

Monday – September 14
Feast of the Exaltation
of the Holy Cross

Reading 1 NM 21:4B-9

With their patience worn out by the journey, the people complained against God and Moses,

“Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in this desert, where there is no food or water? We are disgusted with this wretched food!”

In punishment the LORD sent among the people saraph serpents, which bit the people so that many of them died.

Then the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you.

Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us.”

So Moses prayed for the people, and the LORD said to Moses,

“Make a saraph and mount it on a pole, and if any who have been bitten look at it, they will live.”

Moses accordingly made a bronze serpent and mounted it on a pole, and whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 78:1BC-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Hearken, my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable, I will utter mysteries from of old.

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

While he slew them they sought him and inquired after God again, Remembering that God was their rock and the Most High God, their redeemer.

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

But they flattered him with their mouths and lied to him with their tongues, Though their hearts were not steadfast toward him, nor were they faithful to his covenant.

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

But he, being merciful, forgave their sin and destroyed them not;

Often he turned back his anger and let none of his wrath be roused.

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Reading II PHIL 2:6-11

Brothers and sisters:

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.

Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel JN 3:13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

“No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.” For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Tuesday – September 15
Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

Reading 1 1 COR 12:12-14, 27-31A

Brothers and sisters:

As a body is one though it has many parts,
and all the parts of the body, though
many, are one body,
so also Christ.

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into
one Body,
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free
persons,
and we were all given to drink of one
Spirit.

Now the body is not a single part, but
many.

Now you are Christ's Body, and
individually parts of it.

Some people God has designated in the
Church

to be, first, Apostles; second, prophets;
third, teachers;

then, mighty deeds;

then gifts of healing, assistance,
administration,

and varieties of tongues.

Are all Apostles? Are all prophets? Are
all teachers?

Do all work mighty deeds? Do all have
gifts of healing?

Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual
gifts.

Responsorial Psalm PS 10:1B-2, 3, 4, 5

**R. (3) We are his people: the sheep of
his flock.**

Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;
serve the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful song.

**R. We are his people: the sheep of his
flock.**

Know that the LORD is God;
he made us, his we are;
his people, the flock he tends.

**R. We are his people: the sheep of his
flock.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
his courts with praise;

Give thanks to him; bless his name.

**R. We are his people: the sheep of his
flock.**

For he is good, the LORD,
whose kindness endures forever,
and his faithfulness, to all generations.

**R. We are his people: the sheep of his
flock.**

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary;
without dying you won the Martyr's crown
beneath the Cross of the Lord.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel JN 19:25-27

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his
mother

and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of
Clopas,

and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the
disciple there whom he loved

he said to his mother, "Woman, behold,
your son."

Then he said to the disciple,
"Behold, your mother."

And from that hour the disciple took her
into his home.

or

Lk 2:33-35

Jesus' father and mother were amazed at
what was said about him;

and Simeon blessed them and said to
Mary his mother,

"Behold, this child is destined

for the fall and rise of many in Israel,

and to be a sign that will be contradicted
and you yourself a sword will pierce

so that the thoughts of many hearts may
be revealed."

Wednesday – September 16
Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope,
and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

Reading 1 1 COR 12:31-13:13

Brothers and sisters:

Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.

But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love,

I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind.

It is not jealous, love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing;

if tongues, they will cease;

if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.

For we know partially and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things.

At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face.

At present I know partially;

then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.

So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 AND 22

R. (12) Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Give thanks to the LORD on the harp; with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises.

Sing to him a new song; pluck the strings skillfully, with shouts of gladness.

R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

For upright is the word of the LORD, and all his works are trustworthy.

He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.

May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us who have put our hope in you.

R. Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Alleluia JN 6:63C, 68C

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life, you have the words of everlasting life.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel LK 7:31-35

Jesus said to the crowds:

“To what shall I compare the people of this generation?

What are they like?

They are like children who sit in the marketplace and call to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, but you did not dance.

