the heavens,

Jesus, the Son of God,

let us hold fast to our confession.

For we do not have a high priest
who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,
but one who has similarly been tested in every way,
yet without sin.

So let us confidently approach the throne of grace
to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

In the days when Christ 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.

So 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.

The word of the Lord.

**EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 8, 2012
FIRST READING**

**EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 8, 2012
SECOND READING**

To be announced later.

**2nd SUNDAY EASTER
APRIL 15, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were of one heart and mind.

The community of believers was of one heart and mind,
and no one claimed that any of his possessions was
his own,
but they had everything in common.
With great power the apostles bore witness
to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus,
and great favor was accorded them all.
There was no needy person among them,
for those who owned property or houses would sell
them,
bring the proceeds of the sale,
and put them at the feet of the apostles,
and they were distributed to each according to need.
The word of the Lord.

**2nd SUNDAY EASTER
APRIL 15, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Whoever is begotten by God conquers the world.

Beloved:
Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God,
and everyone who loves the Father
loves also the one begotten by him.
In this way we know that we love the children of God
when we love God and obey his commandments.
For the love of God is this,
that we keep his commandments.
And his commandments are not burdensome,
for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world.
And the victory that conquers the world is our faith.
Who indeed is the victor over the world
but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of
God?
This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ,
not by water alone, but by water and blood.
The Spirit is the one that testifies,
and the Spirit is truth.
The word of the Lord.

**3RD SUNDAY EASTER
APRIL 22, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead.

Peter said to the people:

"The God of Abraham,

the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob,
the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus,
whom you handed over and denied in Pilate's presence

when he had decided to release him.

You denied the Holy and Righteous One
and asked that a murderer be released to you.

The author of life you put to death,
but God raised him from the dead; of this we are witnesses.

Now I know, brothers,
that you acted out of ignorance, just as your leaders did;

but God has thus brought to fulfillment
what he had announced beforehand
through the mouth of all the prophets,
that his Christ would suffer.

Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may
be wiped away."

The word of the Lord.

**3RD SUNDAY EASTER
APRIL 22, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Jesus Christ is expiation not for our sins only but for those of the whole world.

My children, I am writing this to you
so that you may not commit sin.

But if anyone does sin, we have an Advocate with the
Father,

Jesus Christ the righteous one.

He is expiation for our sins,
and not for our sins only but for those of the whole
world.

The way we may be sure that we know him is to keep
his commandments.

Those who say, "I know him," but do not keep his
commandments

are liars, and the truth is not in them.

But whoever keeps his word,
the love of God is truly perfected in him.

The word of the Lord.

**4TH SUNDAY EASTER
APRIL 29, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

There is no salvation through anyone else.

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said:

"Leaders of the people and elders:

If we are being examined today
about a good deed done to a cripple,
namely, by what means he was saved,
then all of you and all the people of Israel should
know

that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene
whom you crucified, whom God raised from the
dead;

in his name this man stands before you healed.

He is the stone rejected by you, the builders,
which has become the cornerstone.

There is no salvation through anyone else,
nor is there any other name under heaven
given to the human race by which we are to be
saved."

The word of the Lord.

**4TH SUNDAY EASTER
APRIL 29, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

We shall see God as he really is.

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God.

Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.

We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like
him,

for we shall see him as he is.

The word of the Lord.

**5TH SUNDAY EASTER
MAY 6, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*Barnabas reported to the Apostles how Saul had
seen the Lord on the way.*

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples,
but they were all afraid of him,
not believing that he was a disciple.
Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to
the apostles,
and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord,
and that he had spoken to him,
and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the
name of Jesus.
He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem,
and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord.
He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists,
but they tried to kill him.
And when the brothers learned of this,
they took him down to Caesarea
and sent him on his way to Tarsus.
The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria
was at peace.
It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord,
and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in
numbers.
The word of the Lord.

**5TH SUNDAY EASTER
MAY 6, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

*This is his commandment: that we may believe and
love.*

Children, let us love not in word or speech
but in deed and truth.
Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the
truth
and reassure our hearts before him
in whatever our hearts condemn,
for God is greater than our hearts and knows every-
thing.
Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us,
we have confidence in God
and receive from him whatever we ask,
because we keep his commandments and do what
pleases him.
And his commandment is this:
we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus
Christ,
and love one another just as he commanded us.
Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and
he in them,
and the way we know that he remains in us
is from the Spirit he gave us.
The word of the Lord.

**6TH SUNDAY EASTER
MAY 13, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the
Gentiles also.*

When Peter entered, Cornelius met him
and, falling at his feet, paid him homage.
Peter, however, raised him up, saying,
"Get up. I myself am also a human being."

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said,
"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts up-
rightly
is acceptable to him."

While Peter was still speaking these things,
the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the
word.

The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter
were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit
should have been poured out on the Gentiles also,
for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glo-
rifying God.

Then Peter responded,
"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these
people,
who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?"
He ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus
Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**6TH SUNDAY EASTER
MAY 13, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

God is love.

Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is of God;
everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows
God.

Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is
love.

