

36 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The readings assigned for Year A, no. 34, may replace these.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 43.16-21

I am about to do a new thing: I will give drink to my chosen people.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

- 16 Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
17 who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
18 Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
- 19 I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
- 20 The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
21 the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 126.1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5, 6 (R.3)

- R.** The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.
- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy. **R.**
Then it was said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
3 The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced. **R.**
4

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the desert of the Negev.
5 May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy. **R.**
6 Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves. **R.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 3.8-14

*I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish,
so that I may attain Christ.*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

8 I regard everything as loss
because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.
For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things,
and I regard them as rubbish,
9 in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him,
not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law,
but one that comes through faith in Christ,
the righteousness from God based on faith.
10 I want to know Christ
and the power of his resurrection
and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death,
11 if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.
12 Not that I have already obtained this
or have already reached the goal;
but I press on to make it my own,
because Christ Jesus has made me his own.
13 Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own;
but this one thing I do:
forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
14 I press on toward the goal
for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

A period of silence is observed after the reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This verse may accompany the singing of the acclamation.
If the acclamation is not sung, it is omitted.

With all your heart turn to me, says the Lord,
for I am tender and compassionate.

GOSPEL

John 8.1-11

Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone.

✠ A reading from the gospel according to John.

- 1 Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.
2 Early in the morning he came again to the temple.
All the people came to him
and he sat down and began to teach them.
3 The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman
who had been caught in adultery;
and making her stand before the people,
4 they said to Jesus,
“Teacher, this woman was caught
in the very act of committing adultery.
5 In the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women.
Now what do you say?”
6 They said this to test Jesus,
so that they might have some charge to bring against him.
Jesus bent down
and wrote with his finger on the ground.
7 When the scribes and Pharisees kept on questioning him,
Jesus straightened up and said to them,
“Let anyone among you who is without sin
be the first to throw a stone at her.”
8 And once again Jesus bent down and wrote on the ground.
9 When the scribes and Pharisees heard what Jesus had said,
they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders;
and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him.
10 Jesus straightened up and said to her,
“Woman, where are they?
Has no one condemned you?”
11 She said, “No one, sir.”
And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you.
Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.”

The gospel of the Lord.