

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

Cf. Ps 30: 3-4

**GOSPEL**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

Matthew 5:17-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**COLLECT**

O God, who teach us that you abide  
in hearts that are just and true,  
grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace  
as to become a dwelling pleasing to you.  
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**

A reading from the Book of Sirach. Sirach 15:15-20

If you desire, you will keep the commandments, and to act  
faithfully is a matter of choice. He has placed before you fire  
and water: stretch out your hand for whichever you wish. Life  
and death are in front of people, and whichever one chooses  
will be given to him. For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is  
mighty in power and sees everything; his eyes are on those  
who fear him, and he knows a person's every deed. He has  
not commanded anyone to be ungodly, and he has not given  
anyone permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

Psalm 119(118):1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R.1b

**R. Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!**

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the LORD!  
Blessed are those who keep his decrees!  
With all their hearts they seek him.

You have laid down your precepts  
to be carefully kept.  
May my ways be firm  
in keeping your statutes.

Deal bountifully with your servant,  
that I may live and keep your word.  
Open my eyes, that I may see  
the wonders of your law.

LORD, teach me the way of your statutes,  
and I will keep them to the end.  
Grant me insight that I may keep your law,  
and observe it wholeheartedly.

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.  
1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Brothers and sisters: Among the mature we do impart wisdom,  
although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this  
age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and  
hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for  
our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if  
they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as  
it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart  
of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love  
him' — these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit.  
For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL**

**Alleluia, alleluia.** Cf. Matthew 11:25  
**I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.  
Alleluia.**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not think that I  
have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not  
come to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you,  
until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot,  
will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore  
whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments  
and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the  
kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them  
will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you,  
unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and  
Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'

'You have heard that it was said to those of old, "You shall not  
murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement." But  
I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be  
liable to judgement; whoever insults his brother will be liable to  
the council; and whoever says, "You fool!" will be liable to the  
hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there  
remember that your brother has something against you, leave  
your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled  
to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to  
terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him  
to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and  
the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to  
you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.'

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit  
adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a  
woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with  
her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out  
and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your  
members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if  
your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away.  
For it is better that you lose one of your members than that  
your whole body go into hell.'

R.

'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her  
a certificate of divorce." But I say to you that everyone who  
divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality,  
makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced  
woman commits adultery.'

R.

'Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, "You  
shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you  
have sworn." But I say to you: Do not take an oath at all, either  
by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it  
is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great  
King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot  
make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply  
"Yes" or "No"; anything more than this comes from evil.'

R.

R.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray,  
cleanse and renew us  
and may it become for those who do your will  
the source of eternal reward.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Cf. Ps 77: 29-30

**They ate and had their fill,  
and what they craved the Lord gave them;  
they were not disappointed in what they craved.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Having fed upon these heavenly delights,  
we pray, O Lord,  
so that we may always long  
for that food by which we truly live.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

