

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

3 BEFORE LENT (YEAR C) PROPER 3

COLLECT

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Gen 45.3–11,15

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Joseph said to his brothers, ‘I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?’ But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, ‘Come closer to me.’ And they came closer. He said, ‘I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, “Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there – since there are five more years of famine to

come – so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.”’ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from Ps 37



R. Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord.

(All repeat)



Do not fret because | of the wicked;
do not envy those | who do evil,
for they shall soon wither | like the grass
and fade like the green | of the fields. *R.*

If you trust in the Lord | and do good,
you will live in the land and | be secure.
If you find your delight | in the Lord,
he will grant your | heart’s desire. *R.*

Commit your way | to the Lord;
trust in him and he will bring | it to pass,
so that your justice breaks forth | like the
light,
your cause like the | noon-day sun. *R.*

Be still be-|fore the Lord
and wait for | him in patience.
Do not fret over the | man who prospers,
who devises | evil schemes. *R.*

SECOND READING

1 Cor 15.45–50

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

The first man, Adam, as Scripture says, became a living being; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will

also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13.34

Alleluia.

I give you a new commandment, says the

Lord:

Love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Lk 6.27–38

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ☩ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:—

“I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

“If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We celebrate these holy mysteries, Lord, in fulfilment of the service that we owe, and ask that the offering we make in honour of your glory may avail for our salvation; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**