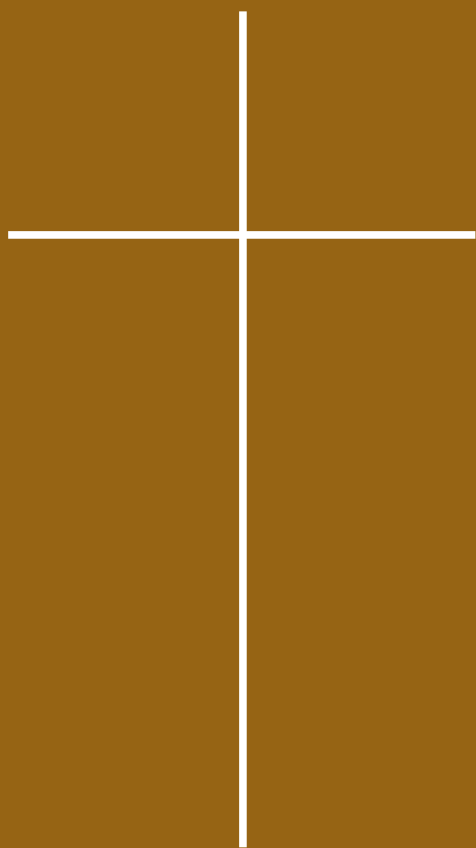


‘Signs of God’



LECTIONARY

Feasts & Solemnities

'Signs of God' Lectionary Feasts & Solemnities

For clergy, pastoral workers, volunteers, Deaf people and those interested in the world of the signing Catholic community.

'Signs of God' Lectionary

For use with the Signing Deaf community
Lectionary 3rd edition
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Introduction

This complete and revised four volume edition of 'Signs of God' lectionaries includes all the readings for Ordinary Sundays, Proper of Seasons and Feasts/Solemnities (Year A, B, C and Feasts & Solemnities). It has been produced for the Deaf community. The original Lectionary already exists but it is not designed for Deaf signers who have to translate the vernacular (ie English) before they are able to proclaim the Word of God in sign language. The Deaf communities are a linguistic minority and within Great Britain use British Sign Language to communicate in daily living as well as in Christian witness.

British Sign Language is used in Northern Ireland and Irish Sign Language in Eire; however, many Irish Deaf are familiar with both. There is a long history of some Irish signs incorporated into British Sign Language in places such as Glasgow and London creating a mistaken notion of 'Catholic signs' versus 'Protestant signs'. It is similar to people with accents and the way they speak. These lectionaries are written with syntax which enables the signer to sign using their localized sign language to proclaim the Word of God in their own language.

In order to maintain the integrity and content of the Word of God in the Scriptures and to ensure that it is proclaimed appropriately in sign language, it is important not only to bear in mind the theology of the scriptures but also to take into account the cultural and historical background of the Deaf community. This we have tried to do in this revised edition of 'Signs of God' lectionaries.

For signers to present the Word of God in sign language, they need to go through a process of translation which involves a high level of skill, knowledge and competence, both linguistically and theologically. Conveying and proclaiming God's message from the printed word in the Lectionary into sign language needs to be clear, unambiguous, and immediately comprehensible to Deaf people in the congregation so that they do not have to mentally re-interpret what they see.

Inevitably, there will be sentences in which the English will sound a little strange to the ears; this is because of the need to facilitate the 'signability' whilst at the same time remaining faithful to the original meaning as in the Lectionary. Ideally the Lectionary is best captured in a visual form which enables signers to explore and enhance the different ways of

Introduction

proclaiming the Word of God (see <https://www.catholicdeaf.org.uk>).

Natural sign language means entering into the Deaf culture. Furthermore, it is almost impossible to understand the signer if s/he does not use the indigenous idiomatic expression which impounds the richness of aspectual information that comes from the visual-spatial characteristics of sign language. Therefore, it is crucially important that the signers understand the contents of the texts that they are to translate and proclaim.

As regards the visual aspect of presenting the Word of God, good liturgy is possible when a 'signer' and a 'voice-over' have practised together. Too often, many people live in a world of 'words'; we have five senses and so we try to encourage 'signers' and 'voice-overs' to be conscious of how they present not only the Word of God but also themselves. The Lectern needs to be at the right height – usually waist height – many lecterns in Church are too high, they reach up almost to the neck, thus obliterating the congregation's view of the Signer apart from the face. The right height maximises the signer's signing space for signing and allows Deaf people in the congregation to see the signs proclaimed better.

There is also the background and environs to consider; it helps to have a simple plain, not crowded or cluttered, backdrop with minimal distractions. It should help the congregation to focus on the person reading, signing, and proclaiming the Word of God. Even the clothes they (Signer and Voice-over) wear are important, as well as being smart, they need to be plain and not distracting (ie texture, colour, pattern), and without such things as dangly ear-rings and dazzling jewellery.

The positioning of the lectern is also important; in some churches the lectern seems to be almost tucked away in the corner which is a pity since the crucial liturgical actions that take place are at the Lectern (Word of God) and at the altar (consecration of the bread and wine). Furthermore, if the lectern is so far off the centre, it means Deaf people, who use their eyes as the main channel for communication, have to strain their neck turned at a certain angle which can be uncomfortable. There must be nothing that blocks the line of sight between the signer and the congregation (ie candles, flowers, wreaths etc).

Finally, perhaps the single overriding aspect is the use of lighting in the Church, especially the light on the

Introduction

signer and voice-over. Poor or insufficient lighting is akin to poor use of the PA system for hearing people. Some churches dim or subdue the lights on the sanctuary/nave for dramatic effect especially during the Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, the Easter Vigil, or an evening service for Remembrance Sunday not to mention evening Reconciliation Services. Such minimal lighting can be detrimental to the Deaf or Hard of Hearing persons in the congregation excluding their abilities to follow proceedings thereby denying their full and proper participation. A full and proper spotlight on the lectern and the reader or cantor makes all the difference to aid inclusivity.

From experience, maintaining eye-contact with the congregation enables them to feel involved in the reception of the sacred Word. Hearing people do not realise that they subconsciously 'lip-read' the readers. Hence, advance prayerful preparation of the proclamation of the Word of God is crucial if the proper message is to be conveyed to the congregation. Likewise, there are certain signs, movements, facial expressions and gestures that they can pick up on. We pray not only with our ears but with our whole body – it is a temple in which the spirit of God lives. If the

lectern is structurally fixed in one place, it is surprising how careful forward planning, consultation with the Deaf congregation and flexibility can enhance the visual aspect of the liturgy and help to bring alive the Word of God.

To make better use of this 'Signs of God', Training Days are recommended. The local Deaf community will need to find ways of using appropriate signs as well as liturgical signs, since signs vary from one place to another. People who use other national sign languages such as Irish Sign Language, will need to be flexible and check with the original English Lectionary in conjunction with these 'Signs of God' lectionaries to find an appropriate way of signing the relevant sentence, phrase or words.

As well as the celebration of the Eucharist (Mass), these 'Signs of God' will be useful for personal prayer, Prayer groups, Retreats, Training Days, and other spiritual liturgical services.

Peter McDonough

Explanation

➤ **A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF GENESIS**

In a heading such as ‘A reading from the book of Genesis’, we can’t use the sign ‘book’, because the Bible was not printed as a book until the fifteenth century. It is more appropriate, biblically correct and liturgically enriching, to sign ‘scroll’ as in the picture on the right.



Figure 1: Torah scroll

The symbol ⇔ shows the movement of the hands for the action of unrolling a scroll. This is used for all readings from the Old Testament. Hebrew language was used and the writing was from right to left, and new pages were added onto the left of the first one.

➤ **A READING FROM ST PAUL’S LETTER ⇕ TO THE ROMAN**

Neither can we sign the word ‘Epistle’ or ‘letter’. (the word ‘letter’ is printed because for a reader to voice-over ‘scroll’ does not sound right.) The word ‘letter’ is not appropriate to sign because in sign language a signer would use a sign depicting someone licking a stamp and sticking it on an envelope! The symbol ⇕ shows the movement of the hands for the action of unrolling a scroll. This is used for all readings from the New Testament. Greek language was used, and the writing was from top to bottom, left to right, and pages were added onto the bottom of the first page.



Figure 2: vertically rolled scroll

Explanation

➤ *Isaiah 2:1-5*

Any word or heading in italic is not to be signed or spoken at all. They, especially scripture references, are for the reader's information only.

➤ **THANKS TO BE GOD**

Any words printed in coloured bold font means that the congregation joins/copies the reader/signer in signing the words.

➤ Now, Israel, obey the laws and customs (culture) that I teach you today.

In the text of the readings, words in parentheses are for the signer to use, since, as yet, we do not have an appropriate liturgical sign developed for the preceding word. For example, 'customs (culture)', the Signer will sign 'culture' whereas the reader doing the Voice-Over will say 'customs'.

Prayer

God Our Father, You speak to us through your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Give us your Holy Spirit to help us understand your message. Open our minds and hearts so that we will receive your Holy Words. Help us to understand the teachings of your Son Jesus. Let us read Your Book, God's book, that we will worthily proclaim your message so that all will receive the Good News of Jesus Christ and receive Life. Amen.

We ask Mary, the Mother of the Church, to show us how to 'treasure' the Words of Jesus her Son. Amen.

Most Holy Name of Jesus [3 January]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Philippians 2:1-11

I ask you: what does our life in Christ mean to you? Does love mean anything to you? Do we share the same Spirit? Do you have kindness and mercy for other people? Are these things important to you? If you believe this, you will make me very happy. I want you all to have the same thoughts that we have. I want you to be together with the same love in your hearts that we have. Agree with each other, do not get involved in competition. Everybody must not boast (proud) but be humble. Always think other people are better than yourselves. Don't be selfish, don't think about yourself, but think about helping other people. You must have the same attitude as Jesus Christ:

Jesus Christ was holy. Jesus was God but he gave up his power as God to become the most humble of all people. He became a slave. He became human the same as all people, and he lived as a man.

He became so humble that he accepted death, death on a cross. But God raised him to the highest heaven. God gave him the name that is more important than all other names. So everybody, in heaven, on earth, and under the earth, will kneel down and honour the name of Jesus. All will praise God the Father and say that Jesus Christ is Lord.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 8

RESPONSE: **LORD GOD, YOUR NAME IS GREAT.**

LORD GOD, YOUR NAME IS GREAT.

Lord, when I see the heavens, the work of your hands,
the moon and the stars you created, you are really wonderful.
You always remember your people,
and you care for us.

Most Holy Name of Jesus [3 January]

LORD GOD, YOUR NAME IS GREAT.

You made us people almost like angels.

You gave your people glory and honour.

You gave them power over the earth that you created.

You gave them everything, sheep and cattle, birds of the air, and fish swimming in the waters.

LORD GOD, YOUR NAME IS GREAT.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Word (Jesus) became flesh. He lived with us. To people that accepted him, He (Jesus) gave them power to become God's children.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 2:21–24

On the eighth day, the baby was ready for circumcision, Mary and Joseph named him Jesus, the

name the angel gave before his conception.

Mary and Joseph went to Jerusalem to be purified following the Law of Moses and to present the baby Jesus to the Lord God. Written in the law of the Lord: 'Each first-born boy must be consecrated to the Lord.' The law of the Lord also said they must sacrifice two doves or two young pigeons (birds).

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Francis de Sales [24 January]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 3:8–12

I am Paul, and I am not important among God's people. But God gave me special grace to tell the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people that do not believe in God. I also received grace to explain about God to them. God, the creator of everything, hid the secret for a long time. Why? So that the rulers and powers will realise, through the Church, that God is wise and know this because of the plan God had, through Jesus, from the beginning of time. This is why, because of our faith in Jesus, we are now brave enough to approach God with full confidence.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 36

RESPONSE: **THE JUST (FAIR)
PERSON SPEAKS WISELY.**

**THE JUST (FAIR) PERSON
SPEAKS WISELY.**

If you trust the Lord and do good, you will live in the land and you will be safe.

Give your life to the Lord, trust him.

He will help you and your light will shine.

**THE JUST (FAIR) PERSON
SPEAKS WISELY.**

Righteous (just/fair) people speak wisely,

they will say right things.

The law of God will be in their hearts,

they will walk with God, they will not fall.

**THE JUST (FAIR) PERSON
SPEAKS WISELY.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I give you a new commandment: love each other the same as I have loved you.'

ALLELUIA!

St Francis de Sales [24 January]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 15:9–17

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘I love you the same way that the Father loves me. Remain (stay) in my love. I have followed my Father’s commandments and I remain (stay) in his love. So in the same way, if you follow my commandments you will remain in my love. I tell you these things so that you can have the same joy I have, and your joy will be perfect.

I command you: Love each other, the same as I loved you. The greatest love a person can show is to die for their friends. You are my friends if you obey me. I will not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know what the master is doing. Now, I call you friends because I told you everything I learnt from my Father. You did not choose me; no, I chose you. And I gave you this work; to go and preach in my name. Your good works will give fruit (growth). The fruit (growth) that you give will continue

forever. Then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. I command you: love each other.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Conversion of St Paul [25 January]

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 22:3–66

Paul said to the people, 'I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but I grew up here in Jerusalem as a student of Gamaliel. I received strict instruction in the Law of our fathers, and like all of you here today, I was serious obeying God. I arrested people following the Way of Jesus, women and men, and I sent them to prison and death. The High Priest and the Council can prove that I tell the truth. I received from them letters written to the Elders (leaders) in Damascus, as I planned to go there to arrest the followers of Jesus and bring them back to Jerusalem for punishment.

I was travelling and near Damascus when around midday a bright light from heaven suddenly shone and I fell to the ground. I heard a voice say to me, "Saul, Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" I asked, "Who are you, Lord?" He said to me, "I am Jesus from Nazareth, you are persecuting me." The people with

me saw the light but they did not hear the voice. I said, "Lord, what should I do?" The Lord said, "Stand up and go into Damascus. Someone there will tell you everything I planned for you to do." Because of the bright light I was blind so my companions took my hand and led me into Damascus.

In that city, a man named Ananias came to see me. He was a religious man and he obeyed our Law; all the Jews living there respected him. Ananias stood by me and said, "Brother Saul, see again!" Straight away I could see him. He said, "The God of our fathers has chosen you to know his plan. He chose you to see his Servant (Jesus) and hear his voice. You will be a witness for him. You will tell everybody all you have seen and heard. Now, why wait? Get up and be baptized; pray to him and your sins will be washed away forgiven."

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Conversion of St Paul [25 January]

Alternative reading

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 9:1–22

Saul continued to persecute the followers of Jesus. He went to the High Priest and asked for letters of introduction to the synagogues in Damascus, so that he could arrest any of those following the Way of Jesus, both men and women, and bring them back to Jerusalem.

Saul was approaching the city of Damascus, suddenly a light from the heaven shone and he fell to the ground. He heard a voice saying, 'Saul, Saul! Why are you persecuting me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The voice said, 'I am Jesus, you are persecuting me. Get up and go into the city, someone there will tell you what you must do.' The men travelling with Saul were amazed, they heard the voice but could not see anything. Saul got up, he opened his eyes but he could not see. The men took him by the hand and led him into Damascus. For three

days Saul could not see and he did not eat or drink anything.

In Damascus a disciple named Ananias had a vision. The Lord said to him, 'Ananias!' Ananias replied, 'Lord, I'm here.' The Lord said to him, 'Go to Straight Street, and at the house of Judas ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying now because he had a vision. In the vision he sees a man named Ananias coming and laying hands on him so that he may see again.'

Ananias answered, 'Lord, many people told me about this man, he did terrible things to your people in Jerusalem. Now he has come to Damascus here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who worship you.' The Lord said to him, 'Go, because I have chosen him to serve me, he will tell all Gentiles and kings, and all the people of Israel about me. I myself will show him how he will suffer for me.' So Ananias went into the house Saul was staying. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord told me to come here. He, Jesus, the

Conversion of St Paul [25 January]

Psalm 116

one you saw on the road coming here, told me to come here so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' Straight away something like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. He stood up and was baptized. After he ate some food he felt stronger.

Saul stayed with the followers of Jesus in Damascus a few days. He went straight to the synagogues and began to preach that Jesus is the Son of God. All heard him were amazed and said, 'Is that the same man who was killing those followers worshipping Jesus in Jerusalem? He came here to do the same, arrest us and take us back to the chief priests.' Saul's preaching became more powerful telling them that Jesus was the Christ. The Jews living in Damascus were confused by Saul.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.

GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.

All you people, praise the Lord. Glorify him.

GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.

His love continues for ever. He is always faithful.

GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I chose you from the world to go and give fruit (growth), fruit (growth) that will last (for ever).'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 16:15-18

Jesus said to the eleven (11) apostles, 'Go everywhere in the

Conversion of St Paul [25 January]

world and proclaim the Good News to all peoples. Any person that believes and is baptised will be saved. If a person does not believe, that person will be condemned. The believers themselves will do wonderful works. The proof will be: they will use my name to throw out devils; they will have the gift of speaking in strange languages; they will pick up snakes and not be hurt; if they drink something poisonous they will not die; they will put their hands on sick people, and the sick will be healed.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Presentation of the Lord [2 February]

Psalm 23

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF MALACHI

Malachi 3:1–4

The Lord God says, 'Look, I'm sending my messenger. My messenger will prepare a way for me. You have been looking for the Lord - suddenly you will see him enter his Temple. He will come and proclaim the covenant (God's promise).' The Lord God says this:

'But when the Lord comes, no person can prepare for his coming. No person can stand in front of him. He is like a fire! He will cleanse people in a powerful way. He will purify (cleanse) the children of Levi. The Lord will make them pure like gold and silver. Then they will make offerings to the Lord the right way. God will be pleased with the people from Judah and Jerusalem because they will make the right offerings, like the people did in the old days.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: THE LORD IS THE KING OF GLORY!

THE LORD IS THE KING OF GLORY!

Let the Lord come.

He is the King of glory!

The Lord is brave and wonderful.

THE LORD IS THE KING OF GLORY!

Lift up your heads!

Let the Lord come.

He is the Lord of armies.

He is the King of glory!

THE LORD IS THE KING OF GLORY!

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇕ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 2:14–18

All children share the same blood and flesh. Jesus became flesh and blood, the same as us, this means he shared our human experience. Through dying on the cross, he destroyed the devil, the one with the power of death. In this way, Jesus freed us; before we were slaves because of fear of death. Jesus did not help the angels, he

Presentation of the Lord [2 February]

helped people from the families of Abraham. This is why Jesus had to be like his brothers and sisters. Jesus was born the same as other people so that he could become their merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and be able to forgive their sins. Now Jesus can help those people that are tempted, because he himself was tempted.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA!

The Lord gives light to all people. He gives glory to the people of Israel.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 2:22-40

* The time was right for the parents of Jesus to be purified (cleansed), to follow the Law of Moses. So Mary and Joseph took their baby and went to Jerusalem.

The Law of the Lord says: 'Each first-born boy must be consecrated to the Lord. Two doves or two young pigeons must be sacrificed.' Mary and Joseph presented (offered) the baby Jesus to the Lord. In Jerusalem, there lived a man named Simeon. He was a very good and holy man. He was waiting for God to save Israel. The Holy Spirit was with him. The Holy Spirit had told him that he would not die before he saw Christ the Lord. Now the Holy Spirit led Simeon into the Temple, and there the parents brought Jesus, to obey the Law of Moses; they presented Jesus to Simeon. Simeon took the child in his arms and blessed (praised) God. Simeon said:

'Now, Master, you can let me, your servant, die in peace. You kept your promise. With my own eyes, I have seen your salvation - a salvation you prepared for all people. Here is the light to show your way to all, not only to Jewish people, and to give glory to your people Israel.' *

Presentation of the Lord [2 February]

Jesus' parents stood there wondering about the things Simeon said about Jesus. Simeon blessed them both. He said to Mary, 'You see this child: many people will fall because of him. Many people in Israel will also be saved because of him. He will be a sign that people will refuse to accept. Sorrow, like a sharp sword, will pierce your heart. And the secret thoughts of many people will be made obvious (clear, open) to all.'

There was a very old woman, a prophetess, named Anna, daughter of Phanuel, from the family of Asher. She was married seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and she was always in the Temple, fasting and praying to God every day and every night. She came into the Temple and then she began to praise God. She told everybody that was waiting for God to free Jerusalem all about Jesus.

After Mary and Joseph had done (finished) all that the Law of the

Lord said they must do, they went back to their own town of Nazareth in Galilee. The boy Jesus grew and became wise. God's favour was with him.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Blaise [3 February]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 5:1-5

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, God judged us to be good. We have peace with God because of our faith and through Jesus, we receive God's grace. And because of that grace, we can look forward to God's glory. We can boast (proud) about our sufferings because we know that suffering makes us more patient. Patience brings perseverance, and perseverance brings hope. We know this hope is not false, because God gave us his love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 116

RESPONSE: **GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.**

GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.

All you people, praise the Lord. Glorify him.

GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.

His love continues for ever. He is always faithful.

GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.

(ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!)

The Lord says: 'Go, make all people disciples. I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.'

(ALLELUIA!)