We sang a dirge, but you did not weep.’

For John the Baptist came neither eating food nor drinking wine,

and you said, ‘He is possessed by a demon.’

The Son of Man came eating and drinking and you said,

‘Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’

But wisdom is vindicated by all her children.”

Thursday – September 17

Reading 1 **1 COR 15:1-11**

I am reminding you, brothers and sisters, of the Gospel I preached to you, which you indeed received and in which you also stand.

Through it you are also being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve.

After that, he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. After that he appeared to James, then to all the Apostles.

Last of all, as to one born abnormally, he appeared to me. For I am the least of the Apostles, not fit to be called an Apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective. Indeed, I have toiled harder than all of them; not I, however, but the grace of God that is with me. Therefore, whether it be I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 118:1B-2, 16AB-17, 28

R. (1) Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."

R. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

"The right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the Lord has struck with power." I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

R. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

You are my God, and I give thanks to you; O my God, I extol you.

R. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Alleluia **MT 11:28**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Come to me, all you who labor and are

burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel **LK 7:36-50**

A certain Pharisee invited Jesus to dine with him, and he entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at table.

Now there was a sinful woman in the city who learned that he was at table in the house of the Pharisee.

Bringing an alabaster flask of ointment, she stood behind him at his feet weeping and began to bathe his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and anointed them with the ointment.

When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner."

Jesus said to him in reply, "Simon, I have something to say to you."

"Tell me, teacher," he said.

"Two people were in debt to a certain creditor; one owed five hundred days' wages and the other owed fifty.

Since they were unable to repay the debt, he forgave it for both.

Which of them will love him more?"

Simon said in reply,

"The one, I suppose, whose larger debt was forgiven."

He said to him, "You have judged rightly."

Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon,

"Do you see this woman? When I entered your house, you did not give me water for my feet, but she has bathed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but she has not ceased kissing my feet since the time I entered. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she anointed my feet with ointment. So I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence, she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."

He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

The others at table said to themselves,

"Who is this who even forgives sins?"

But he said to the woman,

"Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Friday – September 18

Reading 1 1 COR 15:12-20

Brothers and sisters:

If Christ is preached as raised from the dead,
how can some among you say there is no resurrection of the dead?
If there is no resurrection of the dead,
then neither has Christ been raised.
And if Christ has not been raised, then empty too is our preaching;
empty, too, your faith.
Then we are also false witnesses to God,
because we testified against God that he raised Christ,
whom he did not raise if in fact the dead are not raised.
For if the dead are not raised, neither has Christ been raised,
and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain;
you are still in your sins.
Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
If for this life only we have hoped in Christ,
we are the most pitiable people of all.
But now Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 17:1BCD, 6-7, 8B AND 15

R. (15b) **Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.**

Hear, O LORD, a just suit;
attend to my outcry;
hearken to my prayer from lips without deceit.

R. Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.

I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;
incline your ear to me; hear my word.
Show your wondrous mercies,
O savior of those who flee
from their foes to refuge at your right hand.
R. Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.

Hide me in the shadow of your wings,
But I in justice shall behold your face;
on waking, I shall be content in your presence.

R. Lord, when your glory appears, my joy will be full.

Alleluia MT 11:25

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel LK 8:1-3

Jesus journeyed from one town and village to another,

preaching and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God.

Accompanying him were the Twelve and some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities,
Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,
Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, Susanna, and many others
who provided for them out of their resources.

Saturday – September 19

Reading 1 1 COR 15:35-37, 42-49

Brothers and sisters:

Someone may say, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come back?” You fool! What you sow is not brought to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body that is to be but a bare kernel of wheat, perhaps, or of some other kind. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown corruptible; it is raised incorruptible. It is sown dishonorable; it is raised glorious. It is sown weak; it is raised powerful. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual one. So, too, it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being,” the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 56:10C-12, 13-14

R. (14) **I will walk in the presence of God, in the light of the living.**

Now I know that God is with me. In God, in whose promise I glory, in God I trust without fear; what can flesh do against me?