In this way the love of God was revealed to us:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might have life through him.

In this is love:
not that we have loved God, but that he loved us
and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.
The word of the Lord.

**ASCENSION OF THE LORD
MAY 20, 2012
FIRST READING**

The Ascension of the Lord.

A reading from the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles

As the Apostles were looking on, Jesus was lifted up.

In the first book, Theophilus,
I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught
until the day he was taken up,
after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit
to the apostles whom he had chosen.
He presented himself alive to them
by many proofs after he had suffered,
appearing to them during forty days
and speaking about the kingdom of God.

While meeting with them,
he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem,
but to wait for "the promise of the Father
about which you have heard me speak;
for John baptized with water,
but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy
Spirit."

When they had gathered together they asked him,
"Lord, are you at this time going to restore
the kingdom to Israel?"

He answered them, "It is not for you to know the times
or seasons
that the Father has established by his own authority.
But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes
upon you,

and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem,
throughout Judea and Samaria,
and to the ends of the earth."

When he had said this, as they were looking on,
he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their
sight.

While they were looking intently at the sky as he was
going,
suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood
beside them.

They said, "Men of Galilee,
why are you standing there looking at the sky?
This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven
will return in the same way as you have seen him go-
ing into heaven."

The word of the Lord.

**ASCENSION OF THE LORD
MAY 20, 2012
SECOND READING**

The Ascension of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

God seated Jesus at his right hand in the heavens.

Brothers and sisters:

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of
glory,
give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation
resulting in knowledge of him.

May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened,
that you may know what is the hope that belongs to
his call,

what are the riches of glory
in his inheritance among the holy ones,
and what is the surpassing greatness of his power
for us who believe,

in accord with the exercise of his great might,
which he worked in Christ,
raising him from the dead
and seating him at his right hand in the heavens,
far above every principality, authority, power, and
dominion,

and every name that is named
not only in this age but also in the one to come.

And he put all things beneath his feet
and gave him as head over all things to the church,
which is his body,
the fullness of the one who fills all things in every
way.

The word of the Lord.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY
MAY 26, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak.

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled,
they were all in one place together.
And suddenly there came from the sky
a noise like a strong driving wind,
and it filled the entire house in which they were.
Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,
which parted and came to rest on each one of them.
And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and began to speak in different tongues,
as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under
heaven staying in Jerusalem.

At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd,
but they were confused
because each one heard them speaking in his own lan-
guage.

They were astounded, and in amazement they asked,
"Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans?
Then how does each of us hear them in his native lan-
guage?"

We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites,
inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia,
Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia,
Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene,
as well as travelers from Rome,
both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Ar-
abs,

yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues
of the mighty acts of God."
The word of the Lord.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY
MAY 26, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the
Corinthians

In one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Brothers and sisters:

No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy
Spirit.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same
Spirit;

there are different forms of service but the same Lord;
there are different workings but the same God
who produces all of them in everyone.

To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit
is given for some benefit.

As a body is one though it has many parts,
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one
body,
so also Christ.

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

OR

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

The fruit of the Spirit.

Brothers and sisters, live by the Spirit and you will
certainly not gratify the desire of the flesh.

For the flesh has desires against the Spirit,
and the Spirit against the flesh; these are opposed to
each other, so that you may not do what you want.
But if you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under
the law.

Now the works of the flesh are obvious:
immorality, impurity, lust, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds,
rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness,
dissensions, factions, occasions of envy, drinking
bouts, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I warned
you before, that those who do such things will not
inherit the kingdom of God. In contrast, the fruit of
the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Against such there is no law.

Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified
their flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

MOST HOLY TRINITY
JUNE 3, 2012
FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

The Lord is God in the heavens above and on earth below and there is no other.

Moses said to the people:

"Ask now of the days of old, before your time,
ever since God created man upon the earth;
ask from one end of the sky to the other:
Did anything so great ever happen before?
Was it ever heard of?

Did a people ever hear the voice of God
speaking from the midst of fire, as you did, and live?
Or did any god venture to go and take a nation for him-
self

from the midst of another nation,
by testings, by signs and wonders, by war,
with strong hand and outstretched arm, and by great
terrors,

all of which the LORD, your God,
did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?

This is why you must now know,
and fix in your heart, that the LORD is God
in the heavens above and on earth below,
and that there is no other.

You must keep his statutes and commandments that I
enjoin on you today,

that you and your children after you may prosper,
and that you may have long life on the land
which the LORD, your God, is giving you forever."

The word of the Lord.

MOST HOLY TRINITY
JUNE 3, 2012
SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

You received a Spirit of adoption, through whom we cry, "Abba, Father!"

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back
into fear,

but you received a Spirit of adoption,
through whom we cry, "Abba, Father!"

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit
that we are children of God,

and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,
if only we suffer with him

so that we may also be glorified with him.

The word of the Lord.

MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST
JUNE 10, 2012
FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Exodus

This is the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you.