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 16:15-20

Jesus appeared to the eleven (11) apostles and said to them, 'Go everywhere in the world and

St Blaise [3 February]

proclaim the Good News to all people. Any person that believes and is baptised will be saved. If a person does not believe, that person will be condemned. The believers themselves will do wonderful works. The proof will be: they will use my name to throw out devils; they will have the gift of speaking in strange languages; they will pick up snakes and not be hurt; if they drink something poisonous they will not die; they will put their hands on sick people, and the sick will be healed.'

After Jesus had spoken, he was lifted up to heaven. There, in heaven, Jesus sat at the right side of God. The apostles went everywhere, and they preached the Good News to everybody. The Lord worked with the apostles and helped them, giving them power to work (do) miracles.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Our Lady of Lourdes [11 February]

Judith 13:18–19

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 66:10–14

You Jerusalem, rejoice! All you people that love the city, be happy! Rejoice, rejoice for Jerusalem. Before you were sad for Jerusalem, now you can rejoice! You will be satisfied, sucking milk from the mother's breast.

The Lord says: 'I will give you peace, flowing like a river. Other countries will admire (respect, praise) your glory and peace. You will be like little children, looked after by their nurse, and held in her arms. Like a mother comforting her child, I will look after you. When you see this, you will rejoice. Your bones will grow like the grass, I will make you strong and healthy. People will see and know that I help those that obey me.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **OF ALL PEOPLE,
YOU MARY ARE HIGHLY
HONOURED.**

**OF ALL PEOPLE, YOU MARY
ARE HIGHLY HONOURED.**

Of all women,
God the Most High blessed you,
you my daughter.

And blessed be the Lord God,
Creator of heaven and earth.

**OF ALL PEOPLE, YOU MARY
ARE HIGHLY HONOURED.**

You trusted the Lord God;
people forever will never forget
the power of God.

**OF ALL PEOPLE, YOU MARY
ARE HIGHLY HONOURED.**

(ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!)

Blessed are you, Virgin Mary, you
believed that the Lord's promise
would happen.

(ALLELUIA!)

Our Lady of Lourdes [11 February]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 2:1-11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited. At the wedding, the wine was finished (empty), Jesus' mother said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why come to me? My time is not yet ready.' Jesus' mother said to the servants, 'Do what Jesus tells you to do.' The Jews have strict rules about washing, and there were six stone jars near the wall used for washing. Each jar could hold 20 or 30 gallons of water. Jesus said to the servants, 'Pour water and fill these jars.' The servants poured water into the jars. Then Jesus said, 'Now take some water and give it to the steward (chief servant).' The servants took some water and gave it to the steward (chief servant). The steward (chief servant) tasted it, but the water had become wine. He did not know where the wine was from, but the servants knew. The steward (chief servant) said to the

bridegroom, 'People usually give the best wine first, and later when people are drunk, the servants offer the cheaper wine. But you have given the best wine at the end of your wedding feast!'

This was the first sign (miracle) Jesus did – this happened at Cana in Galilee. Jesus let people see his glory and his disciples believed in him.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Chair of St Peter [22 February]

Psalm 22

A READING FROM FIRST SCROLL † OF ST PETER

1 Peter 5:1–4

I have something to tell your leaders: I am a leader myself and a witness to the sufferings of Christ. I share with you the glory that will be revealed. God gave you the responsibility of looking after the flock (people): you are their shepherds; I encourage you to watch over them not because it's a duty but because God wants you to look after them. Watch over them with eagerness, not because you want money. Do not be bossy over any group but be an example they can follow. When the chief shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.**

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

The Lord is my shepherd.
He gives me everything I need.
He lets me rest in green fields.
He leads me to calm pools of fresh water to give me strength.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

He guides me along the right way.
He is faithful.
If I walk in the dark, I should not be afraid.

Because the Lord, with his shepherd's crook (stick), will protect me.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

The Lord prepared a banquet (feast) for me.

Lord, you anointed my head with oil; my cup is full.

Chair of St Peter [22 February]

Goodness and kindness will be with me always.

I will live in the Lord's house for ever and ever.

**THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD.
HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I
NEED.**

(ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!)

You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church. The gates of hell can never defeat the church.

(ALLELUIA!)

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 16:13–19

Jesus came to the area of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of man is?' The disciples said, 'Some people say you are John the Baptist, other people say you are Elijah, others say you are Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' Jesus said, 'But you, who do you say I am?' Simon Peter answered,

'You are the Christ, the living Son of God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed! Because flesh and blood, human knowledge, did not tell you this, but my Father in heaven showed you who I am. So now I say to you: Your name is Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church. The powers of hell will not conquer the Church. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Anything you agree on earth shall be (same) agreed in heaven. Anything you prohibit on earth shall be (same) prohibited in heaven.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St David [1 March]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Philippians 3:8–14

I believe knowing Christ Jesus my Lord is very important, more important than anything. In my old life, before I accepted Christ, I wasted things. As I look back, I realised everything I had was rubbish. Now I only want to be with Jesus Christ and live in him. Now, I do not try to be perfect by myself. I only want perfection through faith in Christ. Faith brings perfection from God. All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection. I want to share in his sufferings and death, so that I myself will be raised from death to life. I have not yet become perfect. I have not yet won the race. I am still running, trying to win the prize. I can tell you that I know I have not yet won the race. I try to forget my past and do my best to reach the end and win the prize. And what is the prize? Life with God the Father in heaven given through Jesus Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 1

RESPONSE: **TRUST THE LORD
AND YOU WILL BE BLESSED.**

**TRUST THE LORD AND YOU
WILL BE BLESSED.**

Happy the person that does not follow evil ways.

God will be happy with this person.

A good person loves God's law.

A good person will follow God's law always.

**TRUST THE LORD AND YOU
WILL BE BLESSED.**

A good person is like a tree near flowing water.

The tree's leaves stay green and the tree gives fruit regularly.

But evil people are not like that; they are blown away by the wind, they are gone.

The Lord guards the way of good people.

Evil people will be destroyed.

**TRUST THE LORD AND YOU
WILL BE BLESSED.**

St David [1 March]

(ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!)

The Lord says, 'If you accept and believe in my word, you will truly become my disciples, you will learn the truth.'

(ALLELUIA!)

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 5:13–16

Jesus said to his disciples, 'You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its taste, then it is finished as salt. It is good no more. It must be thrown away and people trample (walk and crush) on it.

You are the light of the world. A city built on top of a hill is not hidden. Everyone can see it. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl. No! People put the lamp on a stand so that it gives light for everybody in the house. In the same way, you should be a light for other people. So other people will see your good works, and they will praise your Father in heaven.'

St John Ogilvie [10 March]

A READING FROM FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 50:5–9

The Lord opened my mind. I did not object or turn away. I let people whip my back. I let people pull my beard. They swore and insulted me but I did not turn away from them. They spat in my face. The Lord helps me. People's insults (swearing/criticism) cannot hurt me. I will be strong. I know I will not be ashamed of myself. God is near, God will prove I am not guilty. I challenge anyone to make a charge against me. If so, let us go to court together! Who thinks they can accuse me? Let this person come to me. The Lord will help me. No one can condemn me.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 76

**RESPONSE: I REMEMBER THE
LORD'S WORK.**

**I REMEMBER THE LORD'S
WORK.**

I remember the Lord's works.
I remember the wonderful things
the Lord did a long time ago.

O God, your ways are holy.
You showed us your power.

**I REMEMBER THE LORD'S
WORK.**

Your strong arm saved your
people,

You saved the descendants of
Jacob and Joseph.

Through Moses and Aaron,
You guided and protected your
people.

**I REMEMBER THE LORD'S
WORK.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ⇅ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 1:3–7

Praise to the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ. God is a
gentle Father, full of mercy. Any
time we are in sorrow, God
comforts us so that if other
people are sad, we can comfort
them too, because we received
help from God. We share in

St John Ogilvie [10 March]

Christ's many sufferings, and through Christ we also share God's help. Every time we suffer, we allow our sufferings to bring you help and salvation. And at the time God helps us, you also receive help and strength so that you can patiently accept the sufferings we have. We hope that you will never give up, and we are confident you will continue to share our sufferings so that you will also share our comfort.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

(ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!)

The Lord says, 'If any person serves me, that person must follow me so that wherever I am, my servant will be there too.'

(ALLELUIA!)

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 12:24-26

Jesus said: 'I tell you the truth. If a grain of wheat does not fall to the ground and die, it will never grow and make more seeds. But if it falls and dies, it will grow and make many seeds. Any person that loves their own life will lose it (life). Any person that hates their own life in this world will keep it (life) and that person will live forever. Any person that wants to serve me must follow me, so that wherever I am, my servant will be there with me also. My Father will honour any person that serves me.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Patrick [17 March]

Psalm 116

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 1:4–9

The Lord said to me, 'Before I created you in your mother's womb, I already knew you. Before you were born, I blessed you. I chose you to be a prophet to all nations (peoples).'

I said, 'But Lord, I don't know how to speak. I am only a boy.'

The Lord said to me, 'Do not say, "I'm only a boy." Now, I want you to go to the people. Tell them everything I command you. Do not be afraid of them, because I am with you. I will protect you. I, the Lord, tell you this!'

Then the Lord touched my mouth. He said to me, 'Now! I put my words into your mouth.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **GO AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL THE WORLD.**

GO AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL THE WORLD.

All you peoples, praise the Lord!
Let us praise and honour him.

GO AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL THE WORLD.

His love for us is strong.
He is always faithful.

GO AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL THE WORLD.

A READING FROM THE ACTS ⇄ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 13:46–49

With courage Paul and Barnabas spoke to the Jews: 'We had to proclaim the Word of God to you first, but because you rejected God's Word, because you did not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must go to the pagans (non-believers). The Lord told us what to do. He said:

St Patrick [17 March]

"I made you a light for the nations (countries), so that my salvation will reach all over the earth."

The pagans (non-believers) heard this and they were very happy. They thanked the Lord for this message. Those that believed in God received eternal life. The Word of the Lord spread all over the country.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

(ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!)

The Lord sent me to tell the good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom to prisoners.

(ALLELUIA!)

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

The Lord chose seventy-two (72) disciples and sent them away. They went two by two. Jesus sent

them into every town and place he himself would go later.

Jesus said to them, "There is a big harvest, but few workers. Pray to the Lord that he will send more workers for the harvest. Go now! But remember, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take money, no haversack, no sandals. Do not stop to talk with people on the road.

Before you go into a house, first say "Peace be with this house!" If a person of peace lives there, your peace will stay with the person. If not, your blessing of peace will come back to you. Stay in the same house, eating and drinking everything that the people give you, because a worker should receive wages. Do not move from house to house.

If you go into a town and they make you welcome, eat what they give you. And if any sick people are in that town, heal them, and tell them, "The kingdom of God is near you." But if you go into a town and people do not welcome you, go out into the streets and

St Patrick [17 March]

tell them, "We wipe off the dust from our feet. But remember, the kingdom of God is near." I, Jesus, tell you, that on Judgement Day God will show more mercy to the people from Sodom than to the people of that town!'

The seventy two disciples came back rejoicing. They said, 'Lord, even the devils obey us when we use your name.' Jesus said to them, 'I watched Satan (Devil) fall like lightning from heaven. Yes, I have given you power to crush under your feet, snakes, scorpions and all enemies. Nothing will hurt you. Do not rejoice that the devils obeyed you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Joseph, husband of Mary [19 March]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF SAMUEL

2 Samuel 7:4–5, 12–14, 16

The Lord said to Nathan:

‘Go and see David. Tell him: “The Lord says that when you are old, dead and buried with your dead family, I will protect your children. I will make sure that one of your sons will be king. He will build a house for my name. And I will make sure his kingdom will continue for ever. I will be his father and he will be my son. I will make your family and kingdom safe and your throne will be established for ever.”’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 88

RESPONSE: **LORD, I WILL SING
ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

**LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT
YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

Lord, I will sing forever about
your love.

I will always proclaim your truth.

Lord, I know your love will never

fail,

your truth is eternal.

**LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT
YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

I made a covenant (promise) with
my people.

I anointed David, my servant.

I made David king, his family to
rule forever.

David will say to me: ‘You are my
father and my God; you save me.’

**LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT
YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL’S SCROLL ⇕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 4:13, 16–18, 22

When God promised Abraham
that the world would belong to
him and his descendants.
Abraham did not receive the
promise because he kept the law
but because he had faith in God.
God’s promise was based on
faith, and the promise was a free
gift. All of Abraham’s descendants
can receive the promise, not just
those obeying the law but those
having the same faith as

St Joseph, husband of Mary [19 March]

Abraham. Abraham is our Father. As Scripture (Bible) says: 'I have made you Father of many nations (peoples/countries).' Abraham believed that God gives life to the dead and creates new things.

Abraham thought he had no hope, but because he believed and hoped in God, he became the father of many nations (peoples). As Scripture said: 'Your descendants will be as many as the stars.' This is the faith that made Abraham right with God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

(ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!)

Lord, the people that live in your house will be happy. They will sing and praise you for ever.

(ALLELUIA!)

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24

Jacob was the father of Joseph. Joseph was the husband of Mary. Jesus was born from Mary, and Jesus is called the Christ.

This is how the birth of Jesus happened. The mother of Jesus Christ was Mary. Mary was engaged to marry Joseph. But before they married, Mary found that she was pregnant. She had a baby in her womb through the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary's husband, Joseph, was a good man. He did not want to embarrass Mary or give her a bad name, so he made plans for a divorce quietly. But the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to accept Mary as your wife. She has the baby in her womb by the power of the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you must name him Jesus, because he will save people from their sins.' When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord told him to do.

St Joseph, husband of Mary [19 March]

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Annunciation of the Lord [25 March]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 7:10–14

The Lord sent Isaiah to tell Ahaz, 'Ask the Lord your God to give you a sign. It can be from deep in the world of the dead or from high up in heaven.'

Ahaz answered, 'I will not ask for a sign. I refuse to test the Lord.'

Isaiah said, 'You from the family of David, listen carefully: it is bad to test people's patience but to test God's patience is worse. The Lord himself will give you a sign. The sign is a young pregnant woman; she will give birth to a son. She will name him Immanuel, the name means "God-is-with-us."'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 39

RESPONSE: **LORD, I AM HERE! I
WILL OBEY AND FOLLOW YOU.**

**LORD, I AM HERE! I WILL OBEY
AND FOLLOW YOU.**

Lord, you do not want sacrifices,
But you want us to listen to you.
Lord, you do not want burnt
offerings.

But you want us to be with you.

**LORD, I AM HERE! I WILL OBEY
AND FOLLOW YOU.**

I will do what you want, as it
written in the scriptures (Bible).

Lord, I love your law.

I will continue to tell people
about you.

I will proclaim your justice and
your teachings to all people.

**LORD, I AM HERE! I WILL OBEY
AND FOLLOW YOU.**

Annunciation of the Lord [25 March]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 10:4–10

The blood of bulls and goats cannot take away sins. So when Christ came into the world, he said to God:

‘You do not want sacrifices or blood from animals, but you prepared a body for me. You do not want animals burnt on the altar, or sacrifices to take away sins.’

Christ said, ‘God, I am here. As it is written in the scriptures (Bible), “I am ready to obey you.”’

We see Christ first said to God: ‘You did not want sacrifices or animals burnt on the altar to take away sins.’ Then Christ said to God, ‘I am here. I will obey you.’

So the old way of sacrificing animals on the altar is finished. Now Christ replaced the old way with the new way - the new offering (sacrifice) made holy by the body of Jesus Christ. One sacrifice of Jesus is enough for all people forever.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Word (Jesus) became flesh. He lived with us and we saw his glory.

(ALLELUIA!)

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:26–38

God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin living in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. The young woman was engaged to marry Joseph, a man from the family of David; and her name was Mary. The angel came to Mary and said, ‘Rejoice, you are truly blessed (favoured)! The Lord is with you.’ Mary was afraid and wondered what the angel’s message meant. He (angel) said to her, ‘Mary, do not be afraid. God is very pleased with you. Listen! You will become pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus. He will be great and people will call him Son of the Most High God. The

Annunciation of the Lord [25 March]

Lord God will appoint him King, the same as his ancestor (in the past) David. Jesus will rule over the people of Jacob for ever. His kingdom will never end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘But how can I become pregnant? I am a virgin.’ The angel said, ‘The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will stay with you. The child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Also, remember your relative, Elizabeth. She is old and everybody thought she could never have a baby, but now she is six months pregnant. God can do anything, because nothing’s impossible to God!’ Mary said, ‘I am the servant of the Lord. Let what you have said happen to me.’ And the angel went away.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St George [23rd April]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL OF REVELATION

Revelation 12:10–12

I, John, heard a voice shout from heaven, ‘Now God’s salvation has come! Now God has shown his power as King! Now Christ has shown his authority! The one (Devil) that daily accused our brothers and sisters has been thrown out. Our brothers and sisters won the victory over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the witness of their martyrdom. They gave up their lives, they accepted death and died for the truth. Let the heavens rejoice; let all in heaven rejoice.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 125

RESPONSE: **THE PEOPLE
SOWING SEEDS WITH TEARS
WILL SING WHEN THEY
GATHER THE CROPS.**

**THE PEOPLE SOWING SEEDS
WITH TEARS WILL SING WHEN
THEY GATHER THE CROPS.**

The Lord helped us and freed us, it seemed like a dream become true!

We rejoiced, we sang and we were happy.

Other people said, ‘The Lord did good things for them!

Truly the Lord is wonderful.’

**THE PEOPLE SOWING SEEDS
WITH TEARS WILL SING WHEN
THEY GATHER THE CROPS.**

We were prisoners, but the Lord freed us.

The sad people with tears, are now happy.

People go out sowing seeds with tears.

But now, they gather the crops and they come back with joy.

**THE PEOPLE SOWING SEEDS
WITH TEARS WILL SING WHEN
THEY GATHER THE CROPS.**

St George [23rd April]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed the people that stand firm, because by their witness to the faith they will win the crown of life.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 15:18–21

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘If the world hates you, remember that it hated me before you. If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. But I chose you from this world and you do not belong to it; that is why the world hates you. Remember I told you: no servant is more important than their master. If they persecuted me, they will persecute you too. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours too. Because of me, they will do all these things to you because you belong to me. They do not know the One (God) that sent me.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Mark, Evangelist [25th April]

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST PETER

1 Peter 5:5–14

Be humble and serve each other because God refuses the proud and will always favour the humble. Bow down before the power of God now, and he will raise you up at the right time. All your worries pass on (give) to him because he is concerned about you. Be calm and careful because the devil is prowling around like a lion looking for someone to eat. Stand strong in faith and refuse to follow the devil. You know your brothers and sisters all over the world suffer the same as you. You will suffer for a short time. God gives you grace and gives you strength and support, he wants to share with you eternal glory in Christ. His power continues for ever and ever. Amen.

I write these few words to you through Silvanus. He is a brother I know I can trust. I encourage you to never lose the true grace of God.

Your sister in Babylon, chosen by God same as you, sends you greetings (hello). Mark, my son, also sends you greetings (hello).

Greet each other with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you in Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 88

RESPONSE: **LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.

Lord, I will sing forever about your love.

I will always proclaim your truth.

Lord, I know your love will never fail,

Your truth is eternal.

LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.

The people are happy with their king.

Every day your name makes them happy.

Your justice gives them joy.

You give us strength and glory.

St Mark, Evangelist [25th April]

**LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT
YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

We preach of Christ crucified, because He is the power and wisdom of God.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 16:15–20

Jesus appeared to the eleven (11) apostles and said to them, 'Go everywhere in the world and proclaim the Good News to all people. Any person that believes and is baptised will be saved. If a person does not believe, that person will be condemned. The believers themselves will do wonderful works. The proof will be: they will use my name to throw out devils; they will have the gift of speaking in strange languages; they will pick up snakes and not be hurt; if they drink something poisonous they will not die; they will put their

hands on sick people, and the sick will be healed.'

After Jesus had spoken, he was lifted up to heaven. There, in heaven, Jesus sat at the right side of God. The apostles went everywhere, and they preached the Good News to everybody. The Lord worked with the apostles and helped them, giving them power to work (do) miracles.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Joseph the Worker [1st May]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF GENESIS

Genesis 1:26 – 2:3

God said, 'Let us make humans in our own image (same copy), like ourselves. They will have power over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl on the earth.' God created man in the image (copy) of himself. God created man like himself, he created male (man) and female (woman). God blessed them and said to them, 'Have many children so that there will be more people on the earth. Fill the earth and control it. Be masters (boss) over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky and over all living animals on the earth.' God said, 'Look, I give you all the trees and plants that give you seeds and fruits as food for you. I give leaves from plants and trees as food for all the wild beasts, birds of the sky and all living reptiles on the earth.' And it happened. God saw that everything he had made was

good. Evening came and morning came: the sixth day.

Heaven and earth were finished and everything was beautifully made. On the seventh day God finished working. He rested from his work on the seventh day.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 89

RESPONSE: **FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND WE WILL REJOICE.**

FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND WE WILL REJOICE.

Help us realise that our lives are short, so that we will be wise.

