



ASH WEDNESDAY (ABC)

Introit (*Miseréris ómnium, Dómine*) • Wis 11:24-25, 27; Ps 56

Your mercy extends to all things, O Lord, and you despise none of the things you have made. You overlook the sins of men for the sake of repentance. You grant them your pardon, because you are the Lord our God. Vs. Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for my soul confides in you.

Reading I • Jl 2:12-18

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.

Responsorial Psalm • Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17



Be mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; | in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. || Thoroughly wash me from my guilt | and of my sin cleanse me.

For I acknowledge my offense, | and my sin is before me always:
“Against you only have I sinned, | and done what is evil in your sight.”

A clean heart create for me, O God, | and a steadfast spirit renew within me.
Cast me not out from your presence, | and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

Give me back the joy of your salvation, | and a willing spirit sustain in me.
O Lord, open my lips, | and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

or: Gradual (*Miserére mei Deus, miserére mei*) • Ps 56:2, 4

Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for my soul confides in you. He has sent from heaven and saved me; he has put to shame those who trampled upon me.

Reading II • 2 Cor 5:20–6:2

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.

Gospel Acclamation • *for melodies, please see front of book*

“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” (Cf. Ps 95: 8)

N.B. During Lent, both before and after the Gospel Acclamation, instead of the “Alleluia,” any of the following phrases may be used:

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus!

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

or: Tract (*Dómine, non secúndum peccáta nostra*) • Ps 102:10; 78:8-9

Lord, do not requite us according to the sins we have committed or according to our iniquity. Lord, remember not our sins of old; let your compassion come speedily to meet us, for we are brought very low. Help us, O God, our Saviour, and for the glory of your name, deliver us, O Lord; and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake.

Gospel • Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Jesus said to his disciples: “Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father. When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

“When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

“When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.”

Offertory (*Exaltábo te Dómine, quóniam suscepísti me*) • Ps 29:2-3

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and have not allowed my enemies to rejoice over me; O Lord, I called out unto you, and you healed me.

Communion (*Qui meditábitur in lege Dómini die ac nocte*) • Ps 1:2b, 3b

He who meditates day and night on the law of the Lord, shall bear fruit in due season.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

Introit (*Invocábit me, et ego exáudiam eum*) • Ps 90:15-16, 1

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will rescue him and honour him; with long life will I satisfy him. Vs. He who abides in the shelter of the Most High, shall remain under the protection of the God of Heaven.