

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Turn your eyes, O God our shield;
and look on the face of the anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, come to my aid!

I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. **(R.)**

He drew me from the deadly pit, from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock and made my footsteps firm. **(R.)**

He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear and shall trust in the Lord. **(R.)**

As for me, wretched and poor, the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help, O God, do not delay! **(R.)**

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Hebrews 12:1-4

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke 12:49-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over! 'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though you have already come,
I embrace You and Unite myself entirely to You:
never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen



READINGS NEXT WEEK:

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

1st Reading: **Isaiah 66:18-21**

2nd Reading: **Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13**

Gospel: **Luke 13:22-30**