

LECTIONARY FOR MASSES WITH CHILDREN

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Am

FIRST READING

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

2:1-5

This is the vision that Isaiah son of Amoz had
about Judah and Jerusalem:

In the future the mountain with the Lord's temple
will be the highest of all.

It will reach above the hills,
and every nation will rush to it.

Many people will come and say,
"Let's go to the mountain of the LORD God of Jacob
and worship in his temple."

The LORD will teach us his Law from Jerusalem.
He will settle the arguments of nations and of people.
They will pound their swords and their spears into garden tools.
And they will never make war or attack other nations.

People of Israel, let's live by the light of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

122:1-2, 8-9

R. (see 1) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

It made me glad to hear them say,
"Let's go to the house of the LORD!"
Jerusalem, we are standing
inside your gates.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Because of my friends
and my relatives,
I will pray for peace.
And because of the house
of the LORD our God,
I will work for your good.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

PASSION SUNDAY
(Palm Sunday)
The Procession with Palms

GOSPEL

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

21:1-11

When Jesus and his disciples came near to Jerusalem,
 he went to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives
 and sent two of his disciples on ahead.

He told them, “Go into the next village,
 where you will at once find a donkey and her colt.
 Untie the two donkeys and bring them to me.
 If anyone asks why you are doing that, just say,
 ‘The Lord needs them.’
 Right away he will let you have the donkeys.”

So God’s promise came true,
 just as the prophet had said,

“Announce to the people of Jerusalem:
 ‘Your king is coming to you!
 He is humble and rides on a donkey.
 He comes on the colt of a donkey.’ ”

The disciples left and did what Jesus had told them to do.
 They brought the donkey and its colt
 and laid some clothes on their backs.

Then Jesus got on.

Many people spread clothes in the road,
 while others put down branches which they had cut from trees.
 Some people walked ahead of Jesus and others followed behind.
 They were all shouting, “Hosanna for the Son of David!
 God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hooray for God in heaven above!”

When Jesus came to Jerusalem,
 everyone in the city was excited and asked,
 “Who can this be?”

FIRST READING

The people are rebellious;
they shall know there will be a prophet in their midst.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel

2:2-5

As the LORD spoke,
his Spirit gave me the power to stand,
and I heard him say:

“You are a mere human,
but I am sending you to the people of Israel.
All of them have rebelled against me,
and they are still rebelling,
just as their ancestors did.
They are stubborn and hardheaded.

“But I am the LORD God,
and I am sending you to speak to them in my name.
They are stubborn.
So maybe they will listen
and maybe they won’t.
But at least they will know that a prophet has come to them.”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

86:5-6, 15 and 16de

R. (5a) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

You willingly forgive,
and your love is always there
for those who pray to you.
Please listen, LORD!
Answer my prayer for help.

R. Lord, you are good and forgiving.

You, the Lord God,
are kind and merciful.

FIRST READING

Forgive your neighbor's faults, and when you pray,
your sins will be forgiven.

A reading from the book of Sirach

28:2-5, 6b-7

If you forgive your friends when they mistreat you,
your prayers will be answered and your sins forgiven.
If you stay angry with someone,
don't expect the Lord to heal you.
Don't ask God to forgive you,
if you don't have pity on others.
God won't forgive you,
if you stay angry at someone.

So stop holding grudges and start obeying God.
Think about the commands and the promise of God Most High.
Then forget about the sins and the ignorance of others.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

103:1-2, 3-4, 11-12

R. (8a) The Lord is kind and merciful.

With all my heart
I praise the LORD,
and with all that I am
I praise his holy name!
With all my heart
I praise the LORD!
I will never forget
how kind he has been.

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

FIRST READING

Naaman returned to Elisha, the prophet, and acknowledged the Lord.

A reading from the second book of Kings 5:14-17

Naaman, the Syrian, did what God's prophet Elisha had told him to do.
He went down to the Jordan River
and dipped in the water seven times.

Then he was well,
and his skin looked as healthy as that of a young child.

Naaman and everyone with him went back to the prophet Elisha.

Naaman said, "Elisha, now I know
that the only God in all the world is in Israel.

Please, sir, let me give you a gift."

Elisha replied, "I serve the living God,
and I swear by him that I will not take a thing from you!"

Naaman kept begging him to accept something,
but Elisha refused.

Naaman said, "Sir, if you won't accept a gift,
then let me take back as much of Israel's soil
as two mules can carry.

From now on I will give sacrifices and offerings only to the LORD."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4

R. (see 2b) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

**Sing a new song to the LORD!
He has worked miracles,
and with his own powerful arm,
he has won the victory.**

R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

ALLELUIA

See John 6:63c, 68c

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

R. Alleluia, alleluia.**GOSPEL***I have seen the Lord and he said these things to me.***✠** A reading from the holy gospel according to John

20:11-18

Mary Magdalene stood crying outside the tomb.

She was still weeping,

when she stooped down and saw two angels inside.

They were dressed in white and were sitting where Jesus' body had been.

One was at the head and the other was at the foot.

The angels asked Mary, "Why are you crying?"

She answered, "They have taken away my Lord's body!

I don't know where they have put him."

As soon as Mary said this,

she turned around and saw Jesus standing there.

But she did not know who he was.

Jesus asked her, "Why are you crying?

Who are you looking for?"

She thought he was the gardener and said,

"Sir, if you have taken his body away,

please tell me, so I can go and get him."

Then Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned and said to him, "Rabboni."

The Aramaic word "Rabboni" means "Teacher."

Jesus told her, "Don't hold on to me!

I have not yet gone to the Father.

But tell my disciples that I am going to the one

who is my Father and my God,

as well as your Father and your God."

Mary Magdalene then went and told the disciples

that she had seen the Lord.

She also told them what he had said to her.

The gospel of the Lord.

BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

[492]

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Do not give any food to those who refuse to work.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians 3:6-12, 16

My dear friends,
in the name of the Lord Jesus,
I beg you not to have anything to do
with any of your people who loaf around
and refuse to obey the instructions we gave you.

You surely know that you should follow our example.
We didn't waste our time loafing,
and we didn't accept food from anyone without paying for it.
We didn't want to be a burden to any of you,
so night and day we worked as hard as we could.

We had the right not to work,
but we wanted to set an example for you.
We also gave you the rule that if you don't work,
you don't eat.

Now we learn that some of you just loaf around and won't do any work,
except the work of a busybody.
So, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we ask and beg these people to settle down
and start working for a living.

I pray that the Lord, who gives peace,
will keep blessing you with peace no matter where you are.
May the Lord be with all of you.

The word of the Lord.

[493]

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7abcd

R. (see 2) Let us come before the Lord and praise him.

Sing joyful songs to the LORD!
Praise the mighty rock
where we are safe.

INDEX OF READINGS

This Index lists all the readings together with the year, Lectionary number (where applicable), and page (in bold). The readings with no listing for the year are those for weekdays, saints, sacraments, and various needs and occasions.

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