Lord, forgive us!

Do not be angry with us for ever. Show us your mercy.

FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND WE WILL REJOICE.

In the morning, fill us with your love.

When we suffer, give us joy.

Show your glory to your children.

Give success to the work of our hands.

FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND WE WILL REJOICE.

St Joseph the Worker [1st May]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE COLOSSIANS

Colossians 3:14–15, 17, 23–24

Whatever you do, always love people. May the peace of Christ be in your hearts. God called you all together as one body. Always be thankful.

Everything you say, everything you do, should always be in the name of the Lord Jesus, thanking God the Father through Jesus. Whatever you do, work for the Lord not for people; you know the Lord will reward you making you his children. You are serving Christ the Lord.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

May the Lord be blessed day after day; He bears our burdens, God our saviour.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 13:54–58

Jesus came home to Nazareth and began teaching the people in their synagogue. They were amazed, asking: 'Where did this man get this wisdom? Where did he get this power to do miracles? He is a carpenter, son of Mary, his mother. His brothers are James, Joseph, Simon and Jude. His sisters are here with us. Then where did this man get all these skills?' They were not happy and could not accept him. Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is honoured everywhere but not in his own town and in his own home.' He could only do a few miracles in Nazareth because the people there had no faith.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Philip & St James [3 May]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 15:1–8

Brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the Good News I preached to you. You accepted the gospel and your faith is based on the gospel. You will be saved by the gospel but you must continue to believe in it; if you don't believe then you will not be saved, you will be lost.

I taught you what I learnt and believed myself. As the Scriptures (Bible) say: Christ died for our sins; he was buried and on the third day Christ rose to life. He appeared first to Peter and then to the Apostles. Next he appeared to more than five hundred disciples at the same time, most of them are still alive today but some have died. Then he appeared to James and afterwards to all the apostles; and last of all, Christ appeared to me too, it was like I was born and no one expected it.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 18

RESPONSE: **CREATION SHOWS
GOD'S GLORY ALL OVER THE
EARTH (WORLD).**

**CREATION SHOWS GOD'S
GLORY ALL OVER THE
EARTH (WORLD).**

The heavens proclaim God's
glory;

and the heavens show the work
of God's hands.

Day and night God's creation tells
us the story.

**CREATION SHOWS GOD'S
GLORY ALL OVER THE
EARTH (WORLD).**

No speech, no word, no voice is
heard;

but God's message tells the story
everywhere

all over the world.

**CREATION SHOWS GOD'S
GLORY ALL OVER THE
EARTH (WORLD).**

St Philip & St James [3 May]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. You, Philip, see me, you see the Father in me.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 14:6-14

Jesus said to Thomas, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father but only through me. If you know me, you also know my Father. Now you know him and you have seen him.'

Philip said to Jesus, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Philip, I have been with you for a long time and still you don't know me? If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. So why do you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you really believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I spoke to you, they are not my words. These words are from the

Father. He lives in me and He is working through me. You must believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. If you can't believe, then try and believe because of the things I did. I tell you the truth, any person that believes in me will do the same work as myself. Yes, that person will do greater (better) works, because I am going to the Father. Anything you ask (Him) in my name I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything using my name, I will do it.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

English Martyrs [4 May]

Psalm 30

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 7:55–60

Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God's right hand. He said, 'I can see heaven open, and I see the Son of Man standing at God's right hand.' When Stephen said this, all the council members shouted and put their hands over their ears. They all pushed Stephen out of the city and threw stones at him. The witnesses took off their clothes and put them on the ground at the feet of a young man named Saul. As they were throwing stones at Stephen, he prayed: 'Lord Jesus, I give you my spirit.' Stephen knelt down and said aloud, 'Lord, do not punish them because of this sin,' and then he died.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **FATHER, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.**

FATHER, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

Lord, you are my defence.
I will never be ashamed.
In your justice, save me.
I will give you my spirit.

FATHER, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

When my enemies and my friends
see me in the street,
they turn away from me.
I am like a dead man, people
forget me.
But I say: 'You are my God, I trust
you. My life is in your hands.'

FATHER, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord God, we praise you and we
believe you. All the martyrs praise
you Lord.

ALLELUIA!

English Martyrs [4 May]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 10:17–20

Jesus told his apostles: ‘Watch out! You will be handed over to the local courts. You will be whipped in the synagogues. You will be brought to governors and kings because of me. You will give witness to them and to the pagans. But when they arrest you, don’t worry about what you will say or how you will say it. At that time you will be given the right words to say. It will not be you speaking but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death; and the father betray his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them killed. You will be hated by all because of me and my name; but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Our Lady of Fatima [13 May]

Psalm 44

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 61:9–11

All the nations will know the people of Israel; they will know their descendants; all who see them will acknowledge them: 'They are people the Lord has blessed.'

I rejoice in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. Because God gave me salvation and integrity (whole goodness). I rejoice same as a bridegroom wearing a garland (flowers around neck), like a bride with beautiful jewels. Because the earth lets fresh things grow, and a garden lets seeds grow; so in the same way, the Lord will make sure all peoples will have integrity (whole goodness), and all the nations will praise them.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: THE QUEEN STANDS AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE THRONE.

THE QUEEN STANDS AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE THRONE.

The daughters of kings are with you Lord

On your right stands the queen in gold clothes.

THE QUEEN STANDS AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE THRONE.

Listen to me, daughter.

Forget your people and your father's family.

The king is your Lord. Adore him.

THE QUEEN STANDS AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE THRONE.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, holy Virgin Mary, and worthy of all praise. Because the son of justice, Christ our Lord, was born of you.

ALLELUIA!

Our Lady of Fatima [13 May]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 11:27–28

As Jesus was speaking, a woman in the crowd called out; she shouted: 'Blessed is the woman who gave you birth and fed you.' Jesus replied: 'More blessed are they that accept God's word and follow it!'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Matthias [14 May]

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 1:15–17, 20–26

One day Peter stood up to speak - there were about 120 people. Peter said, 'Friends, through David the Holy Spirit said that everything in the Scripture (Bible) must happen. The Scripture (Bible) tells something about Judas - he was one of us and shared the ministry with us - but he helped the men to arrest Jesus.

In the Book of Psalms it says: "Another person must take his place."

So we must choose another person to join us as a witness of Jesus' resurrection. That person must have been with Jesus and with us all the time since the beginning, from when John began baptising, until the day Jesus rose to heaven.'

The apostles found two men, Joseph Justus, also known as Barsabbas, and Matthias. The apostles prayed, 'Lord, you know the minds and hearts of all people. Show us which one of these two you want to do the work of Judas (because Judas gave up this work and killed himself).' Then the apostles used 'lots' (dice) and Matthias was chosen to become one of the twelve (12) apostles.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 112

RESPONSE: THE LORD RESPECTS THE LEADERS OF HIS PEOPLE.

THE LORD RESPECTS THE LEADERS OF HIS PEOPLE.

Alleluia!

Praise the name of the Lord!

The Lord rules all the world.

His glory is in the heavens.

No one is the same as our God.

THE LORD RESPECTS THE LEADERS OF HIS PEOPLE.

From the heavens God looks down.

He sees the poor and raises them from the dust.

God wants the poor to live in the company of rich people.

Yes, God lets his people live in the company of important people.

THE LORD RESPECTS THE LEADERS OF HIS PEOPLE.

St Matthias [14 May]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I chose you from the world to go out and to give fruit (growth), fruit (growth) that will continue for ever.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF ST JOHN

John 15:9–17

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I love you the same way that the Father loves me. Remain (stay) in my love.

I have followed my Father's commandments and I remain (stay) in his love. So in the same way, if you follow my commandments you will remain in my love.

I tell you these things so that you can have the same joy I have, and your joy will be perfect.

I command you: Love each other, the same as I loved you. The greatest love a person can show is to die for their friends.

You are my friends if you obey me. I will not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know what the master is doing. Now, I call you friends because I told you everything I learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me; no, I chose you. And I gave you this work; to go and preach in my name. Your good works will give fruit (growth). The fruit (growth) that you give will continue forever. Then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name.

I command you: love each other.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Bede the Venerable [25 May]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF ECCLESIASTICUS

Ecclesiasticus 39:6–10

If the great Lord (God) wants, the student will be filled with understanding. He (student) will say many wise words and thank the Lord in prayer. His knowledge will increase and he will share giving good advice and think deeply about the Lord's mysteries. He will show his learning from the teaching received, and be proud of the Law in the Lord's covenant. Many will praise his wisdom and never forget it. People's memory of him will not disappear, and his name will be remembered through through all generations. People will talk about his wisdom and they will all praise him.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 36

RESPONSE: THE JUST (FAIR) PERSON SPEAKS WISELY.

THE JUST (FAIR) PERSON SPEAKS WISELY.

If you trust the Lord and do good, you will live in the land and you will be safe.

Give your life to the Lord, trust him.

He will help you and your light will shine.

THE JUST (FAIR) PERSON SPEAKS WISELY.

Righteous (just/fair) people speak wisely,

they will say right things.

The law of God will be in their hearts,

they will walk with God, they will not fall.

THE JUST (GOOD) PERSON SPEAKS WITH WISDOM.

St Bede the Venerable [25 May]

and they will praise your Father in heaven.'

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your words are spirit. Your words have life. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 5:13–16

Jesus said to his disciples, 'You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its taste, then it is finished as salt. It is good no more. It must be thrown away and people trample (walk and crush) on it.

You are the light of the world. A city built on top of a hill is not hidden. Everyone can see it. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl. No! People put the lamp on a stand so that it gives light for everybody in the house. In the same way, you should be a light for other people. So other people will see your good works,

St Augustine of Canterbury [27 May]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE THESSALONIANS

1 Thessalonians 2:2-8

God gave us the courage to speak his gospel to you without fear, despite great opposition. Our encouragement to you is not from any delusion (fooled/confused), or wrong motives (reasons), or trickery. God trusted us with the gospel, and we try to please God who knows our hearts; we do not try to please people. As you know, we never behaved using flattering (nice/persuasive) talk; and not as an excuse for money or greed – God is our witness. We never looked for honour from people, either from you or anybody else, when we could have been a burden on you, as apostles of Christ. We were gentle with you, like a mother feeding and looking after her children; we focussed on you and protected you because we loved you so much. We were happy to share with you the good news, the gospel of God, and also

share with you our own lives as well.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 116

**RESPONSE: GO OUT TO ALL
THE WORLD AND TELL THE
GOOD NEWS.**

**GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD
AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.**

All you people, praise the Lord.
Glorify him.

**GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD
AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.**

His love continues for ever.
He is always faithful.

**GO OUT TO ALL THE WORLD
AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.**

St Augustine of Canterbury [27 May]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and they sheep know me.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 10: 1-9

The Lord appointed seventy-two (72) others and sent them out in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself would visit. Jesus said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the workers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest. Start now, but look, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Take no money with you, no shoulder-bag, no sandals. Do not greet or stop to talk with people on the road. Before you go into a house, first say "Peace to this house!" If a person of peace lives there, your peace will stay with them. If the person is not peaceful your blessing of peace come back to you. Stay in the same house,

accept food and drink they offer you, because the worker deserves his wages. Do not move from house to house. Any town you go into, if they welcome you, accept and eat what they offer you. Cure the sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary [31 May]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ZEPHANIAH

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Daughter of Zion, shout with joy. Israel, shout aloud! Daughter of Jerusalem, rejoice and celebrate with all your heart. The Lord took away your punishment. Your enemies, God sent away. The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you; fear evil no more. When that day happens, someone will say: 'Zion, fear no more, do not let your hands be tired or drop.'

The Lord God is with you, He the warrior (soldier) has won. He will rejoice with you; through his love he will make you new again. God will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a festival (celebration) day.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 12:9-16

Love must be real. Hate all evil things and be good. As Christians,

love each other. Respect each other. Work hard and do not be lazy. Serve the Lord with all your heart. Let your hope keep you joyful (happy). When you are in trouble, be patient and pray; pray all the time. Things you have, share with other Christians who need them. Welcome strangers into your home. Bless those who persecute you; do not curse them. Be happy with those who are happy, weep with those who weep. Have the same concern and care for each person. Do not be proud but be humble. Be friendly with poor people.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary [31 May]

Isaiah 12:2–6

**RESPONSE: SING WITH JOY
BECAUSE THE LORD IS GREAT.**

**SING WITH JOY BECAUSE THE
LORD IS GREAT.**

Look, truly, God is my salvation: I
have faith in God
and I will not be afraid,
because God gives me strength;
God saves me.

**SING WITH JOY BECAUSE THE
LORD IS GREAT.**

Give thanks to God, praise his
name!

Tell all people all over the world
about his wonderful works.
Shout, sing for joy, praise the
Lord, the Holy One of Israel!

**SING WITH JOY BECAUSE THE
LORD IS GREAT.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Virgin Mary is blessed
because she believed the Lord's
promise to her would happen.

ALLELUIA!

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF LUKE**

Luke 1:39–56

Mary went quickly to a town in
the hill country of Judah to visit
Elizabeth. Zechariah lived there.
Mary went into the house and
greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth
heard Mary's greeting, the baby
leapt (kicked) in her womb.
Elizabeth was filled with the Holy
Spirit and said aloud, 'You, Mary,
are the most blessed of all
women, and blessed is the baby
in your womb. Why did you come
to honour me, you, the mother of
my Lord? When I heard your
greeting, the baby inside me
leapt (kicked) with joy. Yes, you
are blessed because you believed
the Lord's promise would become
true.'

Mary said, 'My soul praises the
Lord. My heart is glad because
God is my Saviour. He
remembered me, I am his humble
servant. Yes, from now on, all
people will say that I am blessed,
because the Almighty has done
great things for me. His name is
holy. In the past, God has always

Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary [31 May]

shown his mercy to all that honour him. God shows the power of his arm, and condemns the proud people. He removes kings from their thrones, and raises up the humble. He gives good things to the hungry. The rich, he sends away with nothing. God keeps the promise he has made. He has come to help Israel. He remembered to show mercy to Abraham, and to his descendants (future people) for ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then she went back home.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Alban, first martyr of Britain [20 June]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO TIMOTHY

2 Timothy 2:8-13

Remember the Good News I bring: Jesus Christ, risen from the dead; He was born from the family of King David.' Because of this I suffer, I'm chained in prison; they treat me like a thief, but they cannot chain God's Good News. So, I accept suffering for the gospel to help all God's chosen people, so that you will be saved by Jesus Christ, and receive eternal glory.

This quote is true:

'If we died with Christ, we will live with Christ. If we are patient, we will reign (rule) with Christ. If we reject Christ, He will reject us. We are not always faithful, but Christ is always faithful. Christ cannot lie to himself.'

You (people) followed my teaching, you saw how I lived, my purpose (reason) in life; you know my faith, my patience, my love and my endurance; they persecuted me, you know my

sufferings. You know all that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra, all the terrible persecutions I endured! But the Lord rescued me from them all. You are aware that anyone that tries to live in devotion to Christ will certainly be persecuted.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 123

RESPONSE: **OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD, ESCAPED FROM DANGEROUS ENEMIES.**

OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD, ESCAPED FROM DANGEROUS ENEMIES.

If Lord God had not been with us, people would attack us, because of their anger, they would have beaten us.

OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD, ESCAPED FROM DANGEROUS ENEMIES.

St Alban, first martyr of Britain [20 June]

We escaped like a bird from a net
the net was broken and we
escaped;
our help is in the name of the
Lord,
God made heaven and earth.

**OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD,
ESCAPED FROM DANGEROUS
ENEMIES.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed is God, gentle Father, God
of all consolation, He comforts us
through all our sorrows (sadness).

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 12:24–26

Jesus said: 'I tell you the truth. If a grain of wheat does not fall to the ground and die, it will never grow and make more seeds. But if it falls and dies, it will grow and make many seeds. Any person that loves their own life will lose it (life). Any person that hates their own life in this world will keep it (life) and that person will live forever. Any person that wants to serve me must follow me, so that wherever I am, my servant will be there with me also. My Father will honour any person that serves me.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St John Fisher & St Thomas More [22 June]

A READING FROM THE SECOND SCROLL ⇄ OF MACCABEES

2 Maccabees 6:18, 21, 24–31

Eleazar, an old man, was a highly respected important teacher of the law. They forced him to eat pork. It is not lawful for the Jews to eat pig's flesh (meat). Those in charge of the sacrificial banquet (meal) had been friends with him for a long time, and they spoke to him in private telling him to pretend eat the pork that the king ordered so he would not die. Eleazar said, 'To pretend to eat the pig's flesh is deception (cheat), not right. I am 90 year old and if I pretend to eat this meat just to live a little longer, many young people will think that I had given up and denied my faith – that would be shameful and not give a good example to young people. You might think if I pretend to eat this meat I will escape death by the King, but I will never be able to escape God Almighty. If I die bravely now after my long life, it will show I have given a good example to

young people that it is important to respect our sacred (holy) laws.'

After saying this, the people who had been kind friends with him now turned against him. They thought he was mad. They beat him and when he was nearly dead, he said, 'The holy Lord sees everything, he knows I could have escaped these terrible sufferings and death. He knows I gladly accept and suffer because I respect him.' Eleazar died, and many people, not only young people but the whole nation (people), remembered his courageous death.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 30

**RESPONSE: FATHER, MY SPIRIT I
GIVE TO YOU.**

**FATHER, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO
YOU.**

Lord, you are my defence.
I will never be ashamed.
Because of your justice, save me.
My spirit I give to you.

St John Fisher & St Thomas More [22 June]

FATHER, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

You see my suffering,
You know my soul is upset,
You protect me from my enemies.

FATHER, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

Lord, I trust you;
I say 'You are my God'.
My life is in your hands.

FATHER, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed the person that stands firm despite difficulties. That person will not give up and will win the crown of life.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 24:4-13

Jesus said, 'Be careful, do not let anyone fool you. Many will come using my name and tell you "I am the Christ!" They will fool many

people. You will hear of wars and rumours (gossip) of wars but do not be afraid. This is something that will happen but the end is not here yet. Country will fight another country; kingdom will attack another kingdom. There will be famines (no food) and earthquakes in many places. All this is only the beginning, the same as the first pains of birth. They will arrest you, punish you and kill you. All will hate you because of me. At that time many will give up their faith; they will betray one another and hate one another. Many false prophets will appear and fool many people. Evil will spread and many people's love will become cold. But the person that endures (perseveres) to the end will be saved.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Birth of St John the Baptist [24 June]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 49:1–6

Listen to me, you people living in faraway places. Listen, before I was born, the Lord chose me to be his servant. The Lord gave me my name before I was born. The Lord made my words sharp like a sword. With his hand He protected me. He made me like an arrow, sharp and ready for use.

The Lord said to me, 'Israel, you are my servant. Because of you, people will praise me.' I said, 'I worked hard for nothing, I am worn out and I achieved nothing.' But I trust the Lord. He will honour me; He will reward me. The Lord created me in my mother's womb. He made me his servant to bring back Jacob, to bring back his people Israel.

The Lord said, 'It is not enough for you to be my servant. I will give you a greater responsibility: you will bring back the people of Israel, people thrown out of their country. I will make you the light

of the nations (peoples) so that all the world will be saved.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 138

**RESPONSE: I THANK YOU LORD
FOR THE WONDER OF MY
BODY.**

I THANK YOU LORD FOR THE WONDER OF MY BODY.

Lord, you look at me and you know me.

You know everything, when I sit or stand.

You understand all my thoughts.

You watch me when I work or rest,

And you know all my actions.

Before I speak, or sign, you already know what I will say.

I THANK YOU LORD FOR THE WONDER OF MY BODY.

You made my body.

You created me in my mother's womb.

I thank you for the wonder of my body.

I praise you for the wonder of your creation.

Birth of St John the Baptist [24 June]

I THANK YOU LORD FOR THE WONDER OF MY BODY.

Lord, you know me, truly you know me,

even when I was growing in secret.

You knew I was in my mother's womb.

You watched me before I was born.

I THANK YOU LORD FOR THE WONDER OF MY BODY.

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES ⇄

Acts 13:22–26

Paul said: 'God made David the king of our ancestors (people of the past). God said, "I have chosen David, the son of Jesse. He is the man that will do all the things I want him to do." God promised that one of David's descendants (future children) will be Jesus. Jesus will be the Saviour for the people of Israel. Before Jesus came, John the Baptist preached and told the people of Israel that they must be baptised

to show their repentance. Before John the Baptist finished his work, he said to the people, "You think I am the Christ - I am not. The Christ will come later and I am not worthy to untie his sandals."

'My brothers and sisters, you are sons and daughters of Abraham's family, and you respect God, this message of salvation is for you.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

You (John the Baptist) will be a prophet for God. You will prepare the way for the Lord.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:57–66, 80

When Elizabeth was ready to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. When her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had

Birth of St John the Baptist [24 June]

been good to Elizabeth, they rejoiced with her.

When the baby was eight days old, the parents presented him to the High Priest for the circumcision. They wanted to name him Zechariah because that was the name of his father. But the mother said, 'No! He will be named John.'

People said to Elizabeth, 'But no one in your family has this name "John"!'. They gestured (hands/movements) to the father to find out what name he wanted to give the baby. The father asked for a writing tablet and he wrote, 'His name is John.' All the people were astonished (surprised). At that moment, he could talk again, and Zechariah began to praise God. All the people were filled with awe (surprise, respect). In the hill country of Judaea all the people began talking about these things. All those that heard this wondered about them and kept them in their hearts. They wondered, 'What will this child grow up to be?'

The Lord was with John. The boy grew up and he became wise. He lived in the wilderness (desert) before he appeared openly to Israel.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Peter & St Paul - Vigil [29 June]

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 3:1–10

Peter and John were going to the Temple in Jerusalem for prayers at the ninth (9th) hour [=3pm] and a man was carried past them. He was crippled from birth. People used to put him down near the Temple entrance, called the Beautiful Gate, so that he could beg from people going into the Temple. This crippled man saw Peter and John on their way into the Temple so he begged them. Both Peter and John looked straight at him and said: 'Look at us.'

He turned to them hoping to get something from them, but Peter said: 'I have no silver, no gold, but I will give you what I have: in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk!'

Peter took the man's hand and helped him stand. Immediately his feet and ankles became strong, he jumped up, stood and began to walk; then he went with them into the Temple, walking

and jumping and praising God. Everyone could see him walking and praising God and recognised him as the man who used to sit begging at the Temple's Beautiful Gate. They were all surprised and couldn't explain what had happened to him.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 18

**RESPONSE: ALL CREATION
PROCLAIMS GOD'S GLORY ALL
OVER THE WORLD.**

**ALL CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY ALL OVER THE
WORLD.**

The heavens proclaim the glory of God;

And the heavens show the work of God's hands.

Day and night God's creation tells us the story.

**ALL CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY ALL OVER THE
WORLD.**

St Peter & St Paul - Vigil [29 June]

No speech, no word, no voice is heard;
but God's message tells the story everywhere
all over the world.

**ALL CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY ALL OVER THE
WORLD.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE GALATIANS

Galatians 1:11-19

I want to tell you that the gospel I preached was not given to me from another human person. I did not receive the Good News (gospel) from them; no one taught me. I received the Good News (gospel) through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You know about my life, I used to be a strict faithful Jew. I cruelly persecuted the Church of God, I tried to destroy it. I was a leader and the best in my age group. I was full of enthusiasm following the traditions of my people.

But God chose me before my birth, when I was still in my

mother's womb. Through his grace God showed his Son to me, so that I would preach the Good News (gospel) of Jesus Christ to all people, especially to those that do not believe in God.

After God called me, I did not go to any person for advice; I did not go to Jerusalem to see the Apostles, they were already apostles before me. Instead, straight away I went to Arabia, and later I went back to Damascus. After three years I went to Jerusalem to visit Peter, and stayed with him for fifteen days. I did not see any of the other apostles; I only saw James, the brother of the Lord.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.

ALLELUIA!

St Peter & St Paul - Vigil [29 June]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 21:15–19

After the meal Jesus said to Peter, ‘Simon Peter, do you love me more than the other disciples love me?’ Peter answered, ‘Yes Lord, you know I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’

A second time Jesus said to him, ‘Simon Peter, do you love me?’ Peter replied, ‘Yes, Lord, you know I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Look after my sheep.’

Then Jesus said to him a third time, ‘Simon Peter, do you love me?’ Peter was upset that Jesus asked him three times ‘Do you love me?’ Peter said to Jesus ‘Lord, you know everything. You know I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. I tell you the truth: when you were young, you tied your own belt and you went where you wanted to go. But when you grow old, you will lift up your hands, and another person will tie your belt and take you where you don’t want to go.’

Then Jesus said to him, ‘Follow me.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Peter & St Paul - Day [29 June]

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Apostles 12:1-11

King Herod started to persecute (arrest, put in prison, and kill) some members of the Church. He beheaded (cut head off) James, the brother of John. When Herod realised that the Jews liked this, he decided to arrest Peter too. This happened during the feast of Unleavened Bread (thin bread with no yeast). Herod arrested Peter and put him in prison. He ordered four groups, each group with four soldiers, to take turns and guard Peter. Herod wanted to wait until after the Passover festival to judge Peter in front of the people.

When Peter was in prison, the Church people prayed continually to God for him. The night before Herod planned to judge Peter, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, tied with double chains. Other guards were watching the door of the prison. Suddenly an angel stood there, and the room was filled with light. The angel touched Peter on the shoulder,

and woke him. The angel said, 'Hurry! Get up!' The chains on Peter's hands fell off. The angel said to Peter, 'Tie your belt and put on your sandals.' After Peter put on the belt and sandals, the angel said, 'Put your coat on and follow me.' Peter followed the angel and did not know that the angel was real, he thought he was seeing a vision. Peter and the angel went past the first guard and the second guard. They came to the iron gate that separated the prison from the city. The gate opened by itself. Peter and the angel went through and walked down a street then suddenly the angel disappeared.

Peter then realised what had happened. He said, 'Now I know it is true. The Lord really did send his angel to me. The Lord has saved me from Herod, saved me from the beheading that Jewish people were expecting.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

St Peter & St Paul - Day [29 June]

Psalm 33

RESPONSE: **THE ANGEL WILL SAVE THOSE THAT RESPECT THE LORD.**

THE ANGEL WILL SAVE THOSE THAT RESPECT THE LORD.

I will always bless the Lord.

I will never stop praising him.

I looked for the Lord.

He answered, and saved me from all terrors (fears).

THE ANGEL WILL SAVE THOSE THAT RESPECT THE LORD.

Look to him; do not be ashamed.

The Lord will listen and he will save you.

The Lord is near to all that ask for his help.

The Lord will always be happy to help us.

THE ANGEL WILL SAVE THOSE THAT RESPECT THE LORD.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO TIMOTHY

2 Timothy 4:6–8, 17–18

I am ready to sacrifice my life; now it is the time for me to go. I

persevered to the end. I did my best in the race. I kept the faith. And the reward of reconciliation in heaven waits for me. The Lord, the good Judge, will give the reward to me on the last day. He will also give the same reward to any person that waits patiently for his coming.

The Lord stayed with me. He gave me strength, so that I was able to proclaim the full message of Jesus Christ to all the pagans (non-believers). The Lord saved me from my enemies. He will save me from all people that try to do evil things to me. The Lord will bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. Glory to the Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.

ALLELUIA!

St Peter & St Paul - Day [29 June]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 16:13–19

Jesus came to the area of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of man is?' The disciples said, 'Some people say you are John the Baptist, other people say you are Elijah, others say you are Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' Jesus said, 'But you, who do you say I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Christ, the living Son of God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed! Because flesh and blood, human knowledge, did not tell you this, but my Father in heaven showed you who I am. So now I say to you: Your name is Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church. The powers of hell will not conquer the Church. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Anything you agree on earth shall be (same) agreed in heaven. Anything you prohibit on earth shall be (same) prohibited in heaven.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Thomas [3 July]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 2:19–22

You are not foreigners or strangers. You are members of God's family with all the saints. You are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, and Christ Jesus himself is the cornerstone. Christ himself joins the whole building together and it becomes a holy temple in the Lord. You too, in the Spirit are being built together into a house where God lives.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 116

RESPONSE: **GO OUT TO THE WHOLE WORLD, PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS.**

GO OUT TO THE WHOLE WORLD, PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS.

All you people praise the Lord!
Let us praise and honour him.

GO OUT TO THE WHOLE WORLD, PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS.

His love for us is strong.
God is always faithful.

GO OUT TO THE WHOLE WORLD, PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord said: 'Thomas, you believe because you can see me. Blessed are those who do not see me but believe.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 20:24–29

One of the Twelve, Thomas called the Twin, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. The disciples told him, 'We saw the Lord!' Thomas said, 'I will not believe until I see the holes the nails made in his hands and can touch these holes. I will not believe until I see the hole in his side and touch it.' Eight days later the disciples were together again

St Thomas [3 July]

in the house and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut but Jesus came and stood. He said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Touch my hands and see. Touch my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'You believe because you can see me? Blessed are those who do not see me but believe.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Benedict [11 July]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF PROVERBS

Proverbs 2:1–9

My child, learn all I teach you and never forget what I tell you to do. Listen to wisdom and try to understand. Look for truth; try to understand. Search carefully as if searching for silver or hidden treasure. If you search, you will understand and learn to respect the Lord and you will discover the knowledge of God. Because the Lord gives wisdom; from him you receive knowledge and understanding. He helps the honest person, he protects those who are fair. Then you will understand and know what is right, just and fair – that is the way that will bring happiness.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 33

**RESPONSE: I WILL ALWAYS
BLESS THE LORD.**

**I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE
LORD.**

I will always bless the Lord.
I will never stop praising him.
I looked for the Lord.

He answered, and saved me from
all my terrors (fears).

**I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE
LORD.**

Look to him; do not be ashamed.
The Lord will listen and he will
save you.

The Lord is near to all that ask for
his help.

The Lord will always be happy to
help us.

**I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE
LORD.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the
kingdom of heaven belongs to
them.

ALLELUIA!

St Benedict [11 July]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 19:27–29

Peter said to Jesus, ‘What about us. We left everything and followed you. What will we have?’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, when everything is made new, and the Son of man sits on his glorious throne, you who followed me will sit on twelve thrones to judge the twelve tribes of Israel. Anyone who left houses, brothers, sisters, father, mother, children or land to follow me will receive a hundred times more and you will also receive eternal life.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Our Lady of Mount Carmel [16 July]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ZECHARIAH

Zechariah 2:14–17

The Lord says: ‘Sing, rejoice, daughter of Zion! See, I am coming to dwell (live) among you. On that day many nations shall join themselves to the Lord. They shall be his people. He will dwell (live) among you, and you will know that the Lord God sent me to you. The Lord will keep Judah as his portion (part) in the Holy Land. He will again choose Jerusalem. Silence, all people be silent/quiet in the presence of the Lord! Because He awakes and is coming from his holy home.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Luke 1:46–55

RESPONSE: **THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.**

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

My soul praises the Lord.
My heart is glad because God is my Saviour.

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

God remembers me, I am his humble servant.

All people will say I am blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me.

His name is holy!

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

From the beginning until now, and forever,

God shows his mercy to all people that honour him.

He strengthens the weak and scatters proud people.

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

To hungry people God gives good things.

The rich He sends away with nothing.

God remembers his mercy promised to our fathers,

Our Lady of Mount Carmel [16 July]

and He protects his servant Israel, forever.

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

**THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD
PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are they that listen to the word of God and follow it.

ALLELUIA!

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF MATTHEW**

Matthew 12:46–50

Jesus was talking to the crowd, as his mother and brothers stood outside. They wanted to speak to him. Someone told him, ‘Your mother and brothers are outside. They want to speak with you.’ Jesus replied, ‘Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?’ Jesus pointed to his disciples and said, ‘Here is my mother! Here are my brothers! Anyone who does what my Father in heaven wants, is my brother, sister and mother.’

St Mary Magdala [22 July]

A READING FROM THE SONG OF SONGS

Song of Songs 3:1–4

The bride said: 'At night on my bed, I looked for the one my heart love; I looked but I did not find him. I got up and went around the city, in the streets and squares, looking for the one my heart loves. I looked, but I could not find him. I met the watchmen as they went round the city; I asked them, "Have you seen the one my heart loves?" As soon as I left them, I found the one my heart loves. I held him and would not let him go.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 5:14–17

If we think about the love of Christ - one man - He died for all of us, then we realise that all of us share in His death. The love of Christ controls us. Why did He die

for us? He died for us so that we do not live only for ourselves, but we live for Him. He died and was raised to life for us.

From now, and in the future, we do not judge any person in the old way that we used to judge people. In the past, we judged people the same way as the world judged Christ, but now we don't do that any more. Any person that believes in Christ and lives in Him will be a new creation, a new person. The old creation, the old way has gone (finished).

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 62

RESPONSE: **O GOD, MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR YOU, MY GOD.**

O GOD, MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR YOU, MY GOD.

You are my God, I need you.

My body is like a dry land without water,

My soul thirsts for you.

Let me see you; see your strength and your glory.

St Mary Magdala [22 July]

O GOD, MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR YOU, MY GOD.

Your love is better than life.

I will praise you God.

All my life I will pray and raise my hands.

My soul will be satisfied because you help and protect me.

O GOD, MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR YOU, MY GOD.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Tell us, Mary: say what you saw. Inside the tomb, the Living One, I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 20:1-2, 11-18

Early on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala went to the tomb. It was still dark. She saw the stone had been rolled away from the tomb entrance. She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. She

said, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb. We don't know where they have put him.' Mary of Magdala stayed near the tomb crying. As she cried, she bent to look into the tomb. She saw two angels dressed in white. They sat where Jesus' body had been. One sat where Jesus' head had laid, the other sat where his feet had been. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you crying?' Mary replied, 'They have taken my Lord away, and I don't know where they have put him.' Then she turned round and saw Jesus standing there but she didn't recognise (realise) he was Jesus. He asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?' She thought he was the gardener, so she said, 'Did you take him away? Tell me where you put him. Then I will go and get him.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She realised she knew him. She said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbuni!' Rabbuni means Teacher. Jesus said, 'Do not cling (hold) me, because I have not yet ascended to my Father. Go to the disciples.

St Mary Magdala [22 July]

Tell them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary of Magdala went to the disciples. She told them, 'I have seen the Lord!' and that he had said all these things to her.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St James [25 July]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 4:7-15

Treasure is kept in clay jars; and in our bodies, we hold treasure of God good news. This shows great power comes from God, not from us. Often, we have difficulties, but we are not crushed. We have problems and worries, but we never give up hope. People persecute us, but God never leaves us. We are knocked down, hurt but not destroyed. Always, wherever we go, we carry with us the death of Jesus in our bodies. That way, the life of Jesus can be seen in our bodies. While we live, we are always in danger of death because we are serving Jesus. Because we want people to see the life of Jesus working in our mortal (weak) bodies. This happens because the living Jesus can be seen in our earthly body. Death is at work in us, but life in you. It is written in Scripture (Bible), 'I believed and so I spoke.' We have that same spirit of faith. We also believe and speak. We

know God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead. So he will also raise us up with Jesus; he will present both you and us to himself. All this is for your benefit. God's grace is reaching more and more people. So they will become more thankful, giving glory to God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 125

**RESPONSE: WE ARE GLAD
BECAUSE GOD'S CREATION
IS MARVELLOUS.**

**WE ARE GLAD BECAUSE
GOD'S CREATION IS
MARVELLOUS.**

The Lord helped us and freed us, it seemed like a dream become true!

We rejoiced, we sang and we were happy.

Other people said, 'The Lord did good things for them! Truly the Lord is wonderful.'

**WE ARE GLAD BECAUSE
GOD'S CREATION IS
MARVELLOUS.**

St James [25 July]

We were prisoners, but the Lord freed us.

The sad people with tears, are now happy.

People go out sowing seeds with tears.

But now, they gather the crops and they come back with joy.

WE ARE GLAD BECAUSE GOD'S CREATION IS MARVELLOUS.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I chose you from the world to go out and to give fruit, fruit that will last.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 20:20-28

The mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus. Her sons came with her. She bowed to Jesus worshipping him and asked a favour. Jesus said, 'What do you want?' She said, 'Promise me - my two sons will sit with you in your kingdom - one at your right and one at your left.' Jesus said to

them, 'You don't know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup of suffering I will drink?' They answered, 'We can.' Jesus said, 'You will certainly drink from my cup. But it is not for me to say who will sit at my right or left. These places belong to those my Father has prepared.'

The other ten apostles heard about this and they were very annoyed with the two brothers. Jesus called them together and said, 'You know the Gentile rulers have power over their people; their important officials boss them. Don't be like that. No, anyone who wants to be important among you must be your servant. Anyone who wants to be first must be your servant. Be like the Son of man; He did not come to be served but to serve. He came to give his life as the ransom (price) for freeing many people.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Joachim & St Anne [26 July]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ECCLESIASTICUS

Si 44:1, 10–15

Let us praise the famous people of long ago. They were good people, their good works are never forgotten. Their wealth will remain with their descendants. All their descendants will remember the commandments. These people will continue forever and their glory will not fade. Their bodies have been buried in peace, and their names will continue forever. These people will show their wisdom, and all people will praise them.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 131

**RESPONSE: THE LORD GOD
WILL APPOINT HIM KING,
GIVING THE THRONE OF HIS
FATHER DAVID.**

**THE LORD GOD WILL APPOINT
HIM KING, GIVING THE
THRONE OF HIS FATHER
DAVID.**

The Lord promised David,
The Lord told him ‘Your son will
sit on your throne.’

**THE LORD GOD WILL APPOINT
HIM KING, GIVING THE
THRONE OF HIS FATHER
DAVID.**

The Lord chose Jerusalem.
He said, ‘Jerusalem is the place I
will rest.

I will live there forever’.

**THE LORD GOD WILL APPOINT
HIM KING, GIVING THE
THRONE OF HIS FATHER
DAVID.**

David’s family will spread.
The Lord will protect David from
his enemies.

The Lord’s crown on David will
always shine.

**THE LORD GOD WILL APPOINT
HIM KING, GIVING THE
THRONE OF HIS FATHER
DAVID.**

St Joachim & St Anne [26 July]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Holy Spirit came down on the people of Israel and they looked forward to the Holy Spirit comforting them.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 13:16–17

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Blessed are your eyes because you see, blessed your ears because they hear! I tell you the truth, many prophets and holy people wanted to see the things you now see, but they never saw them. They wanted to hear the things you now receive, but they never heard them.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Saints Martha, Mary, Lazarus [29 July]

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL OF ST JOHN

1 John 4:7–16

My dear friends, let us love each other because love is from God. Any person that loves is a child of God and knows God. Any person that does not love does not know God, because God is love. God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we could have life through him (Jesus). True love means God's love for us, not our love for God. God showed his love by sending his Son to become the sacrifice that takes away our sins. My dear friends, because God loved us so much, we should love each other in the same way. No person has ever seen God, but if we love each other, then God will live in us and his love will become perfect in us. We know that we live in God and God lives in us because He gave us his Spirit. We have seen and we tell all people that the Father sent his Son to save the world. If any person believes that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in that person and

that person lives in God. We know and we have faith that God shows his love to us. God is love and anyone that lives in love lives in God, and God lives in that person.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 33

RESPONSE: **LORD, I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE LORD.**

I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE LORD.

I will always bless the Lord.

I will never stop praising him.

I looked for the Lord.

He answered, and saved me from all my terrors (fears).

I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE LORD.

Saints Martha, Mary, Lazarus [29 July]

Look to him; do not be ashamed.
The Lord will listen and he will
save you.

The Lord is near to all that ask for
his help.

The Lord will always be happy to
help us.

**I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE
LORD.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I am the light of
the world. Anyone who follows
me will have the light of life.'

ALLELUIA!

Alternative Gospel

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF LUKE**

Luke 10:38–42

Jesus came to a village, and a
woman named Martha welcomed
Jesus into her house. Martha had
a sister named Mary. Mary sat
down near the Lord's feet and
listened to Jesus talking. Martha
was upset because of all the
work she had to do, so she said
to Jesus, 'Lord, do you not care

that my sister is leaving me to do
all the work by myself? Please tell
her to help me.' But the Lord
answered, 'Martha, Martha, you
worry and are upset about so
many things, but only one thing is
needed. Mary has chosen the
best part. No one can take it
away from her.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN**

John 11:19–27

Many Jews came to see Martha
and Mary to comfort them
because of their brother's death.
Martha heard that Jesus had
come, she went out to meet him.
Mary stayed sitting at home.
Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had
been here, my brother would not
have died. But I know that even
now God will give you anything
you ask.' Jesus said, 'Your brother
will rise to life.' Martha said, 'I
know he will rise to life in the
resurrection on the last day.'

Saints Martha, Mary, Lazarus [29 July]

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Any person that believes in me will have life after death. And the person that lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' Martha said, 'Yes Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, yet come into the world.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Ignatius Loyola [31 July]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1

Remember, if you eat, or if you drink, or if you do anything, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything that will start to make trouble or upset people - Jews, Greeks or the Church of God. I always try to help everybody. I am not worried about things for myself, but I do good things for other people so that they can be saved. Follow my example, the same as I follow Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 33

**RESPONSE: I WILL ALWAYS
BLESS THE LORD.**

I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE LORD.

I will always bless the Lord.
I will never stop praising him.
I looked for the Lord.
He answered, and saved me from
all my terrors (fears).

I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE LORD.

Look to him; do not be ashamed.
The Lord will listen and he will
save you.

The Lord is near to all that ask for
his help.

The Lord will always be happy to
help us.

I WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE LORD.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are the people that are
poor in spirit, the kingdom of
heaven belongs to them.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 14:25–33

A large crowd of people followed
Jesus, he turned and said to
them, 'If anyone comes to me but
loves father, mother, wife,
children, brothers, or sisters more
than me, then that person cannot
be my disciple. Any person that

St Ignatius Loyola [31 July]

does not carry the cross and follow me, cannot be my disciple. If you want to build a tower, you must sit down first to make a plan and find out how much it will cost. You need to know if you have enough money to finish the job. If you start building and later realise that you cannot finish building the tower, all the people watching will laugh at you. They will say, "This man wanted to build a tower, but now he cannot finish the job." If a king goes to war against another king, first he will sit down and plan. If the king has only 10,000 soldiers and the other king has 20,000 soldiers, he knows he cannot go to war because he will lose. He will send messengers to meet the other king and try to make peace.' Jesus said, 'In the same way, if you want to be my disciple, you must give up everything you have and follow me.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Transfiguration of the Lord [6 August]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF DANIEL

Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14

I saw a very old King, one that had been living for a long time, sat down on his throne. His clothes were white as snow; his hair white as wool. His throne's wheels were on fire, throwing flames from the throne.

A thousand thousand people served him; thousands and thousands of people stood in front of him. The court sat in judgement and the books were opened.

I continued watching, and in my night's vision (dream), I saw someone like a son of man. He was in the clouds of heaven and he approached the old King, the one that had been living for ever. The King gave the son of man authority, glory and power, and people from different countries, different languages, became his servants. His reign will continue for ever and his kingdom will never be destroyed.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 96

RESPONSE: **THE LORD IS KING
OF ALL THE EARTH.**

**THE LORD IS KING OF ALL THE
EARTH.**

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice.
The Lord rules with justice and
righteousness.

The mountain melts like wax
through the power of the Lord.
Everything on earth belongs to
him.

**THE LORD IS KING OF ALL THE
EARTH.**

The sky tells of his justice.
All people can see his glory.
Because He is the Lord,
The most high above all the
earth.

**THE LORD IS KING OF ALL THE
EARTH.**

Transfiguration of the Lord [6 August]

A READING FROM THE SECOND SCROLL ↕ OF ST PETER

2 Peter 1:16–19

We did not bring you any made-up stories about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. No! With our own eyes we saw his power. Jesus was honoured and glorified by God his Father. The Father's voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. I am pleased with him.' When we were on the holy mountain with Jesus, we heard this voice ourselves, spoken from heaven.

So we are confident of the message given by the prophets of long ago. You will be wise if you listen carefully, because the prophecy is the same as a lamp shining in the dark until dawn (morning) comes, and the morning star rises in your minds.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

This is my Son, the Beloved. I am pleased with him. Listen to him.

ALLELUIA!

Year A

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 17:1–9

Jesus went up a high mountain with Peter and the two brothers, James and John. They were alone with Jesus. There three disciples saw Jesus change: his face became as bright as the sun. His clothes became as white as light. Suddenly, two men appeared, Moses and Elijah; they were talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here. If you want, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' While Peter was talking, a bright cloud came, and the cloud's shadow covered the three disciples. A voice from the cloud said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. I am pleased with him. Listen to

Transfiguration of the Lord [6 August]

him.’ The disciples heard the voice, and they fell to the ground, terrified. But Jesus came and touched them. He said, ‘Stand up. Do not be afraid.’ Then they looked up and saw no one but only Jesus.

They walked down the mountain, and Jesus gave them a strict order, ‘Tell no one about the things you saw today. Wait until the Son of Man has risen from death.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Year B

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 9:2–10

Jesus took Peter, James and John and walked up a high mountain. They were alone with no other people. At the top of the mountain, in front of the disciples, Jesus was transfigured (changed). His clothes became shining white. Elijah and Moses

appeared and they were talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus: ‘Rabbi, it is wonderful for us to be here, so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ Peter did not know what he was talking about; the three disciples were frightened. Then a cloud came and covered the disciples. A voice from the cloud said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’ Suddenly, the disciples looked around, they saw no one but only Jesus.

They came down the mountain. Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about the things they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. The disciples obeyed Jesus’ order, but the three disciples discussed between themselves what ‘rising from the dead’ could mean.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Transfiguration of the Lord [6 August]

Year C

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 9:28–36

Jesus took Peter, James and John and went up the mountain to pray. While Jesus was praying, his face changed, and his clothes became shiny white. Suddenly, two men were there talking with him. They were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory. They talked with Jesus about the way that he (Jesus) would soon follow God's plan by dying in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very tired and sleepy, but when they saw Jesus' glory and the two men standing with Jesus, they woke up. At the same time as Moses and Elijah disappeared, Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here. We will make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' Peter did not really know what he was talking about. While Peter spoke, a cloud came and covered the three disciples. They were afraid. From the cloud a voice said: 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to

Him!' Then the voice stopped, Jesus was alone. The disciples said nothing and told no one about the things they saw.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Teresa Benedicta [9 August]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF HOSEA

Hosea 2:16, 17, 21–22

The Lord says: ‘I will lead her out into the desert. I will speak to her heart with words of love. She will turn to me and accept me as when she was young, the same as when she came out of Egypt. I will make you my bride (wife) forever. I will be true and faithful. I will love you with justice and tenderness (gentleness). With faithfulness I will make you my bride and you will know that I am truly the Lord.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 44

RESPONSE: **LISTEN TO THE LORD.**

LISTEN TO THE LORD.

Listen to me, daughter.
Forget your people and your father’s family.
The king is your Lord.
Adore him.

LISTEN TO THE LORD.

The daughter of the king is richly dressed in pearls and gold.

Other women joyfully lead her to the king.

Her sons will be successful;

They will rule all over the earth.

LISTEN TO THE LORD.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are they persecuted for their faith, the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 25:1–13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven will be like the ten bridesmaids that took their lamps and went to wait for the bridegroom. Five bridesmaids were foolish, they took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The other five bridesmaids were wise, they took their lamps and also flasks of oil.’

St Teresa Benedicta [9 August]

The bridegroom was late, and all ten bridesmaids became tired and they fell asleep. At midnight someone shouted, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." All the bridesmaids woke up and they checked their lamps. The foolish bridesmaids said to the wise bridesmaids, "Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are going out!" The five wise bridesmaids replied, "There is not enough oil for all of us. So you must go and buy some more oil for yourselves." The foolish bridesmaids went out to buy some more oil. While they were gone, the bridegroom arrived. The five wise bridesmaids were ready, they went with the bridegroom into the wedding hall and the door was closed. Later the five foolish bridesmaids arrived; they said, "Lord, Lord, open the door for us." But the bridegroom replied, "I tell you the truth, I don't know you." Then Jesus said, 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day

or the hour when the Lord will come.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Maximilian Kolbe [14 August]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF WISDOM

Wisdom 3:1–9

The souls of good people are in the hands of God, they will not suffer any more. Ignorant (stupid) people will think that these people have died. People will think that their going looked a disaster, their death seemed a destruction. But these souls are in peace.

If they receive punishment, they will have the hope of eternal life. Their suffering will be little, their blessings will be great. God tested them and proved that they are worthy to be with him. God has tested them like gold in a fire and He has accepted them. At the time of his visitation, these souls will shine. They will judge nations (peoples) and rule over peoples. The Lord will be their king forever. Because of their trust in God, they will understand the truth. Those that are faithful will live with God in love, because God has given grace and mercy to those he has chosen.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 115

RESPONSE: THE LORD LOOKS WITH LOVE ON THE DEATH OF FAITHFUL PEOPLE.

THE LORD LOOKS WITH LOVE ON THE DEATH OF FAITHFUL PEOPLE.

How I thank the Lord?
God has been good to me.
I will offer him the cup of salvation.

I will pray to the Lord.

THE LORD LOOKS WITH LOVE ON THE DEATH OF FAITHFUL PEOPLE.

The death of good faithful people is special to the Lord.

I am your servant, Lord, you freed me.

I will give you a thanksgiving sacrifice.

I will pray to the Lord and I will keep my promises always.

THE LORD LOOKS WITH LOVE ON THE DEATH OF FAITHFUL PEOPLE.

St Maximilian Kolbe [14 August]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 15:12–16

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I command you: Love each other, the same as I loved you. The greatest love a person can show is to die for their friends. You are my friends if you obey me. I will not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know what the master is doing. Now, I call you friends because I told you everything I learnt from my Father. You did not choose me; no, I chose you. And I gave you this work; to go and preach in my name. Your good works will give fruit (growth). The fruit (growth) that you give will continue forever. Then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name.’

Assumption of BVM [15 August]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ OF REVELATION

Revelation 11:19; 12:1–6, 10

The temple of God was opened, and the ark of the covenant (God's promise) could be seen inside. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, standing on the moon, and with twelve stars on her head as a crown. She was pregnant and in labour; she shouted out in pain.

Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns, and each head had a crown. The tail waved through the sky and threw one third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the stars to the earth.

The dragon came and stood in front of the woman, waiting to eat the child as soon as it was born. The woman gave birth to a boy, the son that would rule the world with an iron rod. The baby was quickly taken up to God and to his throne. The woman escaped into the desert, to a

place that God had prepared to keep her safe.

Then I heard a loud voice from heaven: 'God has won! God's salvation has come from heaven! God has shown his power as King! Now Christ has shown his authority!'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 44

RESPONSE: THE QUEEN STANDS AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE THRONE.

THE QUEEN STANDS AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE THRONE.

The daughters of kings are with you Lord,
On your right stands the queen in gold clothes.

THE QUEEN STANDS AT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE THRONE.

Assumption of BVM [15 August]

Listen to me, daughter.
Forget your people and your
father's family.
The king is your Lord.
Adore him.

**THE QUEEN STANDS AT THE
RIGHT SIDE OF THE THRONE.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 15:20–26

Christ has been raised from death, the first person of all that have died and the first of all people that will be raised from death. Death happened because of one man - Adam. In the same way, the resurrection from the dead will happen to people because of one man - Christ. In Adam, all of us die. In Christ, all of us will be raised to life. First, Christ was raised from the dead; then after Christ comes again, all those believers that belong to him will be raised to life. After that, the end will happen: Christ will destroy all rulers, authorities

and powers, then Christ will give the kingdom to God the Father. Christ must rule as king until he puts all his enemies under him. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. God will put all things under Christ's control. And after all things have been put under Christ's control, then he himself, the Son, will put himself under God's control. Then God will rule completely over all.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Mary was taken up into heaven.
All the angels rejoiced.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:39–56

Mary went quickly to a town in the hill country of Judah to visit Elizabeth. Zechariah lived there. Mary went into the house and

Assumption of BVM [15 August]

greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leapt (kicked) in her womb. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and said aloud, 'You, Mary, are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the baby in your womb. Why did you come to honour me, you, the mother of my Lord? When I heard your greeting, the baby inside me leapt (kicked) with joy. Yes, you are blessed because you believed the Lord's promise would become true.'

Mary said, 'My soul praises the Lord. My heart is glad because God is my Saviour. He remembered me, I am his humble servant. Yes, from now on, all people will say that I am blessed, because the Almighty has done great things for me. His name is holy. In the past, God has always shown his mercy to all that honour him. God shows the power of his arm, and condemns the proud people. He removes kings from their thrones, and raises up the humble. He gives good things to the hungry. The

rich, he sends away with nothing. God keeps the promise he has made. He has come to help Israel. He remembered to show mercy to Abraham, and to his descendants (future people) for ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then she went back home.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Our Lady, Mother and Queen [22 August]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 9:1–7

The people that walked in darkness saw a great light. They lived in shadows, but now light shines on them. You, Lord, have made them happy. They are like people rejoicing when their harvest finished. They are like people happy to receive good things. God has taken away the yoke (heavy rod) from their back. The army boots used for war and all the uniforms of war, full of blood, will be burnt and destroyed.

Because a child is born. A Son is given to us. He will be our ruler. His name will be: 'Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.'

His kingdom will spread peace everywhere forever. He will rule with royal power; he will rule with fairness from the throne of David. He will establish justice for all people. From now and forever because God has promised this.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 112

RESPONSE: **BLESSED BE THE
NAME OF THE LORD FOREVER!**

**BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE
LORD FOREVER!**

Alleluia!

Praise the name of the Lord!

The Lord rules all the world.

His glory is in the heavens.

No one is the same as our God.

**BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE
LORD FOREVER!**

From the heavens God looks
down.

He sees the poor and raises them
from the dust.

God wants the poor to live in the
company of rich people.

Yes, God lets his people live in the
company of important people.

**BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE
LORD FOREVER!**

Our Lady, Mother and Queen [22 August]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord with thee! Blessed art thou among women.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:26–38

God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin living in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. The young woman was engaged to marry Joseph, a man from the family of David; and her name was Mary. The angel came to Mary and said, 'Rejoice, you are truly blessed (favoured)! The Lord is with you.' Mary was afraid and wondered what the angel's message meant. He (angel) said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid. God is very pleased with you. Listen! You will become pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus. He will be great and people will call him Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will appoint him King, the same as his ancestor (in the

past) David. Jesus will rule over the people of Jacob for ever. His kingdom will never end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can I become pregnant? I am a virgin.' The angel said, 'The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will stay with you. The child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Also, remember your relative, Elizabeth. She is old and everybody thought she could never have a baby, but now she is six months pregnant. God can do anything, because nothing's impossible to God!' Mary said, 'I am the servant of the Lord. Let what you have said happen to me.' And the angel went away.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Bartholomew [24 August]

Psalm 144

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ OF REVELATION

Revelation 21:9–14

The angel came to me, and said, ‘I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.’ In the spirit, the angel carried me to the top of a very high mountain. The angel showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from heaven. The city shone (shining) with the glory of God, shining like a very special beautiful diamond. The walls around the city were very high, and had twelve (12) gates. At each gate there was an angel. Above each gate was written the names of the twelve (12) families of Israel. On the east wall there were 3 gates, on the north 3 gates, on the south 3 gates, and on the west 3 gates. The walls of the city were built on twelve (12) foundation stones; written on each stone was the name of one of the twelve (12) apostles of the Lamb (Jesus).

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: LORD, YOUR FRIENDS WILL TELL ALL PEOPLE THE GLORY OF YOUR REIGN.

LORD, YOUR FRIENDS WILL TELL ALL PEOPLE THE GLORY OF YOUR REIGN.

All creation will thank you, Lord. they will remember your glory. All people and animals look to you and you give them food.

LORD, YOUR FRIENDS WILL TELL ALL PEOPLE THE GLORY OF YOUR REIGN.

The Lord’s reign lasts for ever. The Lord is just (fair) and loving. The Lord is very near to all that ask for his help.

LORD, YOUR FRIENDS WILL TELL ALL PEOPLE THE GLORY OF YOUR REIGN.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel.

ALLELUIA!

St Bartholomew [24 August]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 1:45–51

Philip found Nathanael and told him, 'We found Jesus, son of Joseph, from Nazareth. Remember in the scroll of the Law and the prophets, Moses wrote about him.' Nathanael said, 'From Nazareth? Can anything good come from Nazareth?' Philip replied, 'Come and see.' Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him and he said, 'There is a true Israelite, there is no deception (sly) in him.' Nathanael asked, 'How do you know me?' Jesus replied, 'Before Philip spoke to you, I saw you under the fig tree.' Nathanael answered, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel.' Jesus replied, 'You believe that because I said I saw you under the fig tree? You will see things greater than that.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God going up and coming down on the Son of man.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Monica [27 August]

Psalm 130

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ECCLESIASTICUS

Ecclesiasticus 26:1–4, 13–16

The husband of a really good wife is blessed: he will live twice as long because of her. A courageous wife is a joy to her husband, and he will live in peace. A good wife is the best of blessings given to those who respect the Lord; rich or poor, his heart will be glad, whatever happens his face will be cheerful.

A gracious wife delights (makes happy) her husband, her understanding makes his bones strong. A quiet silent wife is a gift from the Lord. A well trained wife is not easy to find. A modest (humble) faithful wife is a precious gift. Like the sun rising over the mountains of the Lord, is the beauty of a good wife in a house well-looked after.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

Lord, my heart is not proud,
my eyes not snobbish.
I do not want great things,
things beyond me.

LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

Truly my soul rests in silence and
peace.

Like a baby full fed on its mother,
my soul within me, will be the
same, full fed.

LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

Israel, wait, hope in the Lord,
now and for ever.

LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

St Monica [27 August]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I am the light of the world. Anyone that follows me will have the light of life.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 7:11–17

Jesus went to a town called Nain, with his disciples. A large crowd followed him. When Jesus arrived at the gate of the town, he saw a funeral procession coming out. The dead man was the only son of a woman and she was a widow. Many people from the town were with the woman. Jesus saw the woman, he felt sorry for her and said, 'Do not cry.' Then Jesus walked to the open coffin and touched it. The men carrying the coffin stopped. Jesus said, 'Young man, I tell you to get up!' The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everybody was amazed and they praised God saying, 'A wonderful prophet has appeared

among us. God has come to visit us!' The news about Jesus spread everywhere in Judaea and all over the country.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Augustine of Hippo [28 August]

READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ⇅ OF ST JOHN

1 John 4:7–16

My dear friends, let us love each other because love is from God. Any person that loves is a child of God and knows God. Any person that does not love does not know God, because God is love. God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we could have life through him (Jesus). True love means God's love for us, not our love for God. God showed his love by sending his Son to become the sacrifice that takes away our sins. My dear friends, because God loved us so much, we should love each other in the same way. No person has ever seen God, but if we love each other, then God will live in us and his love will become perfect in us. We know that we live in God and God lives in us because He gave us his Spirit. We have seen and we tell all people that the Father sent his Son to save the world. If any person believes that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in that person and

that person lives in God. We know and we have faith that God shows his love to us. God is love and anyone that lives in love lives in God, and God lives in that person.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 118

RESPONSE: **LORD TEACH ME
YOUR LAWS**

LORD TEACH ME YOUR LAWS

How can the young stay clean without sin?

By obeying your words.

With all my heart I seek you, do not let me fall away from your commandments.

LORD TEACH ME YOUR LAWS

In my heart I treasure your promises,
so that I do not sin against you. Blessed are you, Lord,
teach me to follow your law.

LORD TEACH ME YOUR LAWS

St Augustine of Hippo [28 August]

With my mouth and my hands I
will tell again your law to all.
I rejoice to follow your way,
and your words give me joy.

LORD TEACH ME YOUR LAWS

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

You have only one Father, and he
is in heaven; you have only one
Teacher, the Christ.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 23:8–12

Jesus said, 'You must not let other
people call you Rabbi. Why?
Because you have only one
Master. You are all brothers and
sisters. You must not call any
person here on earth your father.
Because you have only one Father
in heaven. You must not let any
person call you teacher, because
you have only one Teacher, the
Messiah. The greatest person
among you must become a

humble servant. Any person that
wants to be first and think
themselves important will receive
the last, lowest place. Any person
that is really humble will receive
the first and best place.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Beheading of John the Baptist [29 August]

Psalm 70

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 1:17–19

The Lord said to me, ‘Before I created you in your mother’s womb, I already knew you. Before you were born, I blessed you. I chose you to be a prophet to all nations (countries). You Jeremiah, get ready; go and tell everybody everything I tell you. Do not be afraid of the people, or I will make it worse and make you more afraid when you are with them. You Jeremiah, listen to me, everyone in this land - the kings of Judah, the officials, the priests, and the people - all of them will be against you. But today I will give you strength; you will be like a strong city, with pillar of iron and a bronze wall. They will fight against you but will not defeat you because I will be with you to protect you. I, the Lord, said this.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

**RESPONSE: LORD, I WILL TELL
ALL PEOPLE ABOUT YOUR
JUSTICE.**

**LORD, I WILL TELL ALL PEOPLE
ABOUT YOUR JUSTICE.**

Lord, I come to you for
protection.

Never let me be ashamed.

In your justice rescue me, free me.
You are my rock, my place of
safety.

**LORD, I WILL TELL ALL PEOPLE
ABOUT YOUR JUSTICE.**

Lord, you give me hope. I trust
you.

From my birth, from my youth,
you always helped me.

You taught me, you protected
me.

I will always thank you.

**LORD, I WILL TELL ALL PEOPLE
ABOUT YOUR JUSTICE.**

Beheading of John the Baptist [29 August]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed those persecuted because they do the right things: the kingdom of God belongs to them.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 6:17–29

Herod ordered John's arrest, and had him tied up in chains in prison. Herod did this because of Herodias, whom he married, even though she was the wife of his brother Philip. John the Baptist told Herod, 'It is not right for you to marry your brother's wife!' So Herodias was angry and held a grudge against John. She wanted to kill him, but she could not because of Herod. Herod was afraid of John because he knew John was a good and holy man, and so he protected him. Herod liked to listen to John, even though he became greatly disturbed every time he listened to him.

Finally Herodias got her chance. It was Herod's birthday, and he gave a feast for all the top government officials, his army officers, and the leading people of Galilee. The daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. So the king said to the girl, 'What would you like to have? I will give you anything you want.' He said to her, 'I swear and promise I will give you anything you ask for, even half my kingdom!' So the girl went out and asked her mother, 'What shall I ask?' She replied, 'The head of John the Baptist.' The girl hurried back at once to the king and demanded, 'I want you to give me here and now the head of John the Baptist on a plate!' This made the king very sad, but he could not refuse her because of the vow (promise) he made in front of all his guests. So he sent a guard at once with orders to bring John's head. The guard left, went to the prison, and cut off John's head; then he brought it on a plate and gave it to the girl, and the girl

Beheading of John the Baptist [29 August]

gave it to her mother. When John's disciples heard about this, they came and took his body and buried it.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Birth of BVM (8 September)

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF MICAH

Micah 5:1–4

The Lord says, 'You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, you the least important of the families of Judah, from you will be born someone to rule Israel. His family lived a long way in the past. The Lord will leave his people until the day a woman gives birth to a son. Then his people (family) will come back and join the people of Israel. He will stand and feed his sheep with the power of the Lord and with the glory of God's name. His people will live safely because all over the earth people will acknowledge his greatness. He will bring peace.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 8:28–30

We know in everything God works for the good of all that love

him. God chose those people because that was his plan. God chose those people long ago, before he created the world. And God decided that those people would become true images of his Son, so that his Son would be the eldest of many brothers in God's family. God was just and fair with the people that he chose, and he shared his glory with them.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 12

RESPONSE: **I REJOICE IN THE LORD.**

I REJOICE IN THE LORD.

Lord, I trust in your merciful love. Let my heart rejoice in your saving help.

I REJOICE IN THE LORD.

I will sing to the Lord because he is good to me.

I sing psalms to the name of the Lord, the Most High.

I REJOICE IN THE LORD.

Birth of BVM (8 September)

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, holy Virgin Mary.
We praise you Mary because from
you Christ our Lord was born.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 1:1–16, 18–23

A genealogy (family tree) of Jesus
Christ, son of David, son of
Abraham:

Abraham was the father of Isaac,
Isaac the father of Jacob,
Jacob the father of Judah and his
brothers,
Judah was the father of Perez and
Zerah, Tamar being their mother,
Perez was the father of Hezron,
Hezron the father of Ram,
Ram was the father of
Amminadab,
Amminadab the father of
Nahshon,
Nahshon the father of Salmon,
Salmon was the father of Boaz,
Rahab being his mother,

Boaz was the father of Obed,
Ruth being his mother,
Obed was the father of Jesse;
and Jesse was the father of King
David.

David was the father of Solomon,
whose mother had been Uriah's
wife,

Solomon was the father of
Rehoboam,

Rehoboam the father of Abijah,
Abijah the father of Asa,

Asa was the father of
Jehoshaphat,

Jehoshaphat the father of Joram,
Joram the father of Azariah,

Azariah was the father of Jotham,
Jotham the father of Ahaz,

Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,

Hezekiah was the father of
Manasseh,

Manasseh the father of Amon,
Amon the father of Josiah;

and Josiah was the father of
Jechoniah and his brothers.

Then the deportation (exile) to
Babylon happened.

Birth of BVM (8 September)

After the deportation to Babylon:
Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel,
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,
Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud,
Abiud the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,
Azor was the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Achim,
Achim the father of Eliud,
Eliud was the father of Eleazar,
Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob;
and Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary; of her was born Jesus called the Christ.

* This is how the birth of Jesus happened. The mother of Jesus Christ was Mary. Mary was engaged to marry Joseph. But before they married, Mary found that she was pregnant. She had a baby in her womb through the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary's husband, Joseph, was a good man. He did not want to

embarrass Mary or give her a bad name, so he made plans for a divorce quietly. But the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to accept Mary as your wife. She has the baby in her womb by the power of the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you must name him Jesus, because he will save people from their sins.' All this happened because God had made this promise through the prophet:

'A virgin will conceive and give birth to a son. He will be called Emmanuel, a name meaning "God-is-with-us."'

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord told him to do: he took his wife Mary into his home. Joseph had no sexual intercourse with Mary; she gave birth to a son, and Joseph named him Jesus. *

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Most Holy Name of Mary [12 September]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇅ TO THE GALATIANS

Galatians 4:4–7

At the right time, God sent his Son, born from a woman. The Son lived obedient to the Law. He came to save us because we too were under the Law, so we could become God's children. The proof that you are children of God is that God has already sent His Spirit into your hearts. This Spirit in us helps us pray to God, 'Abba, Father.' This same Spirit makes us children of God. We are not slaves (we are free). God will give us everything because we are his children.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇅ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 1:3–6

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has given us all the spiritual blessings of heaven through Christ. Before the world was created, God chose us.

Through Christ, God chose us to be holy and without fault, and to live with love in his presence. Through Jesus Christ, God wanted us to become his children. Let us praise God for his grace, for the free gift he gave us through his Son, the Beloved.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Luke 1:46-55

RESPONSE: **THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.**

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

My soul praises the Lord.
My heart is glad because God is my Saviour.

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

God remembers me, I am his humble servant.

All people will say I am blessed.
The Almighty has done great things for me.

His name is holy!

Most Holy Name of Mary [12 September]

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

From the beginning until now,
and forever,
God shows his mercy to all
people that honour him.
He strengthens the weak and
scatters proud people.

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

To hungry people God gives
good things.
The rich He sends away with
nothing.
God remembers his mercy
promised to our fathers,
and He protects his servant Israel,
forever.

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, Virgin Mary, you
believed the message of the Lord.
ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:39–47

Mary went quickly to a town in the hill country of Judah to visit Elizabeth. Zechariah lived there. Mary went into the house and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leapt (kicked) in her womb. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and said aloud, 'You, Mary, are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the baby in your womb. Why did you come to honour me, you, the mother of my Lord? When I heard your greeting, the baby inside me leapt (kicked) with joy. Yes, you are blessed because you believed the Lord's promise would become true.'

Mary said, 'My soul praises the Lord. My heart is glad because God is my Saviour.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Exaltation of the Holy Cross [14 September]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF NUMBERS

Numbers 21:4–9

On the way, the people lost patience. They complained against God and against Moses, and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt? Why leave us to die in the desert? There is no bread, no water here. We are fed up with this terrible food.'

Then God sent poisonous snakes among the people. The snakes bit the people of Israel and many died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against God and against you. Pray to the Lord for us and save us from the snakes.'

Moses prayed to God for the people. God said to Moses, 'Make a metal snake and put it on a long stick. If any person is bitten by a snake, and looks at this metal snake, that person will live.'

So Moses made a metal snake and he put it on a stick. Every time someone was bitten by a snake and looked at the metal snake, that person lived.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 77

RESPONSE: **NEVER FORGET
EVERYTHING GOD DID FOR US.**

**NEVER FORGET EVERYTHING
GOD DID FOR US.**

God said, 'Follow my teaching, receive my words.

And I will explain things to you, Things that you did not understand in the past.

People will remember that I am their God.'

**NEVER FORGET EVERYTHING
GOD DID FOR US.**

But people told lies.

Their hearts were not with God. They did not follow his commandments.

God, full of compassion, forgave their sins.

God controlled his anger and saved his people.

**NEVER FORGET EVERYTHING
GOD DID FOR US.**

Exaltation of the Holy Cross [14 September]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Philippians 2:6–11

Jesus Christ was holy. Jesus was God but he gave up his power as God to become the most humble of all people. He became a slave. He became human the same as all people, and he lived as a man. He became so humble that he accepted death, death on a cross. But God raised him to the highest heaven. God gave him the name that is more important than all other names.

So everybody, in heaven, on earth, and under the earth, will kneel down and honour the name of Jesus. All will praise God the Father and say that Jesus Christ is Lord.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord Jesus Christ, we adore you and we praise you. Through your cross, you saved the world.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 3:13–17

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘No person has gone to heaven, only the one (Jesus) that came down from heaven - the Son of God is in heaven - and the Son of God must be lifted up (on the cross) in the same way that Moses lifted up the snake in the desert. So each person that believes in him (Jesus) will have eternal life.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that each person that believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world but to save the world, so that through him (Jesus) the world will be saved.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Our Lady of Sorrows [15 September]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇅ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 5:7–9

During Jesus' life on earth, Jesus prayed to God and asked for help. God had the power to save Jesus from death. Jesus prayed aloud, also with silent tears. And because Jesus was so humble, God heard his prayers. Jesus was God's Son but he learnt to obey through suffering; because Jesus was made perfect, all those that obey him receive eternal salvation.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 30

RESPONSE: **LORD, IN YOUR LOVE SAVE ME.**

LORD, IN YOUR LOVE SAVE ME.

Lord, you protect me.
I will never be ashamed.
In your justice, free me.
Hear my prayer and save me.

LORD, IN YOUR LOVE SAVE ME.

Lord, protect me from my enemies,

You are my rock,

Through your name, you lead me and guide me.

LORD, IN YOUR LOVE SAVE ME.

I say 'You are my God.

My life is in your hands, deliver (free) me.'

You protect all those that trust you.

LORD, IN YOUR LOVE SAVE ME.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, Virgin Mary.

Standing at the foot of the cross, you achieved victory of the spirit over the flesh.

ALLELUIA!

Alternative Gospel

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 2:33–35

Jesus' parents stood there wondering about the things Simeon said about Jesus. Simeon blessed them both. He said to Mary, 'You see this child: many people will fall because of him.'

Our Lady of Sorrows [15 September]

Many people in Israel will also be saved because of him. He will be a sign that people will refuse to accept. Sorrow, like a sharp sword, will pierce your heart. And the secret thoughts of many people will be made obvious (clear, open) to all.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 19:25–27

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother (Mary) and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother: 'Woman, this is your son.' Then looking at the disciple, Jesus said: 'This is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist [21 Sept]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13

I, Paul, am a prisoner because I follow the Lord. I encourage you to live worthy of your vocation. Love each other with humility, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to protect the unity of the Spirit and keep the peace. There is one body and one Spirit. God calls all to have one hope. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all; He is Lord of all, works through all, and is within all.

Christ himself gave his grace to each of us. He gave different gifts to apostles, prophets, evangelist (preachers), pastors (carers) and teachers. Christ wanted to prepare all God's people for the work of service, building up the body of Christ. We shall come together into unity of faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God. We will become like a mature (sensible) person and grow until we become like Christ with all his perfection.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 18

RESPONSE: **GOD'S CREATION
PROCLAIMS GOD'S GLORY
EVERYWHERE.**

**GOD'S CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY EVERYWHERE.**

The heavens proclaim the glory of God.

The heavens shows the work of God's hands.

Day and night God's creation tells us the story.

**GOD'S CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY EVERYWHERE.**

No speech, no word, no voice is heard.

But God's creation tells the story everywhere.

**GOD'S CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY EVERYWHERE.**

St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist [21 Sept]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, we praise you. We acknowledge (recognise) you the Lord. The glorious company of apostles praise you, Lord.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 9:9–13

Jesus was walking, and he saw a man named Matthew sitting outside the tax office. Jesus said to him, 'Follow me.' Matthew got up and followed Jesus.

Later, Jesus was eating in Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came to sit at the table with Jesus and his disciples. The Pharisees saw them, they said to Jesus' disciples, 'Why does your master, Jesus, eat with tax collectors and sinners?' Jesus heard this and he said to the Pharisees, 'Healthy people do not need the doctor. Sick people need a doctor. You go and find out what the scripture (Bible) means: "I want mercy, not sacrifice." I came into the world,

not to invite good people, but to invite sinners.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Vincent de Paul [27 September]

Psalm 111

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 1:26–31

Brothers and sisters, remember when God chose you, what were you like? Were you wise and influential? Are you from wealthy and important families? No! God chose someone that is foolish to shame the world. God chose someone that is weak to shame strong people. God chose someone the world thinks is not important, but what God chose is really more important than anything in the world. The people of this world have nothing to boast (proud) about to God. But God has made you members of Jesus Christ. From God we receive wisdom, gifts of love, holiness and freedom. As the scriptures (Bible) say: if any person wants to boast (proud), let that person boast (proud) about the Lord.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: BLESSED THE PERSON THAT RESPECTS THE LORD.

BLESSED THE PERSON THAT RESPECTS THE LORD.

Blessed they that respect the Lord.

They will always be happy following his commandments. Their children will be powerful on earth.

BLESSED THE PERSON THAT RESPECTS THE LORD.

They have riches in their house; They will be a light in the darkness for all to see.

They are generous, merciful and just (fair).

BLESSED THE PERSON THAT RESPECTS THE LORD.

They will be generous and give to the poor.

They will trust the Lord; they will not be afraid.

They will be raised in glory.

BLESSED THE PERSON THAT RESPECTS THE LORD.

St Vincent de Paul [27 September]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and they know me.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 9:35–37

Jesus walked through all the towns and villages; teaching in the synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom. He cured all kinds of diseases and illness. Jesus saw the crowds, he felt sorry for them because they were worried and fed up, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples: 'The harvest is rich, but workers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Michael, St Gabriel, St Raphael, Archangels [29 September]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF DANIEL

Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14

I saw a very old King, one that had been living for a long time, sat down on his throne. His clothes were white as snow; his hair white as wool. His throne's wheels were on fire, throwing flames from the throne.

A thousand thousand people served him; thousands and thousands of people stood in front of him. The court sat in judgement and the books were opened.

I continued watching, and in my night's vision (dream), I saw someone like a son of man. He was in the clouds of heaven and he approached the old King, the one that had been living for ever. The King gave the son of man authority, glory and power, and people from different countries, different languages, became his servants. His reign will continue for ever and his kingdom will never be destroyed.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF REVELATION

Revelation 12:7–12

There was a war in heaven and Michael with his angels attacked the dragon (devil). The dragon (devil) and his angels fought but they were defeated (beaten/lost) and thrown out of heaven. The huge dragon, the ancient serpent (snake), was the devil or Satan. The devil deceived (betrayed) the whole world; now the devil and his angels were thrown down to the earth.

Then I heard a loud voice from heaven, 'God's salvation has come! Now God has shown his power as King! Now Christ shows his authority! The one (Devil) that daily accused our brothers and sisters has been thrown out. Our brothers and sisters won the victory over him by the blood of

St Michael, St Gabriel, St Raphael, Archangels [29 September]

the Lamb and by the witness of their martyrdom. They gave up their lives, they accepted death and died for the truth. Let the heavens rejoice; let all in heaven rejoice.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 137

RESPONSE: **LORD, WITH ALL THE ANGELS I WILL BLESS YOU.**

LORD, WITH ALL THE ANGELS I WILL BLESS YOU.

Lord, I thank you, with all my heart
because you answered my prayers.

I will adore you in front of your holy Temple.

LORD, WITH ALL THE ANGELS I WILL BLESS YOU.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love,
because you never fail to strengthen (make strong) my soul.

LORD, WITH ALL THE ANGELS I WILL BLESS YOU.

All kings on earth will thank and praise you
because they will hear your wonderful words.

They will sing: 'The Lord is good!'
Lord, your love is eternal.

LORD, WITH ALL THE ANGELS I WILL BLESS YOU.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

All you who serve and follow the Lord, give thanks to him.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 1:47-51

Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him and he said, 'There is a true Israelite, there is no deception (sly) in him.' Nathanael asked, 'How do you know me?' Jesus replied, 'Before Philip spoke to you, I saw you under the fig tree.'

St Michael, St Gabriel, St Raphael, Archangels [29 September]

Nathanael answered, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God, you are the King of Israel.' Jesus replied, 'You believe that because I said I saw you under the fig tree? You will see things greater than that.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God going up and coming down on the Son of man.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Jerome [30 September]

Psalm 118

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO TIMOTHY

2 Timothy 3:14–17

You must follow the truth. Remember your teachers, they taught you. When you were a child, you learnt the holy scriptures. From the scriptures you received wisdom which leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, telling them the error of their way and instructing (teaching) right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully trained, qualified and ready for any good work.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

**RESPONSE: LORD TEACH ME
YOUR LAWS.**

LORD TEACH ME YOUR LAWS.

How can the young stay clean without sin?

By obeying your words.

With all my heart I seek you, do not let me fall away from your commandments.

LORD TEACH ME YOUR LAWS.

In my heart I treasure your promises, so that I do not sin against you. Blessed are you, Lord, teach me to follow your law.

LORD TEACH ME YOUR LAWS.

With my mouth and my hands I will tell again your law to all. I rejoice to follow your way, and your words give me joy.

LORD TEACH ME YOUR LAWS.

St Jerome [30 September]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, open our heart to accept the words of your Son.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 13:47-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a net thrown in the sea. The net catches many different types of fish. When the net is full, the fishermen pull the net to the shore. The fishermen sit down and begin to collect all the good fish in a basket. All the rubbish and bad fish the fishermen throw away. It will be the same at the end of the world. The angels will appear and separate evil people from good people. The angels will throw evil people into the fire. In the fire they will scream, cry and suffer.'

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do you understand?' They said, 'Yes.' Then Jesus said, 'Each scribe (writer) that becomes a disciple in

the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house. The owner takes new and old things from his storeroom.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Thérèse of the Child Jesus [1 October]

Psalm 130

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 66:10–14

You Jerusalem, rejoice! All you people that love the city, be happy! Rejoice, rejoice for Jerusalem. Before you were sad for Jerusalem, now you can rejoice! You will be satisfied, sucking milk from the mother's breast.

The Lord says: I will give you peace, flowing like a river. Other countries will admire (respect, praise) your glory and peace. You will be like little children, looked after by their nurse, and held in her arms. Like a mother comforting her child, I will look after you. When you see this, you will rejoice. Your bones will grow like the grass, I will make you strong and healthy. People will see and know that I help those that obey me.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.**

LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

Lord, my heart is not proud,
my eyes not snobbish.
I do not want great things,
things beyond me.

LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

Truly my soul rests in silence and peace.

Like a baby full fed on its mother,
my soul within me, will be the same, full fed.

LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

Israel, wait for the Lord,
now and for ever.

LORD, KEEP MY SOUL IN PEACE.

St Thérèse of the Child Jesus [1 October]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. You showed the kingdom of heaven to your children.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 18:1–5

The disciples came to Jesus and said, ‘Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?’ Jesus asked a child to come and stand in front of them. Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, you must change and become like little children; if you do not, you will never enter the kingdom of Heaven. Those who humble themselves like this child become the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven. Those who welcome one little child like this in my name welcomes me.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Guardian Angels [2 October]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF EXODUS

Exodus 23:20–23

The Lord says, 'I will send an angel ahead of you to protect you on your way and to lead you to the place I have prepared. Obey and listen to all the angel says. Do not resist (rebel against) the angel because I sent the angel and your rebellion will not be accepted. If you obey and do everything I say, I will help you and fight against all your enemies. My angel will go before you.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 90

RESPONSE: **THE LORD
COMMANDED HIS ANGELS TO
PROTECT YOU.**

THE LORD COMMANDED HIS ANGELS TO PROTECT YOU.

Any person that believes in God will say to the Lord:
'You are my protection, my place of safety, I trust you God!'

THE LORD COMMANDED HIS ANGELS TO PROTECT YOU.

God sends his angels to protect you from all danger.

He protects you from illnesses, and saves you from all evil.

The angels will make sure you are safe.

THE LORD COMMANDED HIS ANGELS TO PROTECT YOU.

You will not fear the terror of the night.

During the day you will be protected;

nothing bad will happen to you.

God sends his angels to protect you from all danger.

THE LORD COMMANDED HIS ANGELS TO PROTECT YOU.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Give thanks to the Lord and to all his angels.

ALLELUIA!

Guardian Angels [2 October]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 18:1–5, 10

The disciples came to Jesus and said, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' Jesus asked a child to come and stand in front of them. Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, you must change and become like little children; if you do not, you will never enter the kingdom of Heaven. Those who humble themselves like this child become the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven. Those who welcome one little child like this in my name welcomes me. Be careful, make sure you do not despise these children, because I tell you, they have angels in heaven and their angels are always with my Father in heaven.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Francis of Assisi [4 October]

Psalm 15

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE GALATIANS

Galatians 6:14–18

I, Paul, am proud of one thing only - the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of his cross, the world is not interested in me and I am not interested in the world. It does not matter if a person is circumcised or not circumcised. What is important is that the person is a new creation. Peace and mercy to all that follow this command of God.

I want no more trouble from anybody. The wounds on my body (hands, feet and side) are the same as the wounds of Jesus.

My brothers and sisters, I pray that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ will be with your spirit. Amen.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **LORD, YOU GIVE YOURSELF TO ME.**

LORD, YOU GIVE YOURSELF TO ME.

Lord, protect me and keep me safe.

I say to the Lord, 'You are my God.'

LORD, YOU GIVE YOURSELF TO ME.

At night the Lord protects me; I will bless him.

I look to him, I will always follow him.

LORD, YOU GIVE YOURSELF TO ME.

Lord, you show me the way of life,

In your presence, with you, I will be happy for ever.

LORD, YOU GIVE YOURSELF TO ME.

St Francis of Assisi [4 October]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing (show) the mysteries of the kingdom to children.

ALLELUIA!

am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is not heavy, and the burden I give is light.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 11:25–30

Jesus said, 'I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you hide these things from clever people, and you show these things to children. Yes, Father, you are happy to do this. My Father gave me everything. No one knows the Son, only the Father. The Father knows the Son. And no one knows the Father, only the Son. He (Jesus) knows the Father, and some people know the Father because the Son reveals (shows) the Father to them.

Come to me all you people that are tired and have heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Accept my yoke and learn from me because I

Our Lady of the Rosary [7 October]

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 1:12–14

After Jesus ascended into heaven the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a short distance away, no more than a Sabbath walk. When they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All of them joined in continuous prayer with one heart, together with some women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Luke 1:46–55

RESPONSE: **THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.**

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

My soul praises the Lord.
My heart is glad because God is my Saviour.

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

God remembers me, I am his humble servant.
All people will say I am blessed.
The Almighty has done great things for me.
His name is holy!

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

From the beginning until now, and forever,
God shows his mercy to all people that honour him.
He strengthens the weak and scatters proud people.

Our Lady of the Rosary [7 October]

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

To hungry people God gives good things.

The rich He sends away with nothing.

God remembers his mercy promised to our fathers, and He protects his servant Israel, forever.

THE ALMIGHTY HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR ME. HIS NAME IS HOLY.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord with thee! Blessed art thou among women.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:26–38

God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin living in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. The young woman was

engaged to marry Joseph, a man from the family of David; and her name was Mary. The angel came to Mary and said, 'Rejoice, you are truly blessed (favoured)! The Lord is with you.' Mary was afraid and wondered what the angel's message meant. He (angel) said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid. God is very pleased with you. Listen! You will become pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus. He will be great and people will call him Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will appoint him King, the same as his ancestor (in the past) David. Jesus will rule over the people of Jacob for ever. His kingdom will never end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can I become pregnant? I am a virgin.' The angel said, 'The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will stay with you. The child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Also, remember your relative, Elizabeth. She is old and everybody thought she could never have a baby, but now she is

Our Lady of the Rosary [7 October]

six months pregnant. God can do anything, because nothing's impossible to God!' Mary said, 'I am the servant of the Lord. Let what you have said happen to me.' And the angel went away.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St John Henry Newman [9 October]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇅ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 2:10–16

The Spirit explores the depths of everything, even the depths of God. Does any person know the depths and qualities of himself except by his own spirit within him.

In the same way, nobody knows the qualities of God except through the Spirit of God.

Now, the Spirit we received is not the spirit of the world but is God's own Spirit, so that we may understand the gifts God gave us.

And these things we speak and teach, not the way learnt from human philosophy, but in ways we learnt from the Spirit teaching us spiritual language to spiritual things.

A person who is not spiritual cannot receive the gifts of God's Spirit; they think they are foolish; they cannot recognise them, because their value can be only be understood in the Spirit.

But a spiritual person can judge the value of everything and no one can judge that person's value.

As scripture says: who can know the mind of the Lord? Who can advise or teach him? But we have the mind of Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 144

RESPONSE: **THE LORD'S WAY IS ALWAYS FAIR.**

THE LORD'S WAY IS ALWAYS FAIR.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, quick to love.
All living things look to you.
And you give them their food.

THE LORD'S WAY IS ALWAYS FAIR.

St John Henry Newman [9 October]

Your people and friends praise you Lord.
They will tell of God's goodness to all people.
They will tell people about your wonderful actions and the glory of your reign.
You reign for ever and ever.

THE LORD'S WAY IS ALWAYS FAIR.

Lord, your kingdom will continue forever.
The Lord is faithful and loving.
The Lord supports (helps) all that are weak.

THE LORD'S WAY IS ALWAYS FAIR.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The word of God is alive and active; it can judge secret emotions and thoughts.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 13:47-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a net thrown in the sea. The net catches

many different types of fish. When the net is full, the fishermen pull the net to the shore. The fishermen sit down and begin to collect all the good fish in a basket. All the rubbish and bad fish the fishermen throw away. It will be the same at the end of the world. The angels will appear and separate evil people from good people. The angels will throw evil people into the fire. In the fire they will scream, cry and suffer.'

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do you understand?' They said, 'Yes.' Then Jesus said, 'Each scribe (writer) that becomes a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house. The owner takes new and old things from his storeroom.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Teresa of Ávila [15 October]

Psalm 18

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 8:22–27

We know from the beginning till now, everything in creation has been waiting in pain, like a pregnant woman ready to give birth. We have the gifts of the Spirit but we wait. And not only creation waits, we also wait with inner pain for our bodies to be freed and receive redemption (salvation). If we hope for something we can see, it is not really hope. But we hope God will save us - we are not yet saved - it is something we must wait for with patience.

When we are weak, the Spirit comes to help us. When we cannot pray, or don't know how to pray, the Spirit prays to God for us. The Spirit prays without using words, and God knows perfectly what the Spirit means. God knows everything in our hearts. The Spirit prays for all people to obey what God wants.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **LORD, YOUR WORDS ARE SPIRIT; YOUR WORDS GIVE LIFE.**

LORD, YOUR WORDS ARE SPIRIT; YOUR WORDS GIVE LIFE.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it gives life to the soul.

We trust the rule of the Lord, the laws of the Lord gives us wisdom.

LORD, YOUR WORDS ARE SPIRIT; YOUR WORDS GIVE LIFE.

The law of the Lord is clear, it gives light to our eyes.

The law of the Lord is worth more than gold, and more sweet than fresh honey.

LORD, YOUR WORDS ARE SPIRIT; YOUR WORDS GIVE LIFE.

St Teresa of Ávila [15 October]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'Anyone that remains in my love will give fruit (growth) for ever.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 15:1–8

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine. My Father is the gardener. If he sees a branch in me that does not give fruit (growth), he cuts it and throws it away. If he sees a branch in me that gives fruit (growth), he prunes it to make it grow more fruit (growth). You are already pruned through the word that I gave you. Make your home in me, the same as I make my home in you. No branch can give fruit (growth) by itself; it must remain with the vine. In the same way, you cannot give fruit (growth) by yourself; you must stay in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Any person that remains with me, and I with that

person, then that person will give plenty of fruit (growth). Without me, you can do nothing. Any person that does not remain in me is the same as a branch that has been thrown away, and this person will die. The branches that are no good are cut off, collected and thrown into the fire to be burnt. If you remain with me, and my words remain in you, you can ask for anything you want, and you will receive it. If you give much fruit (growth), you will give glory to my Father, and then you will be my disciples.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Luke, Evangelist [18 October]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO TIMOTHY

2 Timothy 4:10–17

Demas has left me and gone to Thessalonica; he loves life in the world. Crescens has gone to Galatia. Titus has gone to Dalmatia. Only Luke is here with me. Tell Mark to come with you. He has been very helpful in my work. I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. I left a cloak at Carpus' house in Troas; please bring it. And when you come, bring the books, especially the scrolls. Alexander the coppersmith did me a lot of damage. The Lord will punish him for the things he did. Be careful with him. He was against our teaching and our message. The first time I defended myself in court nobody came to support me. They all left me, but I forgave them. The Lord came and helped me. He gave me strength so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 144

RESPONSE: **LORD, YOUR FRIENDS WILL TELL ALL ABOUT YOUR GLORIOUS REIGN.**

LORD, YOUR FRIENDS WILL TELL ALL ABOUT YOUR GLORIOUS REIGN.

All in the world will thank you Lord,

they will bless you.

They will tell all about your mighty reign.

Your kingdom continues for ever.

LORD, YOUR FRIENDS WILL TELL ALL ABOUT YOUR GLORIOUS REIGN.

The Lord is just and loving,
He is near to all that pray to him.

LORD, YOUR FRIENDS WILL TELL ALL ABOUT YOUR GLORIOUS REIGN.

St Luke, Evangelist [18 October]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I chose you from the world to go out and give fruit, fruit that will continue for ever.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 10:1-9

The Lord appointed seventy-two (72) others and sent them out in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself would be visiting. Jesus said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the workers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest. Start now, but look, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Take no money with you, no bag, no sandals. Do not stop to talk with people on the road. Before you go into a house, say "Peace to this house!" If a person of peace lives there, your peace will stay with them. If the person is not peaceful your blessing of peace come back to you. Stay in the same house, accept food and

drink they offer you, because the worker deserves his wages. Do not move from house to house. Any town you go into, if they welcome you, accept and eat what they offer you. Cure those the sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Simon & St Jude [28 October]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 2:19–22

You are not foreigners or strangers. You are members of God's family with all the saints. You are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, and Christ Jesus himself is the cornerstone. Christ himself joins the whole building together and it becomes a holy temple in the Lord. You too, in the Spirit are being built together into a house where God lives.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 18

RESPONSE: **CREATION SHOWS
GOD'S GLORY ALL OVER THE
EARTH.**

CREATION SHOWS GOD'S GLORY ALL OVER THE EARTH.

The heavens proclaim the glory of God;
And the heavens show the work
of God's hands.
Day and night God's creation tells
us the story.

CREATION SHOWS GOD'S GLORY ALL OVER THE EARTH.

No speech, no word, no voice is
heard;
but God's message tells the story
everywhere
all over the world.

CREATION SHOWS GOD'S GLORY ALL OVER THE EARTH.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord God, we praise you and we
acknowledge (recognise) you to
be the Lord. All the apostles
praise you.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 6:12–19

Jesus went up the mountain to
pray, and prayed to God all night.
The next day, he called his
disciples and chose twelve of
them. Jesus named them
'apostles'. Their names: Simon
(Jesus named him Peter) and his

St Simon & St Jude [28 October]

brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon named the Zealot, Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor. Then Jesus came down the mountain with them. Jesus stood on flat ground in front of a large crowd of his disciples, with many people from all over Judaea, from Jerusalem, and from the region of Tyre and Sidon. They came to listen to Jesus; they wanted him to heal them of their diseases. Those with evil spirits were also healed. Everyone in the crowd tried to touch him because of the power within him that healed everybody.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

All Saints [1st November]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ OF REVELATION

Revelation 7:2–4, 9–14

I, John, saw another angel coming up from the east with the seal of the living God. God had given four angels power to destroy the earth and the sea. The angel shouted out in a powerful voice to the four angels, 'Do not damage the earth, the sea, or the trees, until we mark the servants of God with a seal on their foreheads.' And I heard the number of those sealed: 144,000. They were from the twelve (12) tribes of Israel.

Then I looked, and there were many people - so many, no one could count all the people! They were from every nation (country), race, family, and language. They stood in front of the throne, in front of the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They shouted: 'Victory to our God sitting on the throne and to the Lamb!' All the angels stood round the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. Then they all bowed

down in front of the throne and worshipped God. They said, 'Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honour, power, and might (wonders) belong to our God for ever and ever! Amen!'

One of the elders asked me, 'Who are these people in white robes? Where do they come from?' I answered, 'I don't know. You tell me.' He said to me, 'These are the people that suffered terribly; they endured (patiently went through) the persecution. They have washed their robes and made them white with the blood of the Lamb.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

All Saints [1st November]

Psalm 23

RESPONSE: THE SAINTS ARE THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOW GOD.

THE SAINTS ARE THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOW GOD.

Everything in the world belongs to God.

The Lord created the sea.

Who can climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who can stand in his holy Temple?

THE SAINTS ARE THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOW GOD.

Who can climb the mountain of the Lord?

The person with a clean heart.

The person that does not want false gods.

A good person trying to follow God will receive blessings from the Lord.

THE SAINTS ARE THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOW GOD.

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 3:1-3

God the Father loves us so much, he lovingly created us his children. We really are God's children! The world refused to believe God, and so the world does not understand that we are God's children.

Dear friends, now we are children of God; but we do not know yet what we shall become in the future. We know that when Christ comes again, we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he really is. Any person that really believes in Christ will try to stay pure because Christ is pure.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'Come to me, all you that are tired and carry heavy burdens. I will give you rest.'

ALLELUIA!

All Saints [1st November]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 5:1–12

Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the hill and sat down. His disciples sat around him. Jesus began to teach the people:

‘The people that are poor in spirit, they will be blessed, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to them. The people that are gentle, they will be blessed, because they will receive everything from the Lord. The people that mourn (cry), they will be blessed, because God will comfort them. The people that want justice, they will be blessed, because God will satisfy them. The people that are merciful, they will be blessed, because God will be merciful to them. The people that are pure in heart, they will be blessed, because they will see God. The people that want to make peace, they will be blessed, because they will become children of God. The people that want to do good things but suffer, they will be blessed, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to them. If you

suffer because other people persecute you, hurt you and criticise you because you follow my name, you will be blessed. Rejoice with me (Jesus), because I will give you a great reward in heaven. This is what happened in the past when people treated the prophets badly.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

All Souls [2 November]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 25:6–9

On this mountain, the Lord Almighty will prepare a banquet of rich food for all peoples. On this mountain, he will take away sadness from all the people in the land. The Lord will destroy Death for ever. He will wipe away tears from their faces and he will take away their shame. This will happen because the Lord said it would. On that day when it happens, people will say, 'The Lord is our God. We trusted him and we hoped that he would save us. We rejoice because he has saved us.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF WISDOM

Wisdom 3:1–9

The souls of good people are in the hands of God, they will not suffer any more. Ignorant (stupid)

people will think that these people have died. People will think that their going looked a disaster, their death seemed a destruction. But these souls are in peace.

If they receive punishment, they will have the hope of eternal life. Their suffering will be little, their blessings will be great. God tested them and proved that they are worthy to be with him. God has tested them like gold in a fire and He has accepted them. At the time of his visitation, these souls will shine. They will judge nations (peoples) and rule over peoples. The Lord will be their king forever. Because of their trust in God, they will understand the truth. Those that are faithful will live with God in love, because God has given grace and mercy to those he has chosen.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

All Souls [2 November]

Psalm 22

RESPONSE: **THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.**

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

The Lord is my shepherd.
He gives me everything I need.
He lets me rest in green fields.
He leads me to calm pools of fresh water to give me strength.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

He guides me along the right way.
He is faithful.
If I walk in the dark, I should not be afraid.
Because the Lord, with his shepherd's crook (stick), will protect me.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

The Lord prepared a banquet (feast) for me.
Lord, you anointed my head with oil; my cup is full.

Goodness and kindness will be with me always.
I will live in the Lord's house for ever and ever.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

Alternative psalm

Psalm 26

RESPONSE: **THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY HELP.**

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY HELP.

The Lord is my light and my help,
I will fear no one.
The Lord protects me from danger.
I will never be afraid.

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY HELP.

I ask the Lord for one thing.
One thing only - to live in the Lord's house, everyday of my life.
I am sure I will see the Lord's goodness.
Trust in the Lord!

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY HELP.

All Souls [2 November]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 5:5–11

God loves us through the Holy Spirit; the Holy Spirit is a gift from God. At the right time, Christ died for us sinners while we were still lost. It is not easy to die for another person, even for a good person. If a person is very good, someone might (perhaps) be willing (ready) to die for that good person. But Christ died for us while we were still sinners. This proves God really loves us. Through Christ's death we are now reconciled to God. Christ will not fail to save us from God's anger. Before we were enemies, but through the death of his Son, God reconciled us and made us friends again. Now that we are friends, we can be sure we are saved. So we rejoice because of what God has done for us through our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'My Father has given me (Jesus) these disciples. My Father does not want me to lose any of these disciples but to raise them up to life on the last day.'

ALLELUIA!

Gospel Year A

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 11:25–30

Jesus said, 'I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you hide these things from clever people, and you show these things to children. Yes, Father, you are happy to do this. My Father gave me everything. No one knows the Son, only the Father. The Father knows the Son. And no one knows the Father, only the Son. He (Jesus) knows the Father, and some people know the Father because the Son reveals (shows) the Father to them.'

All Souls [2 November]

Come to me all you people that are tired and have heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Accept my yoke and learn from me because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is not heavy, and the burden I give is light.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Gospel Year B

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 15:33–39; 16:1–6

* At noon (12 o'clock), it became dark all over the land for three hours until three o'clock. At three o'clock, Jesus shouted with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?' This means, 'My God, my God, why have you abandoned (leave) me?' Some people standing near the cross heard Jesus, and they said, 'Look! Jesus is calling for (asking for) Elijah!' One person ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar, put

the sponge on a stick, and gave it to Jesus to taste. That person said, 'Wait and see if Elijah will come to save Jesus.' Jesus gave a loud shout and stopped breathing. The curtain in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion (Roman officer) standing in front of the cross, saw Jesus had died and said, 'Truly, this man was the son of God.' *

When the sabbath was finished, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, brought spices and special oils; they went to anoint (rub) the oils on Jesus' dead body. Very early in the morning on the first day of the week, they went to the tomb, as the sun was beginning to come up.

The women said to each other, 'Who will move the large stone covering the tomb?' But when the women looked, they saw that the stone - a very large stone - was already rolled (moved) away from the tomb. The women went into

All Souls [2 November]

the tomb and they saw a young man in a white robe, sitting on the right. The women were amazed and afraid. But the man said to the women, 'Do not be afraid. You are looking for Jesus from Nazareth, the one that was crucified. He has risen, He is not here. Look! Here is the place where Jesus' body was laid.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Gospel Year C

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 7:11-17

Jesus went to a town called Nain, with his disciples. A large crowd followed him. When Jesus arrived at the gate of the town, he saw a funeral procession coming out. The dead man was the only son of a woman and she was a widow. Many people from the town were with the woman. Jesus saw the woman, he felt sorry for her and said, 'Do not cry.' Then Jesus

walked to the open coffin and touched it. The men carrying the coffin stopped. Jesus said, 'Young man, I tell you to get up!' The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Everybody was amazed and they praised God saying, 'A wonderful prophet has appeared among us. God has come to visit us!' The news about Jesus spread everywhere in Judaea and all over the country.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

All Saints of Ireland [6 November]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ECCLESIASTICUS

Ecclesiasticus 44:1–15

Let us praise the famous people of long ago. The Lord showed his greatness and gave them his glory. Some of them were kings, they became famous because they were brave. Some people became famous because they were prophets and gave wise advice. Some people became famous because of their intelligence and knew how to teach people. Some people created wonderful music and wrote songs and poems. Some people were rich and powerful and lived peacefully in their homes. We honour all these people, they were great in the old days. Some of them were famous and people still remember and praise them. But others are gone and forgotten as if they had never lived, the same with their children. But all of them were good people, their good works are never forgotten. Their wealth will remain with their descendants. All their

descendants will remember the commandments. These people will continue forever and their glory will not fade. Their bodies have been buried in peace, and their names will continue forever. These people will show their wisdom, and all people will praise them.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 14

RESPONSE: **BLESSED THE PERSON THAT TRUSTS THE LORD.**

BLESSED THE PERSON THAT TRUSTS THE LORD.

Lord, who can live on your holy mountain?

A person with no sin.

A person that does things fairly,
And tells the truth from his heart.

BLESSED THE PERSON THAT TRUSTS THE LORD.

All Saints of Ireland [6 November]

Lord, who can live on your holy mountain?

A person that does not hurt brother or sister.

A person that lends things without charging interest.

A person that does not fiddle with money.

BLESSED THE PERSON THAT TRUSTS THE LORD.

Lord, who can live on your holy mountain?

A person that always honours and respects the Lord.

A person that is faithful forever.

That person can live on your holy mountain forever.

BLESSED THE PERSON THAT TRUSTS THE LORD.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'All you that work hard and have heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 6:17-23

Jesus came down the mountain with the twelve apostles. At the bottom of the mountain Jesus stopped. He saw his disciples and a large crowd of people there from Judaea, Jerusalem, Tyre and Sidon. They came to hear Jesus preach and they wanted him to cure their illnesses. Jesus also healed people tormented by evil spirits. Everybody in the crowd wanted to touch Jesus because of the power that came out of him and he cured them all.

Jesus looked at his disciples and said:

'If you are poor now; you are truly (really) blessed because God's kingdom belongs to you.

If you are hungry now; you are truly (really) blessed because you will be satisfied.

If you cry now; you are truly (really) blessed because you will laugh.

If people hate you, throw you out, abuse you, give you a bad name

All Saints of Ireland [6 November]

and say that you are a thief, you are truly (really) blessed because you follow the Son of Man. When that happens, rejoice and be glad because you will have a great reward in heaven. The same happened to the prophets.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Andrew [30 November]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 10:9–18

If you say that Jesus is Lord, and if you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, then you will be saved. If, in your heart, you believe in God, then God will be with you. If you show that you believe in Him, then God will save you. Scripture (Bible) says: 'Any person believing in Jesus will not be disappointed.' This means any person because there is no difference between Jews and Gentiles (non-Jews); they all belong to the same Lord. The people that pray and ask God for help will be saved.

If people want the Lord to help them, first they must believe in the Lord. Before people can believe in the Lord, they must first know about the Lord. But if no one preaches and tell them about the Lord, how can they know the Lord? Before they can receive the message, the preacher must first be sent to them. The scripture (Bible) says: 'It is really wonderful that people come and bring good

news.' But not all have accepted the Good News. As Isaiah said: 'Lord, how many people believed the message we proclaimed?' Faith begins when we receive the Good News. People that receive the Good News receive the word of Christ himself.

Let me ask you a question: is it possible that people did not receive the Good News? Yes, they did receive the Good News. As the psalm says, 'their voice has gone through all the world, and the message has spread everywhere in the world.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

St Andrew [30 November]

Psalm 18

**RESPONSE: GOD'S CREATION
PROCLAIMS GOD'S GLORY
EVERYWHERE.**

**GOD'S CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY EVERYWHERE.**

The heavens proclaim the glory of God.

The heavens shows the work of God's hands.

Day and night God's creation tells us the story.

**GOD'S CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY EVERYWHERE.**

No speech, no word, no voice is heard.

But God's creation tells the story everywhere.

**GOD'S CREATION PROCLAIMS
GOD'S GLORY EVERYWHERE.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'Follow me, and I will help you to catch people.'

ALLELUIA!

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF MATTHEW**

Matthew 4:18–22

Jesus was walking near the Sea of Galilee and he saw two brothers, Simon, named Peter, and his brother Andrew. They were fishermen and they were trying to catch fish with their net. Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will show you how to catch people.' Straight away, Peter and Andrew dropped their nets and followed Jesus.

Jesus continued walking and he saw another two brothers named James and John, sons of Zebedee. They were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. Jesus called them. Straight away, James and John left their father in their boat and followed Jesus.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

St Francis Xavier [3 December]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 9:16–19, 22–23

I do not boast (very proud) of preaching the gospel. Preaching the gospel is my duty – something I must do. If I do not preach the gospel, I should be punished. If it was my choice to preach the gospel, then I could expect to be paid. But I did not choose; God gave me this duty. So I must preach the gospel. What reward will I receive? The reward will be that when I preach the gospel, I will not charge people for it but offer the Good News freely, and that I will not claim my rights in my work for the gospel.

I am a free man, I belong to no one. But I make myself a slave for all people so that I can save as many people as possible. With weak people, I made myself weak so I became like them. I did this so that I could save them. I do these things because of the gospel, and I hope to receive

blessings from doing this for the gospel.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 116

**RESPONSE: GO AND PROCLAIM
THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL THE
WORLD.**

**GO AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD
NEWS TO ALL THE WORLD.**

All you peoples, praise the Lord!
Let us praise and honour him.

**GO AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD
NEWS TO ALL THE WORLD.**

His love for us is strong.
He is always faithful.

**GO AND PROCLAIM THE GOOD
NEWS TO ALL THE WORLD.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says: 'Go, make all people disciples. I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.'

ALLELUIA!

St Francis Xavier [3 December]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 16:15–20

Jesus appeared to the eleven (11) apostles and said to them, 'Go everywhere in the world and proclaim the Good News to all people. Any person that believes and is baptised will be saved. If a person does not believe, that person will be condemned. The believers themselves will do wonderful works. The proof will be: they will use my name to throw out devils; they will have the gift of speaking in strange languages; they will pick up snakes and not be hurt; if they drink something poisonous they will not die; they will put their hands on sick people, and the sick will be healed.'

After Jesus had spoken, he was lifted up to heaven. There, in heaven, Jesus sat at the right side of God. The apostles went everywhere, and they preached the Good News to everybody. The Lord worked with the apostles and helped them, giving

them power to work (do) miracles.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Nicholas [6 December]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 6:1–8

The year King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. He sat on his high throne, his robe (clothes) all around him in the Temple. Above him were angels, each with six wings. They were singing, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord. His glory fills the world.' The sound of their voices shook the Temple, and the Temple was filled with smoke. I said: 'There is no hope for me! I am lost, because each word from my mouth is sinful. And I live with sinful people. But my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty!' Then one of the angels flew to me, bringing a hot burning coal from the altar. He touched my lips with the burning coal and said: 'See! Now this coal has touched your lips, your sins are taken away. You are now cleansed.' Then I heard the Lord say, 'Who can I send? Who will go for me?' I replied, 'I am here. Let me go, send me.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 39

RESPONSE: **HERE I AM LORD. I WILL FOLLOW YOU.**

HERE I AM LORD. I WILL FOLLOW YOU.

I waited, I waited for the Lord,
and He came to help me.
God heard my prayer.
He gave me new hope to help
praise our God.

HERE I AM LORD. I WILL FOLLOW YOU.

Lord, you do not want sacrifices;
You want us to listen to you.
You Lord, do not want burnt
offerings or sacrifice,
You want us to be with you.

HERE I AM LORD. I WILL FOLLOW YOU.

St Nicholas [6 December]

I will do all you want, as written in the scriptures.

Lord, deep in my heart, I love your law. I will tell people about you.

I will proclaim your justice to all people.

HERE I AM LORD. I WILL FOLLOW YOU.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor; to tell the prisoners they are free.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 10:1-9

The Lord appointed seventy-two (72) others and sent them out in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself would be visiting. Jesus said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the workers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest. Start

now, but look, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Take no money with you, no bag, no sandals. Do not stop to talk with people on the road. Before you go into a house, say "Peace to this house!" If a person of peace lives there, your peace will stay with them. If the person is not peaceful your blessing of peace come back to you. Stay in the same house, accept food and drink they offer you, because the worker deserves his wages. Do not move from house to house. Any town you go into, if they welcome you, accept and eat what they offer you. Cure those the sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Immaculate Conception [8 December]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF GENESIS

Genesis 3:9–15, 20

The Lord God called to the man Adam, ‘Where are you?’ The man replied, ‘I heard you walking in the garden. I was afraid, so I hid because I was naked.’ The Lord God said, ‘Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat the fruit that I told you not to eat?’ The man replied, ‘The woman you gave me for company; she gave me the fruit and I ate it.’

Then the Lord God asked the woman, ‘Why did you do this?’ The woman replied, ‘The serpent (snake) tempted me and I ate.’

Then the Lord God said to the serpent (snake), ‘You will be punished for this, you alone of all animals are condemned. You will crawl on your belly and eat dust everyday of your life. I will make you and the woman enemies. Your children and the woman’s children will be enemies. You will bite her child’s foot but he will crush your head.’

The man named his wife ‘Eve’ because she was the mother of all living people.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Immaculate Conception [8 December]

Psalm 97

RESPONSE: **SING TO THE LORD
BECAUSE HE DID WONDERFUL
THINGS FOR US.**

**SING TO THE LORD BECAUSE
HE DID WONDERFUL THINGS
FOR US.**

Sing to the Lord.
He has done wonderful things!
By his power God saved all
people.

He remembered his promise to
the people of Israel.

**SING TO THE LORD BECAUSE
HE DID WONDERFUL THINGS
FOR US.**

God remembered his love for us.
All people saw the victory of our
God.

Sing with joy to the Lord.
Praise the Lord!

**SING TO THE LORD BECAUSE
HE DID WONDERFUL THINGS
FOR US.**

**A READING FROM ST PAUL'S
SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS**

Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12

Blessed be God the Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ. He has given us
all the spiritual blessings of
heaven through Christ.

Before the world was created,
God chose us. Through Christ,
God chose us to be holy and
without fault, and to live with love
in his presence. Through Jesus
Christ, God wanted us to become
his children. Let us praise God for
his grace, for the free gift he gave
us through his Son, the Beloved.

From the beginning, everything
happened the way God wanted.
God chose us to be his children
through Christ. Let us praise God
because He allowed us to be the
first people to have hope in Jesus
Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Immaculate Conception [8 December]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with you! Blessed are you among all women.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:26–38

God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin living in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. The young woman was engaged to marry Joseph, from the family of David, and her name was Mary. The angel came to Mary and said, 'Rejoice, you are truly blessed (favoured)! The Lord is with you.' Mary was afraid and she wondered what the angel's message meant. The angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid. God is very pleased with you. Listen! You will become pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus. He will be great and people will call him Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him King, the same as his ancestor (past) David. Jesus

will rule over the people of Jacob for ever. His kingdom will never end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can I become pregnant? I am a virgin.' The angel said, 'The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will stay with you. The child will be holy and will be called the Son of God. Also, remember your relative, Elizabeth. She is old and everybody thought she could never have a baby, but she is now six months pregnant. God can do anything, nothing's impossible to God!' Mary said, 'I am the servant of the Lord. Let what you have said happen to me.' And the angel went away.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Our Lady of Guadalupe [12 December]

FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ZECHARIAH

Zechariah 2:14–17

The Lord says: ‘Sing, rejoice, daughter of Zion! See, I am coming to dwell (live) among you.’ On that day many nations shall join themselves to the Lord. They shall be his people. He will dwell (live) among you, and you will know that the Lord God sent me to you. The Lord will keep Judah as his portion (part) in the Holy Land. He will again choose Jerusalem. Silence, all people be silent/quiet in the presence of the Lord! Because He awakes and is coming from his holy home.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇅ TO REVELATION

Revelation 11:19, 12:1–6, 10

The temple of God was opened, and the ark of the covenant (God’s promise) could be seen inside. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, standing on the moon, and with twelve stars on her head as a crown. She was pregnant and in labour; she shouted out in pain.

Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns, and each head had a crown. The tail waved through the sky and threw one third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the stars to the earth.

The dragon came and stood in front of the woman, waiting to eat the child as soon as it was born. The woman gave birth to a boy, the son that would rule the world with an iron rod. The baby was quickly taken up to God and to his throne. The woman escaped into the desert, to a

Our Lady of Guadalupe [12 December]

place that God had prepared to keep her safe.

Then I heard a loud voice from heaven: 'God has won! God's salvation has come from heaven! God has shown his power as King! Now Christ has shown his authority!'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Judith 13:18a-19

RESPONSE: **OF ALL PEOPLE, YOU MARY ARE HIGHLY HONOURED.**

OF ALL PEOPLE, YOU MARY ARE HIGHLY HONOURED.

Of all women,
God the Most High blessed you,
you my daughter.

And blessed be the Lord God,
Creator of heaven and earth.

OF ALL PEOPLE, YOU MARY ARE HIGHLY HONOURED.

You trusted Lord God;
people forever will never forget
the power of God.

OF ALL PEOPLE, YOU MARY ARE HIGHLY HONOURED.

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, holy Virgin Mary,
and worthy of all praise, for the
sun of justice, Christ our God was
born of you.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:26-38

God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin living in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. The young woman was engaged to marry Joseph, a man from the family of David; and her name was Mary. The angel came to Mary and said, 'Rejoice, you are truly blessed (favoured)! The Lord is with you.' Mary was afraid and wondered what the angel's message meant. He (angel) said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid. God is very pleased with you. Listen! You will become pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus. He will be great and people will call him Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will appoint him King,

Our Lady of Guadalupe [12 December]

the same as his ancestor (in the past) David. Jesus will rule over the people of Jacob for ever. His kingdom will never end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can I become pregnant? I am a virgin.' The angel said, 'The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will stay with you. The child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Also, remember your relative, Elizabeth. She is old and everybody thought she could never have a baby, but now she is six months pregnant. God can do anything, because nothing's impossible to God!' Mary said, 'I am the servant of the Lord. Let what you have said happen to me.' And the angel went away.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Peter Canisius [21 December]

Psalm 39

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO TIMOTHY

2 Timothy 4:1-5

For God and Christ Jesus, judge of the living and the dead, I ask you to proclaim this message, and if it is accepted or rejected keep telling the message of Good News. With patience, and respect, reject all lies and fake news, tell them when they are wrong, be obedient and encourage others to obey. People need the truth and good teaching. People need to avoid false teaching and myths. Be careful and follow the right path in life, do not get drunk – be brave and do your duty, preach the gospel, teach the good news; serve others for God always!

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

**RESPONSE: HERE I AM LORD. I
WILL FOLLOW YOU.**

**HERE I AM LORD. I WILL
FOLLOW YOU.**

I waited, I waited for the Lord,
and He came to help me.
God heard my prayer.
He gave me new hope to help
praise our God.

**HERE I AM LORD. I WILL
FOLLOW YOU.**

Lord, you do not want sacrifices;
You want us to listen to you.
You Lord, do not want burnt
offerings or sacrifice,
You want us to be with you.

**HERE I AM LORD. I WILL
FOLLOW YOU.**

I will do all you want, as written in
the scriptures.

Lord, deep in my heart, I love
your law. I will tell people about
you.

I will proclaim your justice to all
people.

**HERE I AM LORD. I WILL
FOLLOW YOU.**

St Peter Canisius [21 December]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Key of David, (who) opens the gates of eternal kingdom, come to liberate (free) those (who) live in darkness.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 5:13–19

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its taste, then it is finished as salt. It is good no more. It must be thrown away and people trample (walk and crush) on it. You are the light of the world. A city built on top of a hill is not hidden. Everyone can see it. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl. No! People put the lamp on a stand so that it gives light for everybody in the house. In the same way, you should be a light for other people. So other people will see your good works, and they will praise your Father in heaven.

Do not think that I have come to destroy the law of Moses, or the teaching of the Prophets. I have come, not to destroy the law, but to make the law perfect. I tell you the truth - the law will not disappear until heaven and earth are gone. Nothing in the law will be changed, until everything happens the way God wants. So if any person won't obey the commandments, and teaches other people to do the same, that person will not be accepted as important in the kingdom of heaven. But if any person follows the commandments and teaches other people to do the same, that person will be accepted as very important in the kingdom of heaven.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

St Stephen [26 December]

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 6:8–10, 7:54–59

Stephen filled with grace and power, began to work miracles and great wonders among the people. Some people came to debate with Stephen, some from Cyrene and Alexandria were members of the synagogue called the Synagogue of Freedmen, and others from Cilicia and Asia.

They listened to Stephen, they became furious and ground their teeth at him in anger. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw God's glory and Jesus standing at the right side of God. He said, 'Look! I see heaven opened and the Son of man standing at the right side of God' The Council shouted loud and covered their ears with their hands. They all rushed at him, pushed him out of the city and began to throw stones at him. The witnesses left their clothes near a young man named Saul. They kept stoning Stephen as he prayed aloud to the

Lord, 'Lord Jesus, I give my spirit to you!'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 30

RESPONSE: **LORD, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.**

LORD, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

Lord, you are my rock, my defence.

Lead me and guide me.

LORD, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

Lord, you will redeem (save) me, I trust you; I rejoice in your love.

LORD, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

My life is in your hands,
Let your face shine on me, your servant,

Save me in your love.

LORD, MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.

St Stephen [26 December]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; the Lord God is our light.

ALLELUIA!

the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 10:17-22

Jesus told his apostles: 'Watch out! You will be handed over to the local courts. You will be whipped in the synagogues. You will be brought to governors and kings because of me. You will give witness to them and to the pagans. But when they arrest you, don't worry about what you will say or how you will say it. At that time you will be given the right words to say. It will not be you speaking but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death; and the father betray his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them killed. You will be hated by all because of me and my name; but

St John, Apostles, Evangelist [27 December]

Psalm 96

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 1:1–4

We write to tell you about the Word of life. The Word of life lived from the beginning. We heard it, we saw it with our eyes. We watched and touched with our hands. This life became visible, we saw it and we give witness; we are telling you about the eternal life. The eternal life was with the Father and became visible to us. What we have seen and heard we announce (tell) to you so that you too will share our life. Our life is shared with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We write this to you so that you can share joy with us.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **ALL YOU GOOD PEOPLE, REJOICE IN THE LORD.**

**ALL YOU GOOD PEOPLE,
REJOICE IN THE LORD.**

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice.
The Lord rules with justice and
righteousness.

The mountain melts like wax
through the power of the Lord.
Everything on earth belongs to
him.

**ALL YOU GOOD PEOPLE,
REJOICE IN THE LORD.**

The sky tells of his justice.
All people see his glory.
Because He is the Lord,
The most high above all the
earth.

**ALL YOU GOOD PEOPLE,
REJOICE IN THE LORD.**

St John, Apostles, Evangelist [27 December]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, we praise you and we acknowledge (recognise) you as Lord. All the apostles praise you.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 20:2-8

Early on the first day of the week (Sunday), Mary ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple (John), the one Jesus loved. Mary said to them, 'They have taken Jesus' body from the tomb. We don't know where they have put his body.'

So Peter went to the tomb with the other disciple. They ran together but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, arrived at the tomb first. He bent down and saw the cloths lying on the ground, but he did not go in. Simon Peter, running behind the other disciple (John), arrived later. Peter went into the tomb. He saw the cloths lying on the ground. He also saw the cloth that had

covered Jesus' head. This cloth was rolled up separate from the other cloths lying on the ground. Then the other disciple (John) that had reached the tomb first, also went in. He saw and he believed.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Holy Innocents [28 December]

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 1:5 – 2:2

This is the message we received from God's Son Jesus Christ: God is light, no darkness in him at all. If we say we have fellowship with him but at the same time live in darkness, we are lying because we are not living the truth. But if we live in the light, as he the Son lives in the light, we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, God's Son, cleanses us from all sin. If we say, 'We have no sin' we are fooling ourselves and truth is not in us. But if we acknowledge (recognise) our sins, God who is trustworthy and righteous, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all evil. If we say, 'We have never sinned' we make God a liar, and his Word is not in us. My children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin; but if anyone sins, we have an advocate (Helper) with the Father – Jesus Christ, the righteous one. He is the sacrifice to take away our sins,

not only our sins but also the sins of the whole world.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 123

RESPONSE: **OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD, ESCAPED FROM DANGER.**

OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD, ESCAPED FROM DANGER.

If the Lord had not been with us, our enemy would have eaten us alive.

OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD, ESCAPED FROM DANGER.

If the Lord had not been with us, the flowing water would have gone over us and we would have drowned.

OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD, ESCAPED FROM DANGER.

Yes, our Lord, Creator God, helped us and we escaped from the trap of evil.

OUR LIFE, LIKE A BIRD, ESCAPED FROM DANGER.

Holy Innocents [28 December]

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord God, we praise you and we acknowledge (recognise) you as Lord. All the martyrs praise you, Lord.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 2:13–18

After the three wise men had gone, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, 'Get up! Take the baby and his mother, and escape to Egypt. King Herod is looking for the baby and wants to kill him. Go and stay in Egypt until I tell you when it is safe to come back.' So that night Joseph got up and took the baby and his mother. They stayed in Egypt until Herod was dead. This proved the things God told the people through the prophet:

'I called my son out of Egypt.'

King Herod was furious because he realised the wise men fooled him. Herod had asked them

earlier when the baby would be born. So he ordered all boys in Bethlehem two years old or under to be killed. This happened exactly as the prophet Jeremiah said:

'A voice was heard in Ramah, crying loudly: Rachel weeping (crying) for her children; she would not be comforted because her children were dead.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church

A READING FROM THE SECOND SCROLL ⇔ OF CHRONICLES

2 Chronicles 5:6–11, 13 – 6:2

King Solomon, and all the community of Israel met in front of the ark. They sacrificed sheep and cattle - too many to count. Then the priests carried the ark of the covenant (God's promise) of the Lord into the Temple, and they put it in the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherub angels. Their wings stretched over and protected the ark (box) with the carrying-poles. The poles were so long that the ends of the poles could be seen in front of the Most Holy Place but not seen from outside the Temple. Inside the ark were the two stone tablets. At Mount Sinai, Moses had put the stone in the ark after the Lord made a covenant (promise) with the people of Israel after leaving Egypt.

Now when the priests came out of the Holy Place, a cloud filled the Holy Place in the Temple. The priests blew trumpets and they sang together, giving praise and

glory to the Lord. The loud voices and the sounds from the trumpets and cymbals gave praise to the Lord. They sang, 'The Lord is good, his love is everlasting.' The Temple was filled with the cloud, and because of the cloud, the priests could not stay to do their duties. The glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

Then Solomon said, 'The Lord lives in the thick cloud. I built a house for you Lord to live in for ever.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 83

**RESPONSE: LORD GOD, YOUR
TEMPLE IS REALLY BEAUTIFUL.**

**LORD GOD, YOUR TEMPLE IS
REALLY BEAUTIFUL.**

My soul wants to be in God's temple.

My heart and my soul sing with joy to the living God.

The birds have a home in their nests.

They are near your altar.

Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church

LORD GOD, YOUR TEMPLE IS REALLY BEAUTIFUL.

People living in your temple are blessed.

They always praise you.

You give them strength and confidence.

One day in your temple is better than one thousand days in any other place.

I prefer to be in the house of God.

LORD GOD, YOUR TEMPLE IS REALLY BEAUTIFUL.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 3:9–13, 16–17

You are God's building. Through the grace God gave me, I worked like an expert designer (planner/architect), and I succeeded in building the foundations. Now another person is building on this foundation. Any person that builds must work carefully. No one can build a different foundation because God

has already used Jesus Christ as the foundation.

On this foundation, Jesus Christ, you can build using gold, silver, jewels, wood, grass or straw. But the work of each builder will be shown on the last day. When that day comes, fire will be used to test the work of each person.

You should know that you are the house of God. You should know that the Spirit of God is living in you. If any person destroys the temple of God, God will destroy that person. Why? Because the temple of God is holy and you, yourselves, are God's temple.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I will build my home in heaven. The people are my people and I will be their God.'

ALLELUIA!

Anniversary of the Dedication of a Church

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 4:19–24

The Samaritan woman said to Jesus, ‘Now I realise you are a prophet. Our people (Samaritans) worshipped God on this mountain. But you Jews say: "People must go to Jerusalem to worship God."’

Jesus said to her: ‘Believe me, soon you will worship God not on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem. You do not know the God you worship. But we Jews know the God we worship. Salvation comes from the Jews. But the time will come, really it is here now, then people with true faith will worship the Father in spirit and truth. God is spirit and we must worship him in spirit and truth.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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