R. **I will walk in the presence of God, in the light of the living.**

I am bound, O God, by vows to you; your thank offerings I will fulfill.

For you have rescued me from death, my feet, too, from stumbling; that I may walk before God in the light of the living.

R. **I will walk in the presence of God, in the light of the living.**

Alleluia LK 8:15

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel LK 8:4-15

When a large crowd gathered, with people from one town after another journeying to Jesus, he spoke in a parable. “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path and was trampled, and the birds of the sky ate it up. Some seed fell on rocky ground, and when it grew, it withered for lack of moisture. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold.” After saying this, he called out, “Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear.” Then his disciples asked him what the meaning of this parable might be. He answered, “Knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God has been granted to you; but to the rest, they are made known through parables so that they may look but not see, and hear but not understand. “This is the meaning of the parable. The seed is the word of God. Those on the path are the ones who have heard, but the Devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. Those on rocky ground are the ones who, when they hear, receive the word with joy, but they have no root; they believe only for a time and fall away in time of temptation. As for the seed that fell among thorns, they are the ones who have heard, but as they go along, they are choked by the anxieties and riches and pleasures of life, and they fail to produce mature fruit. But as for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart, and bear fruit through perseverance.”

Sunday – September 20

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading 1 IS 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call him while he is near. Let the
scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked
his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD
for mercy; to our God, who is generous in
forgiving. For my thoughts are not your
thoughts, nor are your ways my ways,
says the LORD. As high as the heavens
are above the earth, so high are my ways
above your ways and my thoughts above
your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

**R. (18a) The Lord is near to all who
call upon him.**

Every day will I bless you, and I will praise
your name forever and ever. Great is the
LORD and highly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.

**R. The Lord is near to all who call
upon him.**

The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
The LORD is good to all
and compassionate toward all his works.

**R. The Lord is near to all who call
upon him.**

The LORD is just in all his ways
and holy in all his works.

The LORD is near to all who call upon him,
to all who call upon him in truth.

**R. The Lord is near to all who call
upon him.**

Reading 2 PHIL1:20C-24, 27A

Brothers and sisters:
Christ will be magnified in my body,
whether by life or by death.
For to me life is Christ, and death is gain.
If I go on living in the flesh,
that means fruitful labor for me.
And I do not know which I shall choose.
I am caught between the two.
I long to depart this life and be with
Christ, for that is far better.

Yet that I remain in the flesh
is more necessary for your benefit.
Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy
of the gospel of Christ.

Alleluia ACTS 16:14B

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel MT 20:1-16A

Jesus told his disciples this parable:
“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner
who went out at dawn to hire laborers for
his vineyard. After agreeing with them for
the usual daily wage, he sent them into his
vineyard. Going out about nine o’clock,
the landowner saw others standing idle in
the marketplace, and he said to them, ‘You
too go into my vineyard, and I will give you
what is just.’ So they went off. And he went
out again around noon, and around three
o’clock, and did likewise. Going out about
five o’clock, the landowner found others
standing around, and said to them, ‘Why do
you stand here idle all day?’ They answered,
‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to
them, ‘You too go into my vineyard.’ When
it was evening the owner of the vineyard
said to his foreman, ‘Summon the laborers
and give them their pay, beginning with the
last and ending with the first.’ When those
who had started about five o’clock came,
each received the usual daily wage. So
when the first came, they thought that they
would receive more, but each of them also
got the usual wage. And on receiving it they
grumbled against the landowner, saying,
‘These last ones worked only one hour, and
you have made them equal to us, who bore
the day’s burden and the heat.’ He said to
one of them in reply, ‘My friend, I am not
cheating you. Did you not agree with me
for the usual daily wage? Take what is
yours and go. What if I wish to give this
last one the same as you? Or am I not free
to do as I wish with my own money?
Are you envious because I am generous?’
Thus, the last will be first, and the first will
be last.”