

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

2 BEFORE ADVENT (YEAR B)

COLLECT

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Dan 12.1-3

A reading from the book of Daniel.

At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from Ps 16



R. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
(*All repeat*)



Preserve me God, I take re-**f**uge in you;
I say to the Lord, 'You **l** are my God.
O Lord it is you who are my por-**l**tion and
cup;
it is you yourself who **l** are my prize.' **R.**

I will bless the Lord who **l** gives me counsel;
who even at night di-**l**rects my heart.
I keep the Lord ever **l** in my sight;
since he is at my right hand, I **l** shall stand
firm. **R.**

And so my heart rejoices, my **l** soul is glad;
even my body shall **l** rest in safety.

For you will not leave my soul a-**l**mong the
dead,
nor let your beloved **l** know decay. **R.**

O Lord you will show me the **l** path of life;
the fullness of joy **l** in your presence,
and at **l** your right hand
are pleasures for **l** evermore. **R.**

SECOND READING

Heb 10.11-14,19-25

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil

conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 21.36

Alleluia.

Be watchful and remain constant in prayer: that you may stand with confidence before the Son of Man.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Mk 13.1-8

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down."

And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when all these things are about to be accomplished?" And Jesus began to say to them, "See that no-one leads you astray. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. And when you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed. This must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. These are but the beginning of the birth pains."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, grant that the offering we make to you may help us to grow in holiness and bring us to eternal life in heaven; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**