When Moses came to the people
and related all the words and ordinances of the
LORD,
they all answered with one voice,
"We will do everything that the LORD has told us."
Moses then wrote down all the words of the LORD and,
rising early the next day,
he erected at the foot of the mountain an altar
and twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel.
Then, having sent certain young men of the Israelites
to offer holocausts and sacrifice young bulls
as peace offerings to the LORD,
Moses took half of the blood and put it in large
bowls;
the other half he splashed on the altar.
Taking the book of the covenant, he read it aloud to the
people,
who answered, "All that the LORD has said, we will
heed and do."
Then he took the blood and sprinkled it on the people,
saying,
"This is the blood of the covenant
that the LORD has made with you
in accordance with all these words of his."
The word of the Lord.

MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST
JUNE 10, 2012
SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

The blood of Christ will cleanse our consciences.

Brothers and sisters:
When Christ came as high priest
of the good things that have come to be,
passing through the greater and more perfect taberna-
cle
not made by hands, that is, not belonging to this crea-
tion,
he entered once for all into the sanctuary,
not with the blood of goats and calves
but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal re-
demption.
For if the blood of goats and bulls
and the sprinkling of a heifer's ashes
can sanctify those who are defiled
so that their flesh is cleansed,
how much more will the blood of Christ,
who through the eternal Spirit offered himself un-
blemished to God,
cleanse our consciences from dead works
to worship the living God.
For this reason he is mediator of a new covenant:
since a death has taken place for deliverance
from transgressions under the first covenant,
those who are called may receive the promised eter-
nal inheritance.
The word of the Lord.

**11TH SUNDAY ORDINARY
JUNE 17, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

I have lifted high the lowly tree.

Thus says the Lord GOD:

I, too, will take from the crest of the cedar,
from its topmost branches tear off a tender shoot,
and plant it on a high and lofty mountain;
on the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it.

It shall put forth branches and bear fruit,
and become a majestic cedar.

Birds of every kind shall dwell beneath it,
every winged thing in the shade of its boughs.

And all the trees of the field shall know
that I, the LORD,

bring low the high tree,
lift high the lowly tree,

wither up the green tree,
and make the withered tree bloom.

As I, the LORD, have spoken, so will I do.
The word of the Lord.

**11TH SUNDAY ORDINARY
JUNE 17, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the
Corinthians

*Whether we are at home or away, we aspire to
please the Lord.*

Brothers and sisters:

We are always courageous,
although we know that while we are at home in the
body

we are away from the Lord,
for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Yet we are courageous,
and we would rather leave the body and go home to
the Lord.

Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.
For we must all appear before the judgment seat of
Christ,

so that each may receive recompense,
according to what he did in the body, whether good or
evil.

The word of the Lord.

**NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST
JUNE 23, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

I will make you a light to the nations.

Hear me, O coastlands,
listen, O distant peoples.
The LORD called me from birth,
from my mother's womb he gave me my name.
He made of me a sharp-edged sword
and concealed me in the shadow of his arm.
He made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me.
You are my servant, he said to me,
Israel, through whom I show my glory.
Though I thought I had toiled in vain,
and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength,
yet my reward is with the LORD,
my recompense is with my God.
For now the LORD has spoken
who formed me as his servant from the womb,
that Jacob may be brought back to him
and Israel gathered to him;
and I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD,
and my God is now my strength!
It is too little, he says, for you to be my servant,
to raise up the tribes of Jacob,
and restore the survivors of Israel;
I will make you a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.
The word of the Lord.

**NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST
JUNE 23, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance.

In those days, Paul said:
"God raised up David as king;
of him God testified,
I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own
heart;
he will carry out my every wish.
From this man's descendants God, according to his
promise,
has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus.
John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of
repentance
to all the people of Israel;
and as John was completing his course, he would say,
'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he.
Behold, one is coming after me;
I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.'
"My brothers, sons of the family of Abraham,
and those others among you who are God-fearing,
to us this word of salvation has been sent."
The word of the Lord.

**13TH SUNDAY ORDINARY
JULY 1, 2012
FIRST READING**

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

By the envy of the devil, death entered the world.

God did not make death,
nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living.
For he fashioned all things that they might have being;
and the creatures of the world are wholesome,
and there is not a destructive drug among them
nor any domain of the netherworld on earth,
for justice is undying.
For God formed man to be imperishable;
the image of his own nature he made him.
But by the envy of the devil, death entered the world,
and they who belong to his company experience it.
The word of the Lord.

**13TH SUNDAY ORDINARY
JULY 1, 2012
SECOND READING**

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the
Corinthians

*Your abundance should supply the needs of the
poor.*

Brothers and sisters:
As you excel in every respect, in faith, discourse,
knowledge, all earnestness, and in the love we have
for you,
may you excel in this gracious act also.
For you know the gracious act of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that though he was rich, for your sake he became
poor,
so that by his poverty you might become rich.
Not that others should have relief while you are bur-
dened,
but that as a matter of equality
your abundance at the present time should supply
their needs,
so that their abundance may also supply your needs,
that there may be equality.
As it is written:
Whoever had much did not have more,
and whoever had little did not have less.
The word of the Lord.