Therefore thus says the Lord:

Behold, I am planning against this race an evil from which you shall not withdraw your necks:

Nor shall you walk with head high, for it will be a time of evil.

On that day a satire shall be sung over you, and there shall be a plaintive chant:

"Our ruin is complete,

our fields are portioned out among our captors.

The fields of my people are measured out, and no one can get them back!"

Thus you shall have no one to mark out boundaries by lot in the assembly of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 10, 1-2. 3-4. 7-8. 14

Ry. (12) Do not forget the poor, O Lord!

Why, O Lord, do you stand aloof?

Why hide in times of distress?

Proudly the wicked harass the afflicted, who are caught in the devices the wicked

have contrived.

Ry. Do not forget the poor, O Lord!

For the wicked man glories in his greed,

and the covetous blasphemes, sets the Lord at nought.

The wicked man boasts, "He will not avenge it":

"There is no God," sums up his thoughts.

Ry. Do not forget the poor, O Lord!

His mouth is full of cursing, guile and deceit; under his tongue are mischief and iniquity.

He lurks in ambush near the villages;

in hiding he murders the innocent; his eyes spy upon the unfortunate.

Ry. Do not forget the poor, O Lord!

You do see, for you behold misery and sor-

taking them in your hands.

On you the unfortunate man depends; of the fatherless you are the helper.

Ry. Do not forget the poor, O Lord!

GOSPEL

Years I and II Mt 12, 14-21

Mt 12, 14-7

Alleluia See no. 509.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

He did not show himself to them that what had been said would be fulfilled.

When the Pharisees were outside they began to plot against Jesus to find a way to destroy him. Jesus was aware of this, and so he withdrew from that place.

Many people followed him and he cured them all, though he sternly ordered them not to make public what he had done. This was to fulfill what had been said through Isaiah the prophet:

"Here is my servant whom I have chosen, my loved one in whom I delight.

I will endow him with my spirit

and he will proclaim justice to the Gen-

He will not contend or cry out,

nor will his voice be heard in the streets.

The bruised reed he will not crush;

The smoldering wick he will not quench until judgment is made victorious.

In his name, the Gentiles will find hope."
This is the gospel of the Lord.

395 MONDAY OF THE SIXTEENTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

Year I

READING I

Ex 14, 5-18

A reading from the book of Exodus

They will know that I am the Lord God when I glorify myself at the expense of Pharaoh.

When it was reported to the king of Egypt that the people had fled, Pharaoh and his servants changed their minds about them. "What have we done!" they exclaimed. "Why, we have released Israel from our service!" So Pharaoh made his chariots ready and mustered his soldiers—six hundred first-class chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt, with warriors on them all. So obstinate had the Lord made Pharaoh that he pursued the Israelites even while

they were marching away in triumph. The Egyptians, then, pursued them; Pharaoh's whole army, his horses, chariots and charioteers, caught up with them as they lay encamped by the sea, at Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

Pharaoh was already near when the Israelites looked up and saw that the Egyptians were on the march in pursuit of them. In great fright they cried out to the Lord. And they complained to Moses, "Were there no burial places in Egypt that you had to bring us out here to die in the desert? Why did you do this to us? Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Did we not tell you this in Egypt, when we said, 'Leave us alone. Let us serve the Egyptians'? Far better for us to be the slaves of the Egyptians than to die in the desert." But Moses answered the people, "Fear not! Stand your ground, and you will see the victory the Lord will win for you today. These Egyptians whom you see today you will never see again. The Lord himself will fight for you; you have only to keep still."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. And you, lift up your staff and, with hand outstretched over the sea, split the sea in two, that the Israelites may pass through it on dry land. But I will make the Egyptians so obstinate that they will go in after them. Then I will receive glory through Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots and charioteers. The Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I receive glory through Pharaoh and his chariots and charioteers."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ex 15, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Ry. (1) Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

I will sing to the Lord, for he is gloriously triumphant:

horse and chariot he has cast into the sea. My strength and my courage is the Lord, and he has been my savior.

He is my God, I praise him; the God of my father, I extol him. R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

The Lord is a warrior,

Lord is his name!

Pharaoh's chariots and army he hurled into the

the elite of his officers were submerged in the Red Sea.

Ry. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

The flood waters covered them, they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O Lord, magnificent in power, your right hand, O Lord, has shattered the enemv.

R'. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

Year II

READING I

A reading from the book of the prophet Micah I will explain to you, man, what it is the Lord God asks of you.

Hear what the Lord says:

Arise, present your plea before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice!

Hear, O mountains, the plea of the Lord, pay attention, O foundations of the earth! For the Lord has a plea against his people, and he enters into trial with Israel.

O my people, what have I done to you, or how have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, from the place of slavery I released you; And I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow before God most high? Shall I come before him with holocausts, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams.

with myriad streams of oil? Shall I give my first-born for my crime, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? You have been told, O man, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you:

Only to do the right and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 50, 5-6. 8-9. 16-17. 21. 23

Ry. (23) To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

"Gather my faithful ones before me, those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice."

And the heavens proclaim his justice; for God himself is the judge.

Ry. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you, for your holocausts are before me always. I take from your house no bullock, no goats out of your fold.

Ry. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

"Why do you recite my statutes, and profess my covenant with your mouth, Though you hate discipline and cast my words behind you?

Ry. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

When you do these things, shall I be deaf to it?

Or do you think that I am like yourself?

I will correct you by drawing them up before your eyes.

He that offers praise as a sacrifice glorifies me; and to him that goes the right way I will show the salvation of God."

Ry. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.

Years I and II

Mt 12, 38-42

GOSPEL Alleluia

See no. 509.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

On Judgment Day the Queen of the South will rise up with this generation and condemn it.

Some of the scribes and Pharisees then spoke up, saying, "Teacher, we want to see you work

some signs." Jesus answered: "An evil and unfaithful age is eager for a sign! No sign will be given it but that of the prophet Jonah. Just as Jonah spent three days and three nights in the belly of the whale, so will the Son of Man spend three days and three nights in the bowels of the earth. At the judgment, the citizens of Nineveh will rise with the present generation and be the ones to condemn it. At the preaching of Jonah they reformed their lives; but you have a greater than Jonah here. At the judgment, the queen of the South will rise with the present generation and be the one to condemn it. She came from the farthest corner of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon; but you have a greater than Solomon here."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

396 TUESDAY OF THE SIXTEENTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

Year |

READING I

Ex 14, 21-15, 1

A reading from the book of Exodus

The sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea. Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord swept the sea with a strong east wind throughout the night and so turned it into dry land. When the water was thus divided, the Israelites marched into the midst of the sea on dry land, with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

The Egyptians followed in pursuit; all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and charioteers went after them right into the midst of the sea. In the night watch just before dawn the Lord cast through the column of the fiery cloud upon the Egyptian force a glance that threw it into a panic; and he so clogged their chariot wheels that they could hardly drive. With that the Egyptians sounded the retreat before Israel, because the Lord was fighting for them against the Egyptians.

Then the Lord told Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may flow back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots