

# ***The Liturgical Year in brief, 2008*** ***for Ireland (Year A, Weekday Cycle 2)***

***Liturgical Seasons*** in summary:

## **The Season of Advent**

(Dec 2 –Dec 24, 2007)

Dec 2, 9, 16, 23: Sundays of Advent

## **The Season of Christmas**

(Dec 25, 2007 – Jan 5, 2008)

Dec 25, '07 : Christmas Day:

Dec 30, '07, First Sunday of Christmas,  
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph:  
Jan 1, 2008, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Jan 6 Epiphany:

Jan 13: Baptism of Our Lord:

Feb 2 Presentation of the Lord

## **The Season of Lent**

(Feb 6 – March 19 )

Feb 6 Ash Wednesday

Feb 10 First Sunday in Lent:

March 15 St Patrick's Day

## **Holy Week**

(March 16-19)

March 16 Palm/Passion Sunday:

## **Easter Triduum**

(March20-22)

March20 Maundy Thursday

March21 Good Fridayday:

March22 Holy Saturday

## **The Season of Easter**

(March23-May 11)

March22 Easter Sunday

May 4 Ascension:

May 11 Pentecost

May 18 Trinity

May 25 Body and Blood of Christ

## **Ordinary Time**

(May 18 –Nov 29)

## **The Season of Advent 2009**

(Nov30 –Dec 24, 2008 )

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# The Full Liturgical Year, 2008

## (Year A, Weekday Cycle 2)

### **THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2007**

**General:** *That human society may be solicitous in the care of all those stricken with AIDS, especially children and women, and that the Church may make them feel the Lord's love.*

**Mission:** *That the incarnation of the Son of God, which the Church celebrates solemnly at Christmas, may help the peoples of the Asiatic Continent to recognise God's Envoy, the only Saviour of the world, in Jesus.*

### **Advent-Christmas-Epiphany Season Dec 2 – Jan 13**

*Next to the yearly celebration of the paschal mystery, the Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth and early manifestations in the Christmas season. This season runs from First Evening Prayer of Christmas until the Sunday after Epiphany, the feast of the Lord's Baptism.*

### **SEASON OF ADVENT (Dec 2-24)**

*Advent is a time of waiting, conversion and of hope:*

*- waiting - memory of the first, humble coming of the lord in our mortal flesh;*

*- waiting - supplication for his final, glorious coming as lord of History and universal Judge;*

*- conversion, to which the liturgy at this time often refers quoting the prophets, especially John the Baptist, 'Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand' (Mt 3: 2)*

*- joyful hope that the salvation already accomplished by Christ (d. Rom 8:24*

*25) and the reality of grace in the world will mature and reach their fullness, thereby granting us what is promised by faith, and 'we shall become like him for we shall see him as he really is' (Jn 3:2).*

*Advent has twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation. There are two stages in Advent: the first runs until 16 December, the second which is mainly directed to the Christmas feasts runs from 17 December until 24 December.*

#### **The Advent Wreath**

*Placing four candles on green fronds has become a symbol of Advent in many Christian homes, especially in Germanic countries and in North America.*

*The Advent wreath, with the progressive lighting of its four candles, Sunday after Sunday, until the Solemnity of Christmas, is a recollection of the various stages of salvation history prior to Christ's coming and a symbol of the prophetic light*

*gradually illuminating the long night prior to the rising of the Sun of justice (cf. Mal 3:20; Lk 1 :78).*

### **Dec 2 1st Sunday in Advent Year C**

1st Reading: Is 2: 1-5

Response Psalm: Ps 121

2nd Reading: Rom 13:11-14

Gospel: Mt 24:37-44

*The liturgy of the day directs our minds to the Last Day, to the Second Coming of Christ, to the Day of Judgement. We look at this not as individuals, but as a great gathering of*

*all peoples. The suddenness of the coming of the Lord may make us tear, but we should look forward in joy - rejoice when we hear them say 'Let us go to God's house'. St Paul tells us how to live in the meantime: be fully awake and cast off the works of darkness.*

**Dec 3 Monday: Week 1 of Advent**

Optional memorial of **St John Damascene, priest and doctor of the Church**

1st Reading: Is 11:1-10

Response Psalm: Ps 71

Gospel: Lk 10:21-24

**Dec 4 Tuesdays: Week 1 of Advent**

1st Reading: Is 2:1-5

Response Psalm: Ps 121

Gospel: Mt 8:5-11

**Dec 5 Wednesday: Week 1 of Advent**

1st Reading: Is 25:6-10

Response Psalm: Ps 22

Gospel: Mt 15:29-37

**Dec 6 Thursday: Week 1 of Advent**

Optional Memorial of **St Nicholas, bishop**

1st Reading: Is 26:1-6

Response Psalm: Ps 117

Gospel: Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Dec 7 Friday: Week 1 of Advent**

Memorial of **St Ambrose, bishop, doctor of the Church**

1st Reading: Is 29:17-24

Response Psalm: Ps 26

Gospel: Mt 9:27-31

***Dec 8 Saturday : The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin***

1st Reading: Gen 3:9-15

Response Psalm: Ps 97

2nd Reading: Eph 1:3-6

Gospel: Lk 1:26-38

*The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We celebrate Mary who from the first instant of her existence in the womb of her mother Anne was 'by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved free from all stain of original sin'.*

***Dec 9 2nd Sunday in Advent Year C***

1st Reading: Is 11:1-10

Response Psalm: Ps 71

2nd Reading: Rom 15:4-9

Gospel: Mt 3:1-12

*No optional Memorial of St Juan Diego Cuahltlatoatzin this year  
John the Baptist is a prophetic voice for all ages: his message peaks to us today for  
conversion is always part of the Christian way of living. Conversion to each other is  
called for by St Paul, so that we can be tolerant of each other, united in mind and heart.*

**Dec 10 Monday: Week 2 of Advent**

1st Reading: Is 35:1-10.

Response Psalm: Ps 84.

Gospel: Lk 5:17-26.

**Dec 11 Tuesdays: Week 2 of Advent**

Optional Memorial of **St Damasus I, pope**

1st Reading: Is 40:1-11.

Response Psalm: Ps 95.

Gospel: Mt 18:12-14.

**Dec 12 Wednesday: Week 2 of Advent**

Optional Memorial of **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Optional Memorial of **St Finnian, bishop**

1st Reading: Is 40: 25-31

Response Psalm: Ps 102

Gospel: Mt 11 : 28-30.

**Dec 13 Thursday: Week 2 of Advent**

Optional Memorial of **St Lucy, virgin, martyr**

1st Reading: Is 41 :13-20.

Response Psalm: Ps. 144.

Gospel: Mt 11 :11-1 5.

**Dec 14 Friday: Week 2 of Advent**

Optional Memorial of **St John of the Cross priest and doctor of the Church**

1st Reading: Is 48:17-19.

Response Psalm: Ps 1.

Gospel: Mt 11:16-19.

**Dec 15 Saturday: Week 2 of Advent**

1st Reading: Eccles (Sir) 48: 1-4, 9-11.

Response Psalm: Ps 79.

Gospel: Mt 17: 1 0-13.

***Dec 16 3rd Sunday in Advent Year C***

1st Reading: Is 35:1-6, 10

Response Psalm: Ps 145,

2nd Reading: Jas 5: 7-10

Gospel: Mt: 2-11

*The joy of the kingdom is anticipated. The signs of the kingdom already come are*

*given to the messengers of John the Baptist, and they are familiar with the prophecy of Isaiah. Patient waiting for the fulfilment is our Christian duty. There should be no complaining, no giving up or losing of heart. Joy, prayer and thanksgiving should characterise the Christian community.*

**Dec 17-24 Preparation for Christmas**

Mass texts are proper for each day according to date)

**Dec 17 Monday: Week 3 of Advent**

Optional Memorial of **St Flannan, bishop**

1st Reading: Gen 49: 2, 8-10

Response Psalm: Ps 71

Gospel: Mt 1 :1-17

**Dec 18 Tuesdays: Week 3 of Advent**

1st Reading: Jer 23: 5-8.

Response Psalm: Ps 71

Gospel: Mt 1: 1-17.

**Dec 19 Wednesday: Week 3 of Advent**

1st Reading: Judg 13:2-7,24-25.

Response Psalm: Ps 70.

Gospel: Lk 1:5-25

**Dec 20 Thursday: Week 3 of Advent**

Optional Memorial of **St Fachanan, bishop**

1st Reading: Is 7:10-14.

Response Psalm: Ps 23.

Gospel: Lk 1:26-38.

**Dec 21 Friday: Week 3 of Advent**

Optional memorial of **St Peter Canisius, priest and doctor of the Church**

1st Reading: Song 2:8-14 or Zeph 3: 14-18.

Response Psalm: Ps 32.

Gospel: Lk 1 :39-45

**Dec 22 Saturday: Week 3 of Advent**

1st Reading: 1 Sam 1:24-28..

Response Psalm: 1 Sam 2:1, 4-8.

Gospel: Lk 1:46-56

***Dec 23 4th Sunday in Advent Year C***

1st Reading: Is 7:10-14

Response Psalm: Ps 23

2nd Reading: Rom 1:1-7

Gospel: Mt 1:18-24

Memorial of St John of Kanty, priest is not celebrated this year

*Our attention is now directed fully to the coming of Christ in the Christmas mystery. The Preface calls us to wonder at this great happening, to prepare for Christmas in prayer and praise. The Psalm tells us to purify our hearts as preparation. Prayer and reconciliation should be features of these days.*

**Dec 24 Monday: Week 4 of Advent**

1st Reading: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Response Psalm: Ps 88

Gospel: Lk 1: 67-79

***SEASON OF CHRISTMAS***

***25 Dec Tuesday. The Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ***

Vigil Mass

1st Reading: Is 62:1-5

Response Psalm: Ps 88

2nd Reading: Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

Gospel: Mt 1:1-25

*The Virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel.*

Midnight Mass

1st Reading: Is 9:1-7

Response Psalm: Ps 95

2nd Reading: Tit 2:11-14

Gospel: Lk 2:1-14

*I bring you news of great joy. This night a child is born for us, a son given to us.*

Dawn Mass

1st Reading: Is 62:11-12

Response Psalm: Ps 96

2nd Reading: Tit 3:4-7

Gospel: Lk 2:15-20

*The shepherds found Mary and Joseph and the baby: and glorified God*

Mass during the day

1st Reading: Is 52:7-10

Response Psalm: Ps 97

2nd Reading: Heb 1:1-6

Gospel: Jn 1:1-18

*The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory.*

**Dec 26 Wednesday: St Stephen, first martyr**

1st Reading: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59.

Response Psalm: Ps 30.

Gospel: Mt 10:17-22

*St Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was one of those in charge of the poor and needy. He is outstanding for his forgiveness of his enemies. Patron of deacons, stonemasons and bricklayers.*

**Dec 27 Thursday: St John, Apostle, Evangelist**

1st Reading: 1 Jn 1:1-4

Response Psalm: Ps 96.

Gospel: Jn 20:2-8.

*St John, brother of James, son of Zebedee, the disciple whom Jesus loved, is traditionally said to have died at Ephesus. He is considered to be the author of the fourth Gospel, the Book of Revelation and three Letters. The Letters especially teach the law of love; he is said in his old age to have preached only one message - Love one another*

**Dec 28 Friday: The Holy Innocents, martyrs**

1st Reading: 1 Jn 1 :5-2:2

Response Psalm: Ps 123.

Gospel: Mt 2: 13-18.

*'The flight into Egypt and the massacre of the Holy Innocents make manifest the opposition of darkness to the light: "He came to his own home, and his own people received him not." Christ's whole life was lived under the sign of persecution. His own share it with him. Jesus' departure from Egypt recalls the exodus and presents him as the definitive liberator of God's people.' (CCC, 530)*

**Dec 29 Saturday: 5<sup>th</sup> Day in the Octave of Christmas**

Optional Memorial of **St Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr**

1st Reading: 1 Jn 2:3-11.

Response Psalm: Ps 95.

Gospel: Lk 2:22-35.

*St Thomas a Becket, 1118-1170, as Archbishop of Canterbury, came in conflict with King Henry II over Church rights. He was killed in his cathedral on this date.*

**Dec 30 Sun: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

1st Reading: 1Sam: 1:20-22

Response Psalm: Psalms 83

2nd Reading: 1Jn 3:1-2

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

*The Holy Family is seen as the model for the human family, the religious community, and the Church itself. The celebration of the Incarnation has brought us to see God's closeness. In the Holy Family we see the ordinariness of the life of Jesus, the simple acceptance by Mary and Joseph of the marvels of God. In the daily life of family and community we can touch the divine, we can come close to God. But we have to learn to live centred on God, with respect and love for-each other.*

**Or**

1st Reading Eccles(Sir) 3:2-6, 12-14

Response Psalm Ps 127

2nd Reading Col 3:12-21

Gospel Luke 2:41-52

**Dec 31 Monday: 7<sup>th</sup> Day in the Octave of Christmas**

1st Reading: 1 Jn 2:18-21

Response Psalm: Ps 95.

Gospel: Jn 1:1-18

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY 2008**

***General:** That the Church may strengthen her commitment to full visible unity in order to manifest ever more clearly her nature as a community of love in which is reflected the communion of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

***Mission:** That the Church in Africa, preparing to celebrate the second Special Assembly of the Synod of Bishops for Africa, may continue to be a sign and channel of reconciliation and justice in a continent still suffering from war, exploitation and poverty.*

**1 January: 41<sup>st</sup> WORLD DAY OF PEACE**

Pope Benedict XVI has chosen 'The Human Family: A community of Peace' as the theme for the 41<sup>st</sup> World Day of Peace. 'The Human Family: A community of Peace develops in a coherent way in truth, Peace and The Human Person, the Heart of Peace, respectively the themes for reflection on World Day of Peace in 2006 and 2007. Recognising the unity of the human family has never before been as providential as in this moment in history, with crises affecting international organisations and serious concerns touching the international community. Each human being, each nation is called to live and feel a part of the human Family which God conceived as a community of peace (from a statement announcing the theme, 19 June 2007.

**Jan 1 Tuesdays: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (World day of Peace)**

1st Reading: Nm 6: 22-27

Response Psalm: Ps 66

2nd Reading: Gal 4: 4-7

Gospel: Lk 2: 16-21

*Mary, Mother of God. At the message of the angel, the Virgin Mary received the Word of God in her heart and in her body, and gave Life to the world. Hence she is acknowledged and honoured as being truly the Mother of God and Mother of the Redeemer (Lumen gentium, 52).*

**Jan 2 Wednesday Before Epiphany**

**Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, bishops, doctors of the Church, memorial**

1st Reading: 1 Jn 2: 22-28

Response Psalm: Ps 97

Gospel: Jn 1: 19-28

**Jan 3 Thursday. Before Epiphany**

**Holy Name of Jesus, Optional memorial**

**St Munchin, bishop**, Optional memorial

1st Reading: 1 Jn 2: 29 – 3: 6

Response Psalm: Ps 97.

Gospel: Jn 1: 29-34

**Jan 4 Friday. Before Epiphany**

1st Reading Is 42: 1-4

Response Psalm Ps 28

2nd Reading Acts 10:34-38

Gospel Lk 3: 15-16. 21-22

**Jan 5 Saturday. Before Epiphany**

**St Charles of St Andrew, bishop**, Optional Memorial

1st Reading: 1 Jn 3: 11-21

Response Psalm: Ps 99.

Gospel: Jn 1: 43-51

***Jan 6 Sun: EPIPHANY OF THE LORD***

1st Reading Is 60: 1-6

Response Psalm Ps 71

2nd Reading Eph 3: 2-3a. 5-6

Gospel Mt 2: 1-12

*The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representatives of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation' (CCC, 528).*

**Jan 7 Monday: After Epiphany**

**St Raymond of Penyafort priest**, optional memorial

1st Reading 1 Jn 3: 22 – 4: 6

Response Psalm Ps 2: 7bc-8. / 10-12a

Gospel Mt 4: 12-17. 23-25

**Jan 8 Tuesdays: After Epiphany**

1st Reading 1 Jn 4: 7-10

Response Psalm Ps 71: 1-2. 3-4. 7-8

Gospel Mk 6: 34-44

**Jan 9 Wednesday: After Epiphany**

1st Reading 1 Jn 4: 11-18

Response Psalm Ps 71: 1-2. 10. 12-13

Gospel Mk 6: 45-52

**Jan 10 Thursday: After Epiphany**

1st Reading 1 Jn 4: 19 – 5: 4  
Response Psalm Ps 71: 1-2. 14 and 15bc. 17  
Gospel Lk 4: 14-22

**Jan 11 Friday: After Epiphany**

1st Reading 1 Jn 5: 5-13  
Response Psalm Ps 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20  
Gospel Lk 5: 12-16

**Jan 12 Saturday: After Epiphany**

1st Reading 1 Jn 5: 14-21  
Response Psalm Ps 149: 1-2. 3-4. 5 and 6a and 9b  
Gospel Jn 3: 22-30

***Jan 13 SUN: BAPTISM OF THE LORD (First Sunday in Ordinary Time)***

1st Reading Is 42: 1-4  
Response Psalm Ps 28  
2nd Reading Acts 10:34-38  
Gospel Mt 3: 13-17

**St Hilary, bishop and doctor of the Church is not celebrated this year.**

*The Baptism of the Lord. Jesus is anointed with the Spirit and his power. He is proclaimed Messiah. He now goes about doing good, working the signs that make him known as the Servant of God. He is the one who brings good news to the poor and tells of salvation. Through our baptism each one of us is ordered to the life of Christ - Priest, Prophet and King - and the Father looks on us with favour*

***ORDINARY TIME***

**Jan 14 Monday: Week 1 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Sm 1: 1-8  
Response Psalm Ps 115: 12-13. 14-17. 18-19  
Gospel Mk 1: 14-20

**Jan 15 Tuesdays: Week 1 in Ordinary time**

**St Ita, virgin**, memorial

1st Reading 1 Sm 1: 9-20  
Response Psalm 1 Sm 2: 1. 4-5. 6-7. 8abcd  
Gospel Mk 1: 21-28

**Jan 16 Wednesday: Week 1 in Ordinary time**

**St Fursa, abbot and missionary**, Optional Memorial

1st Reading 1 Sm 3: 1-10. 19-20  
Response Psalm Ps 39: 2 and 5. 7-8a. 8b-9. 10  
Gospel Mk 1: 29-39

**Jan 17 Thursday: Week 1 in Ordinary time**

**St Anthony, abbot, memorial**

1st Reading 1 Sm 4: 1-11

Response Psalm Ps 43: 10-11. 14-15. 24-25

Gospel Mk 1: 40-45

**18-25 January: WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

*Special readings may be used.*

*The observance of the 'Church Unity Octave' was initiated by Rev. Paul Wattson, an Episcopal priest, and took place at Our Lady of the Angels chapel, Groymoor, Garrison, N.Y. in 1908, one hundred years ago this year. It was developed by Abbé Paul Couturier in 1935 as the 'Universal Week of Prayer for Christian Unity'. The initial draft of the material for 2008 was prepared by the Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute, New York.*

*This material, which can be adapted for local use, is published jointly by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches (see [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) and [www.wcc-coe.org/](http://www.wcc-coe.org/)).*

*The biblical text for this centennial Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is taken from 1 Thessalonians. The text 'Pray without ceasing' (1 Thess 5: 17) stresses the essential role of prayer within the life of the Christian community as its members grow in their relationship to Christ and to one another. This text is one in a series of 'imperatives', statements in which Paul encourages the community to live out its God-given unity in Christ, to be in practice what it is in principle: the one body of Christ, visibly one in that place.*

**Jan 18 Friday: Week 1 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Sm 8: 4-7. 10-22a

Response Psalm Ps 88: 16-17. 18-19

Gospel Mk 2: 1-12

**Jan 19 Saturday: Week 1 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Sm 9: 1-4. 17-19; 10: 1

Response Psalm Ps 20: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7

Gospel Mk 2: 13-17

**20 January: WORLD DAY FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

*'Migrants contribute to their host country's well-being, and also because of this their human dignity must be respected and their freedoms guaranteed: the right to a dignified life, to fair treatment at work, to have access to education, health and other social benefits, to grow in competence and develop humanly, to freely manifest their culture and practice their religion.'*

*'But rights and duties go together,' he added. 'Therefore, at the same time, migrants have the duty to respect the identity and the laws of the country of residence, strive for proper integration (not assimilation) into the host society and learn its language. They are to foster esteem and respect for their host country, even to the point of loving and defending it.' (Archbishop Agostino Marchetto, secretary of the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples, during the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held*

*in Brussels, 9-11 July 2007.)*

*This Day should be mentioned as an intention in the Prayer of the Faithful on Sunday, 20 January*

***Jan 20 SUN: SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

*World Day of Migrants and Refugees*

1st Reading Is 49: 3. 5-6

Response Psalm Ps 39: 2. 4. 7-8. 8-9. 10 (8a. 9a)/

2nd Reading 1 Cor 1: 1-3

Gospel Jn 1: 29-34

**Ss Fabian, pope, martyr, Sebastian, martyr** are not celebrated this year

*Jesus is chosen by the Spirit to be lamb and Servant; Paul is chosen to be an apostle. Each of us in baptism is chosen. We are chosen to live a life of holiness, to share in God's life, a life for us of praise and worship, of witness and apostolicity.*

**Jan 21 Monday: Week 2 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Agnes, virgin and martyr**, memorial

1st Reading 1 Sm 15: 16-23

Response Psalm Ps 49: 8-9. 16bc-17. 21, 23

Gospel Mk 2: 18-22

**Jan 22 Tuesday: Week 2 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Vincent of Saragossa, deacon and martyr**

1st Reading 1 Sm 16: 1-13

Response Psalm Ps 88: 20. 21-22. 27-28

Gospel Mk 2: 23-28

**Jan 23 Wednesday: Week 2 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Sm 17: 32-33. 37. 40-51

Response Psalm Ps 143: 1b. 2. 9-10

Gospel Mk 3: 1-6

**Jan 24 Thursday: Week 2 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church**

1st Reading 1 Sm 18: 6-9; 19: 1-7

Response Psalm Ps 55: 2-3. 9-10a. 10b-11. 12-13

Gospel Mk 3: 7-12

**Jan 25 Friday: The Conversion of Paul, Apostle**

1st Reading Acts 22: 3-16 or Acts 9: 1-22

Response Psalm Ps 116: 1bc. 2

Gospel Mk 16: 15-18

**Jan 26 Saturday: Week 2 in Ordinary time**

**Ss Timothy and Titus, bishops**, memorial

1st Reading 2 Tm 1: 1-8 or Ti 1: 1-5

Response Psalm Ps 95: 1-2a. 2b-3. 7-8a. 10  
Gospel Mk 3: 20-21

### **27 January: EDUCATION IN FAITH SUNDAY**

*Education in Faith Sunday challenges us to recognise that as members of the church we are all teachers under the guidance of the Spirit and share in the responsibility of furthering the Reign of God. Today's Gospel opens with an account of Jesus preaching out in the open. Up to this moment Jesus has remained practically silent. From now on it is time for him to speak, to proclaim that the Reign of God is at hand, at this crossroads of the nations, Galilee. For more information on the theme and initiatives of Education in Faith Sunday go to: [www.catechetics.ie](http://www.catechetics.ie).*

*This Day should be mentioned as an intention in the Prayer of the Faithful on Sunday, 27 January.*

### **Jan 27 SUN: THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Education in Faith Sunday

1st Reading Is 8: 23 – 9: 3

Response Psalm Ps 26: 1. 4. 13-14 (1a)

2nd Reading 1 Cor 1: 10-13. 17

Gospel Mt 4: 12-23

**St Angela Merici, virgin, religious** is not celebrated this year

*The semi-continuous reading of St Matthew's Gospel on each Sunday begins today.*

*'We celebrate Sunday because of the venerable resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we do so not only at Easter but also at each turning of the week' (Pope Innocent I, 5th century).*

### **Jan 29 Monday: Week 3 in Ordinary time**

**St Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor of the Church**

1st Reading 2 Sm 5: 1-7. 10

Response Psalm Ps 88: 20. 21-22. 25-26

Gospel Mk 3: 22-30

### **Jan 29 Tuesdays: Week 3 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 2 Sm 6: 12b-15. 17-19

Response Psalm Ps 23: 7. 8. 9. 10

Gospel Mk 3: 31-35

### **Jan 30 Wednesday: Week 3 in Ordinary time**

**St Aidan, bishop**, optional memorial

**Ss Margaret and Francis Taylor**, martyrs, optional memorial

1st Reading 2 Sm 7: 4-17

Response Psalm Ps 88: 4-5. 27-28. 29-30

Gospel Mk 4: 1-20

### **Jan 31 Thursday: Week 3 in Ordinary time**

**St. John Bosco, priest**, memorial

1st Reading 2 Sm 7: 18-19. 24-29  
Response Psalm Ps 131: 1-2. 3-5. 11. 12. 13-14  
Gospel Mk 4: 21-25

### ***THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2008***

**General:** That the mentally handicapped may not be marginalised but respected and lovingly helped to live in a way worthy of their physical and social condition.

**Mission:** That Institutes of Consecrated Life, so flourishing in mission countries, may rediscover the missionary dimension and, faithful to the radical choice of Gospel counsels, be generous in bearing witness to Christ and proclaiming him to the ends of the earth.

#### **Feb 1 Friday: St Brigid, Virgin, Secondary Patron of Ireland**

1st Reading Rom 12:3-13  
Response Psalm Ps 148  
Gospel Mk 3:31-35 or Lk 11:27-28

#### 2 February: WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE

Pope John Paul II established that 2 February, Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, be celebrated as the Day of Consecrated life, in the Calendar of the Church.

'Consecrated life is by its nature a total and definitive, unconditional and passionate response to God. And so, when one renounces everything to follow Christ, when one gives to him all that one holds most dear, braving every sacrifice as did the divine Teacher, the consecrated person who follows in Christ's footsteps necessarily also becomes "a sign of contradiction", because his/her way of thinking and living is often in opposition to the logic of the world, as it is almost always presented in the media. Indeed, in choosing Christ we let ourselves be "conquered" by him without reserve. How many people thirsting for the truth are struck by this courage and attracted by those who do not hesitate to give their life, their own life, for their belief. Is not this the radical evangelical fidelity to which every consecrated person is called in our time too? Let us give thanks to the Lord so that many Religious men and women in all the corners of the earth may continue to offer a supreme and faithful witness of love to God and to the brethren, a witness that is often marked by the blood of martyrdom. Let us also thank God so that these examples may continue to inspire in the souls of many young people the desire to follow Christ always in an intimate and total way' (from address of Pope Benedict XVI on 11th World Day of Consecrated Life, 2 February 2007).

#### **Feb 2 Saturday: THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

*World day of Consecrated Life*  
1st Reading Mal 3: 1-4 or Heb 2:14-18  
Response Psalm Ps 23  
Gospel Lk 2: 22-4

3 February: BLESSING OF THROATS ON THE MEMORIAL OF ST BLAISE  
*St Blaise, bishop of Sebaste in Armenia, is believed to have been martyred in the early 4th century. Very little is known about him. Tradition states that he was a physician before becoming a bishop.. Since the 8th century he has been venerated as the patron of those who suffer from disease of the throat. He is said to have healed a boy who was choking. The blessing of St Blaise is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and for the sick.*

*The candles to be used for the blessing of throats are blessed on the memorial of St Blaise (see *The Veritas Book of Blessing Prayers*, p. 190) or on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. If the blessing takes place within Mass, the blessing follows the homily and general intercessions (prayer of the faithful). Outside of Mass, the blessing is preceded by a brief celebration of the word of God.*

*The scriptures readings suggested in the Lectionary (II: 943-944) may be used. Using two crossed and unlighted candles, the minister touches the throat of each person, saying: Through the intercession of St Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil (or from every disease of the throat and from every other illness): In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

### **Feb 3 SUN: FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Day of prayer for Temperance*

1st Reading: Zep 2: 3; 3: 12-13

Response Psalm: Ps 145: 6-7. 8-9. 9-10

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 1: 26-31

Gospel: Mt 5: 1-12a

**Ss Blase, bishop, martyr and Ansgar, bishop,** are not celebrated this year

*St Augustine notes: 'Therefore the Lord too has placed his seal on his day, which is the third after the Passion. In the weekly cycle, however, it is the eighth day after the seventh, that is after the Sabbath, and the first day of the week.' The distinction of Sunday from the Jewish Sabbath grew ever stronger in the mind of the Church, even though there have been times in history when, because the obligation of Sunday rest was so emphasised, the Lord's Day tended to become more like the Sabbath. (Dies Domini, 23)*

### **4 February: DAY OF PRAYER FOR TEMPERANCE**

*'What a great legacy and gift it would be for our children in this new emerging country of ours if we would be the generation brave enough to promote and work for an attitude and culture of moderation rather than excess in our use of alcohol.*

*If we could promote abstinence or moderation and create attitudes towards alcohol use that are conducive to a better and healthier way of life, then indeed we would be leaving a wonderful inheritance to future generations' - Pastoral Letter from the Irish Bishops' Conference, Alcohol: the Challenge of Moderation (2007). The letter is available on [www.catholiccommunications.ie](http://www.catholiccommunications.ie). Contact: Irish Bishops' Drugs and Alcohol Initiative (IBDAI), Columba Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, [ibdai@iecon.ie](mailto:ibdai@iecon.ie).*

*This Day should be mentioned as an intention in the Prayer of the Faithful on Sunday, 3 February.*

**Feb 4 Monday: Week 4 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 2 Sm 15: 13-14. 30; 16: 5-13

Response Psalm Ps 3: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7

Gospel Mk 5: 1-20

**Feb 6 Tuesday: Week 4 in Ordinary time**

**St Agatha**, virgin, martyr, memorial

1st Reading 2 Sm 18: 9-10. 14b. 24-25a. 30 – 19: 3

Response Psalm Ps 86: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6

Gospel Mk 5: 21-

**SEASON OF LENT**

*The annual Lenten season is the fitting time to climb the holy mountain of Easter.*

*The Lenten season has a double character, namely to prepare both catechumens and faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery. The catechumens, both with the rite of election and scrutinies, are prepared for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian initiation; the faithful, ever more attentive to the word of God and prayer, prepare themselves by penance for the renewal of their baptismal promises.*

*The faithful are to be encouraged to participate in an ever more intense and faithful way in the Lenten liturgy and in penitential celebrations. They are to be clearly reminded that both according to the law and tradition they should approach the sacrament of penance during this season so that with purified heart they may participate in the paschal mysteries. (Paschale solemnitatis, 6, 15, Ceremonial of Bishops, 249, 251)*

**Feb 6 Wednesday: Ash Wednesday**

(Day of Fast and Abstinence)

1st Reading: Joel 2: 12-18

Response Psalm: Ps 50

2nd Reading: 2 Cor 5: 20 - 6:2

Gospel: Mt 6: 1-6. 16-18

**St Paul Miki and Companions, martyrs**, are not celebrated this year.

*'Have mercy on us, for we have sinned.' The time to repent and turn back is now. The Gospel tells us how to approach that renewal of our lives. It puts before us the remedy in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These three strands of Lenten observance are as ancient as Christianity itself. Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. If we have not all three together, we have nothing' says St Peter Chrysologus.*

**Feb 7 Thursday: After Ash Wednesday**

**St Mel, bishop**, optional memorial

1st Reading Dt 30: 15-20

Response Psalm Ps 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6

Gospel Lk 9: 22-25

**Feb 8 Friday: After Ash Wednesday**

**St Jerome Emiliani and St Josephine Bakhita, virgin**, optional

memorial

1st Reading Is 58: 1-9a

Response Psalm Ps 51: 3-4. 5-6ab

Gospel Mt 9: 14-15

**Feb 9 Saturday After Ash Wednesday**

1st Reading Is 58: 9b-14

Response Psalm Ps 85

Gospel Lk 5: 27-32

***Feb 10 SUN: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT***

*The Rite of Election of Catechumens is celebrated today*

1st Reading Gn 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7

Response Psalm Ps 50: 3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 17

2nd Reading Acts Rom 5: 12-19 or 5: 12. 17-19

Gospel Mt 4: 1-11

*The Church has in mind the catechumens throughout the world who set out today on their great preparation for the Easter Vigil when they will become Christians. The faithful, who are already baptised, are the concern of the Church too. They must be awakened once more to the meaning of being in Christ. The faithful join with the catechumens in the struggle against the powers of darkness, confident that where sin abounded, grace abounds still more.*

**11 February: 6th WORLD DAY OF THE SICK**

*In 1992 Pope John Paul II instituted the World Day of the Sick to be held each year on the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes.*

*'On the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes, whose shrine at the foot of the Pyrenees has become a temple of human suffering, we approach - as she did on Calvary, where the cross of her Son rose up - the crosses of pain and solitude of so many brothers and sisters to bring them comfort, to share their suffering and present it to the Lord of life, in spiritual communion with the whole Church.*

*May the Blessed Virgin, "Health of the Sick" and "Mother of the Living", be our support and our hope and, through the celebration of the Day of the Sick, increase our sensitivity and dedication to those being tested, along with the trusting expectation of the luminous day of our salvation, when every tear will be dried forever (d. /s 25:8). May it be granted to us to enjoy the first fruits of that day from now on in the superabundant joy - though in the midst of all tribulations cf. 2 Cor 7:4) - promised by Christ which no one can take from us (In 16:22).' Message of Pope John Paul II for 1 st World Day of the Sick, 1993*

**Feb 11 Monday: Week 1 of Lent**

**Our Lady of Lourdes**, optional memorial

**St Gobnait**, optional memorial

1st Reading Lv 19: 1-2. 11-18

Response Psalm Ps 18: 8-10.15

Gospel Mt 25: 31-46

**Feb 12 Tuesday: Week 1 of Lent**

1st Reading Is 55: 10-11

Response Psalm Ps 33: 4-7.16-19

Gospel Mt 6: 7-15

**Feb 13 Wednesday: Week 1 of Lent**

1st Reading Jon 3: 1-10

Response Psalm Ps 50

Gospel Lk 11: 29-32

**Feb 14 Thursday: Ss Cyril, monk and Methodius, bishop, and Patrons of Europe**

1st Reading Acts 13:46-49

Response Psalm Ps 116

Gospel Lk 10:1-9

**Feb 15 Friday: Week 1 of Lent**

1st Reading Ezek 18: 21-28

Response Psalm Ps 129: 1-4. 5-8

Gospel Mt 5: 20-26

**Feb 16 Saturday: Week 1 of Lent**

1st Reading Dt 26: 16-19

Response Psalm Ps 118

Gospel Mt 5: 43-48

**Feb 17: SUN SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

1st Reading Gn 12: 1-4a

Response Psalm Ps 32: 4-5. 18-19. 20. 22

2nd Reading Acts 2 Tm 1: 8b-10

Gospel Mt 17: 1-9

**St Fintan, abbot, Seven Founders of the Order of Servites, religious** are not celebrated this year.

*Through his Cross Christ entered into his glory. We are already at this point in Lent at the heart of the Paschal mystery. The catechumens, having been shown the struggle needed, are pointed towards their own exodus. The disciples on the mountaintop, seeing Jesus transfigured, are encouraged for the days when they meet the cross. We are all called to holiness. If we respond as did Abraham and Jesus, then we will come to a glorious transfiguration.*

**Feb 18 Monday: Week 2 of Lent**

1st Reading Dn 9: 4b-10

Response Psalm Ps 78

Gospel Lk 6: 36-38

**Feb 19 Tuesday: Week 2 of Lent**

1st Reading Is 1: 10. 16-20

Response Psalm Ps 49

Gospel Mt 23: 1-12

**Feb 20 Wednesday: Week 2 of Lent**

1st Reading Jer 18: 18-20

Response Psalm Ps 30

Gospel Mt 20: 17-28

**Feb 21 Thursday: Week 2 of Lent**

**St Peter Damian, bishop and doctor of the church**, optional memorial

1st Reading Jer 17: 5-10

Response Psalm Ps 1

Gospel Lk 16: 19-31

**Feb 22 Friday: The Chair of St Peter, Apostle**

1st Reading 1 Pt 5: 1-4

Response Psalm Ps 22: 1-3a. 4. 5. 6

Gospel Mt 16: 13-19

**Feb 23 Saturday: Week 2 of Lent**

**St Polycarp, bishop and martyr**, optional memorial

1st Reading Mic 7: 14-15. 18-20

Response Psalm Ps 102

Gospel Lk 15: 1-3. 11-32

**Feb 24 SUN: *THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT.***

*The First Scrutiny is celebrated today*

1st Reading Ex 17: 3-7

Response Psalm Ps 94: 1-2. 6-7. 8-9

2nd Reading Rom 5: 1-2. 5-8

Gospel Jn 4: 5-42

*The catechumens and the baptised Christians are together on this Lenten pilgrimage. Christ offers the water of life to all who thirst. Today occurs the first scrutiny or exorcism for the catechumens. By it they are being prepared to accept the Spirit. Through that Spirit the gift of love is poured into our hearts, a gift bought for us by the blood of Christ. The prayer that they grow in wisdom and love echoes the readings, and must still be the prayer of all Christians.*

*Optional readings for any one day this week: Ex 17: 1-7/ Ps 94: 1-2. 6-7ab. 7c-9/ Jn 4: 5-42*

**Feb 25 Monday: Week 3 of Lent**

1st Reading 2 Kgs 5: 1-15b

Response Psalm Ps 41

Gospel Lk 4: 24-30.

**Feb 26 Tuesday: Week 3 of Lent**

1st Reading Dan 3: 25. 34-43

Response Psalm Ps 24

Gospel Mt 18: 21-35

**Feb 27 Wednesday: Week 3 of Lent**

1st Reading Deut 4:1. 5-9

Response Psalm Ps 147

Gospel Mt 5: 17-19

**Feb 28 Thursday: Week 3 of Lent**

1st Reading Jer 7: 23-28

Response Psalm Ps 94

Gospel Lk 11: 14-23

**Feb 29 Friday: Week 3 of Lent.**

1st Reading Hos 14: 2-10

Response Psalm Ps 80

Gospel Mk 12: 28-34

***THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MARCH 2008***

***General:*** *That the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation between individuals and peoples may be understood and that through her testimony the Church may spread Christ's love, the source of new humanity.*

***Mission:*** *That Christians persecuted because of the Gospel in various parts of the world and in various manners may be sustained by the strength of the Holy Spirit and continue to bear witness courageously and openly to the Word of God.*

**Mar 1 Saturday: Week 3 of Lent.**

**St David, bishop**, optional memorial

1st Reading Hos 6: 1-6

Response Psalm Ps 50: 3-4. 18-19. 20-21ab

Gospel Lk 18: 9-14

**Mar 2 SUN: *FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT.***

*(Second Scrutiny of the Elect is celebrated today)*

1st Reading 1 Sam 16: 1b. 6-7. 10-13a

Response Psalm Ps 22: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6 (1)

2nd Reading Acts Eph 5: 8-14

Gospel Jn 9: 1-41

*The experience of the man born helps our understanding of baptism. 'You went, you washed, you came to the altar, you began to see what you had not seen before. In short, your eyes were opened in the fountain of the lord and by the preaching of the lord's*

*Passion. You seemed previously to be blind of heart: now you began to see the light.' So spoke St Ambrose to the recently baptised, recalling that experience to them.  
(Optional readings for any day this week: Mi 7: 7-9/ Ps 26: 1. 7-8a. 8b-9abc. 13-14/ Jn 9: 1-41 )*

**Mar 3 Monday: Week 4 of Lent**

1st Reading Is 65: 17-21

Response Psalm Ps 29

Gospel Jn 9:1-41

**Mar 4 Tuesday: Week 4 of Lent**

**St Casimir**, optional memorial

1st Reading Ez 47: 1-9. 12

Response Psalm Ps 45

Gospel Jn 5: 1-16.

**Mar 5 Wednesday: Week 4 of Lent**

**St Kieran**, optional memorial

1st Reading Is 49: 8-15

Response Psalm Ps 144

Gospel Jn 5: 17-30

**Mar 6 Thursday: Week 4 of Lent**

1st Reading Ex 32: 7-14

Response Psalm Ps 105

Gospel Jn 5: 31-47

**Mar 7 Friday: Week 4 of Lent**

**Ss Perpetua and Felicity**, optional memorial

1st Reading Wis 2: 1. 12-22

Response Psalm Ps 33

Gospel Jn 7: 1-2. 10. 25-30

**Mar 8 Saturday: Week 7 in Ordinary time**

**St Senan, bishop**, St John of God, religious, optional memorial

1st Reading Jer 11: 18-20

Response Psalm Ps 7

Gospel Jn 7: 40-53

**Mar 9 SUN: *FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT.***

*The Third Scrutiny is celebrated today*

1st Reading Ez 37: 12-14

Response Psalm Ps 139: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8

2nd Reading Rom 8: 8-11

Gospel Jn 11: 1-45

*Lazarus' resurrection is a figure and type of Jesus' resurrection, and of our resurrection*

*first to divine life in Baptism and to our definitive resurrection at the end of time: The gospel is a call to a deeper faith in the Spirit living in us, giving life to our mortal bodies. The catechumens are presented with the Creed In the third week of lent and the lord's Prayer in the coming week after the third scrutiny. Growth in faith means a deeper love for these two expressions of our way of life.*

*(Optional readings for any day this week: 2 Kgs 4:18-21,32-37., Ps 16:22, Jn 8:1-11)*

**Mar 10 Monday: Week 5 of Lent**

1st Reading Dan 13: 1-9. 15-17. 19-30. 33-62 or 13: 41c-62

Response Psalm Ps 22: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6

Gospel Jn 8: 1-11

**Mar 11 Tuesday: Week 5 of Lent**

**St Aengus**, bishop and abbot

1st Reading Nm 21: 4-9

Response Psalm Ps 101

Gospel Jn 8: 21-30

**Mar 12 Wednesday: Week 5 of Lent**

1st Reading Dn 3: 14-20. 24-25, 28

Response Psalm Ps: Dn 3: 52-56

Gospel Jn 8: 31-42

**Mar 13 Thursday: Week 5 of Lent**

1st Reading Gn 17: 3-9

Response Psalm Ps 104

Gospel Jn 8: 51-59

**Mar 14 Friday: St Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

1st Reading 2 Sam 7:4-5, 12-14, 16.

Response Psalm Ps 88

2nd Reading Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22

Gospel Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24 or Lk 2:41-51

***Mar 15 Saturday: St PATRICK, bishop, Patron of Ireland***

1st Reading: Jer 1:4-9

Response Psalm: Ps 116

2nd Reading: Acts 13:14-19

Gospel: Lk 10:1-12, 17-20

March 16-18 Holy Week

*During Holy Week the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, beginning with his messianic entrance into Jerusalem. The Lenten season lasts until the Thursday of this week.*

*Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion*

*Holy Week begins on this Sunday, which joins the foretelling of Christ's regal triumph and the proclamation of the Passion. The connection between both aspects of the paschal*

*mystery should be shown and explained in the celebration and catechesis of this day. The commemoration of the entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem is celebrated with a solemn procession which may take place only once, before the Mass which has the largest attendance, even if this should be the evening of Saturday or Sunday. In this procession the faithful carry palm or other branches. The priest and the ministers, also carrying branches, precede the people. The palms or branches are blessed so that they can be carried in the procession. The palms should be taken home, where they will serve as a reminder of the victory of Christ which they celebrated in the procession. Pastors should make every effort to ensure that this procession in honour of Christ the King be so prepared and celebrated that it is of great spiritual significance in the life of the faithful.*

**Mar 16 SUN: *PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION***

Procession Reading: Mt 21:1-11.

Mass 1st Reading: Is 50: 4-7

Response Psalm: Ps 21

2nd Reading: Phil 2: 6-11

Gospel: Mt 16: 14-27, 66

**Mar 17 Monday of Holy Week**

1st Reading Is 42: 1-7

Response Psalm Ps 26

Gospel Jn 12: 1-11.

Mar 18 Tuesday of Holy Week

**St Cyril of Jerusalem** is not celebrated this year

1st Reading Is 49: 1-6

Response Psalm Ps 70

Gospel Jn 13: 21-33. 36-38

**Mar 19 Wednesday of Holy Week**

1st Reading Is 50: 4-9

Response Psalm Ps 68

Gospel Mt 26: 14-25

**Mar 20 Thursday morning of Holy Week - Chrism Mass:**

1st Reading: Is 61: 1-3. 6a. 8-9

Response Psalm: Ps 88

2nd Reading: Rv 1: 5-8

Gospel: Lk 4: 16-21

***EASTER TRIDUUM***

*The Fathers of the Church saw this celebration as a unitive commemoration: St Augustine spoke of 'the most holy triduum of the crucified, buried and risen lord'. Over Friday, Saturday, and Sunday we celebrate a single, indivisible mystery. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the lord's Supper, reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday (GNLY, 18-19). Christ redeemed us all and gave perfect glory to God principally through his paschal*

*mystery: dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life. Therefore the Easter Triduum of the passion and resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the entire liturgical year. Thus the solemnity of Easter has the same kind of pre-eminence in the liturgical year that Sunday has in the week.*

*The celebration of the paschal mystery is not simply a recalling of past events in history. It is a sacramental celebration that renders present and actualises the saving power of Christ's death and resurrection to the Church.*

**Holy Thursday's Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:**

1st Reading: Ex 12: 1-8. 11-14

Response Psalm: Ps 115

2nd Reading: 1Cor 11:23-26

Gospel: Jn 13: 1-15

*The scripture readings this evening direct our minds at the opening of the great Paschal celebration to the meaning of what we celebrate. We are entering into this mystery in such a way that when we break bread and share the cup this evening we once more proclaim the death of the lord.*

**Mar 20 Good Friday.**

*(Day of fast and abstinence)*

Celebration of the Lord's Passion:

1st Reading: Is 52: 13-53: 12

Response Psalm: Ps 30

2nd Reading: Heb 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9

Gospel: Jn 18: 1-19: 42

*In 18:1-19:42. St John's account of the Passion is more reflective and theological. He emphasises Jesus' obedience to the Father's will. The kingship of Jesus is asserted: the crucifixion is a victory, the hour of death is also the hour of triumph, 'Christ gives his life, he is "lifted up" on the cross, but willingly, and only in order to enter into his glory, a glory that is made visible even in this world to the confusion of unbelievers and ending in the defeat of Satan once and for all.' (New Jerusalem Bible)*

**Mar 21 Holy Saturday**

'Let the Pascal Fast be kept sacred, Let it be observed everywhere on Good Friday and where possible, prolonged throughout Holy Saturday, as a way of coming to the joys of the Sunday of the resurrection with uplifted and welcoming heart' Sacrosanctum concilium 110

**EASTER SEASON**

*A Fifty Day Celebration*

*The celebration of Easter is prolonged throughout the Easter season. The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated as one feast day, the Great Sunday.*

*Mar 22 VIGIL of the THE LORD'S RESURRECTION*

*This is the night when the Church keeps vigil, waiting for the resurrection of the Lord and celebrates the sacraments of Christian Initiation.*

*The Passover Vigil, in which the Hebrews kept watch for the Lord's Passover which was to free them from slavery to Pharaoh, prefigured the true Pasch of Christ that was to come. For the resurrection of Christ in which he 'broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave', is the foundation of our faith and hope, and through Baptism and Confirmation we are inserted into the Paschal mystery of Christ, dying, buried, and raised with him, and with him we shall also reign.  
The full meaning of this Vigil is a waiting for the coming of the Lord.*

**Vigil Readings:**

Gn 1: 1-2: 2 or 1: 1. 26-31 with Ps 103 or Ps 32  
Gn 22: 1-18 or 22: 1-2. 9a. 10-13. 15-18 with Ps 15  
Ex 14: 15 - 15: 1 with Ps: Ex 15: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 17-18  
Is 54: 5-14 with Ps 29:  
Is 55: 1-11 with Ps: Is 12: 2-3. 4. 5-6  
Bar 3: 9-15. 32-4: 4 with Ps 18  
Ez 36: 16-17a. 18-28 with Ps 41 or Ps 50  
Rom 6: 3-11 with Ps 117  
Lk 24: 1-12

***Mar 23 EASTER DAY OF - THE LORD'S RESURRECTION***

1st Reading: Acts 10: 34. 37-43  
Response Psalm: Ps 117  
2nd Reading: Col 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor 5: 6-8  
Gospel: Jn 20: 1-9,  
optional Gospel choice for the Day Mass: Mk 16:1-7  
optional Gospel choice for an Evening Mass: Lk 24: 13-35  
St Turibius of Mongrovejo is not celebrated this year  
*The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him (CCC 1169).*

**Mar 24 Monday: Easter Monday**

1st Reading Acts 2: 14. 22-33  
Response Psalm Ps 15  
Gospel Mt 28: 8-15  
St Macartan, bishop is not celebrated this year

**Mar 25 Tuesday: Easter Tuesday**

1st Reading Acts 2: 36-41  
Response Psalm Ps 32  
Gospel Jn 20: 11-18

**Mar 26 Wednesday: Easter Wednesday**

1st Reading Acts 3: 1-10  
Response Psalm Ps 104  
Gospel Lk 24: 13-35

**Mar 27 Thursday: Easter Thursday**

1st Reading Acts 3: 11-26

Response Psalm Ps 8

Gospel Lk 24: 35-48

**Mar 28 Friday: Easter Friday**

1st Reading Acts 4: 1-12

Response Psalm Ps 117

Gospel Jn 21: 1-14

**Mar 29 Saturday: Easter Saturday**

1st Reading Acts 4: 13-21

Response Psalm Ps 117

Gospel Mk 16: 9-15

**Mar 30 SUN *SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER***

1st Reading: Acts 2: 42-47

Response Psalm: Ps 117

2nd Reading: 1 Pt 1: 3-9

Gospel: Jn 20: 19-31

*The struggle for faith experienced by Thomas leads us to think on the meaning of faith in the risen Christ. We cannot depend on physical experience of Christ but know his presence in gathered community, in the hearing of the word and in sacramental signs. So the Christian community is a thankful one, always blessing God for a sure hope through the resurrection of Christ.*

**Mar 31 Monday: *Annunciation of the Lord***

1st Reading Is 7: 10-14; 8: 10

Response Psalm Ps 40: 7-8a. 8b-9. 10. 11

2nd Reading Heb 10: 4-10/

Gospel Lk 1: 26-38

*The Annunciatio of the Lord. 'Giving her consent to God's word, Mary becomes the mother of Jesus. Espousing the divine will for salvation wholeheartedly, without a single sin to restrain her, she gave herself entirely to the person and to the work of her Son; she did so in order to serve the mystery of redemption with him and dependant on him, by God's grace' (CCC, 4941).*

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR APRIL 2008

**General:** That even in difficult and complex situations of present-day society, Christians may never tire of proclaiming with their lives Christ's resurrection, the source of hope and peace.

**Mission:** That future priests in young Churches may be ever more seriously formed culturally and spiritually in order to evangelise their respective countries and the whole world.

**Apr 1 Tuesday: Week 2 of Easter**

**St Ceallach (Celsus), bishop**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 4: 32-37

Response Psalm Ps 91

Gospel Jn 3: 7-15

**Apr 2 Wednesday: Week 2 of Easter**

**St Francis of Paola, hermit**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 5: 17-26

Response Psalm Ps 33

Gospel Jn 3: 16-21

**Apr 3 Thursday: Week 2 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 5: 27-33

Response Psalm Ps 33

Gospel Jn 3: 31-36

**Apr 4 Friday: Week 2 of Easter**

**St Isadore, bishop and doctor of the church**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 5: 34-42

Response Psalm Ps 26

Gospel Jn 6: 1-15

**Apr 5 Saturday: Week 2 of Easter**

**St Vincent Ferrer, priest**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 6: 1-7

Response Psalm Ps 32

Gospel Jn 6: 16-21

**Apr 6 SUN: *THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER***

1st Reading Acts 2: 14. 22-33

Response Psalm Ps 15: 1-2. 5. 7-8. 9-10. 11 (11a)

2nd Reading 1 Pt 1: 17-21

Gospel Lk 24: 13-35

*The Gospel story contains a wealth of teaching on the meaning of the Eucharist as a celebration of the presence of the Risen lord. Christ takes, blesses, breaks and gives the bread to his disciples and is known to them in the action. It is in the context of two or three gathered in his name that they come to faith. It is he who opens their minds and hearts explaining their doubts in the light of Sacred Scripture. And it is on the first day of the week, the Lord's Day, that the Lord of Days walks with them in the cool of the evening.*

**Apr 7 Monday: Week 3 of Easter**

**St John Baptist de la Salle, priest**, memorial

1st Reading Acts 6: 8-15

Response Psalm Ps 118  
Gospel Jn 6: 22-29

**Apr 8 Tuesday: Week 3 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 7: 51-8: 1  
Response Psalm Ps 30  
Gospel Jn 6: 30-35

**Apr 9 Wednesday: Week 3 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 8: 1b-8  
Response Psalm Ps 65: 1-3a. 4-5. 6-7a  
Gospel Jn 6: 35-40

**Apr 10 Thursday: Week 3 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 8: 26-40  
Response Psalm Ps 65  
Gospel Jn 6: 44-51

**Apr 11 Friday: Week 3 of Easter**

**St Stanislaus, bishop and martyr, optional memorial**

1st Reading Acts 9: 1-20  
Response Psalm Ps 116  
Gospel Jn 6: 52-59

**Apr 12 Saturday: Week 3 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 9: 31-42  
Response Psalm Ps 115  
Gospel Jn 6: 60-69

**13 April:**

***DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS***

*The priesthood is a calling or a life, not simply one occupation among many that a man might choose. This means that the priest has been called by God and given the gift of God, that is, the grace to accomplish his work. 'Fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands ... [God] has saved us and called us to a holy life - not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace' (2 Tim 7 :6, 9). The calling is holy, high (Phil 3: 14), heavenly (Heb 3: 1), and therefore, the response to this calling and the acceptance of it and the ways of carrying it out are different from the choice and fulfillment of any other occupation.*

***Vocations Sunday**, a day of prayer for vocation to the priesthood and religious life, is also an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of vocation: who we are, what we do (our state in life - single, married, ordained, consecrated); how we live (life style); to help people recognise that they are called, and to encourage them to respond in their calls; and to help people be better able to 'choose to be chosen'.*

**Apr 13 SUN *FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER***

*Day for Prayer or Vocations*

1st Reading Acts 2: 14a. 36-41  
Response Psalm Ps 22: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6 (1)  
2nd Reading 1 Pt 2: 20b-25  
Gospel Jn 10: 1-10

*This is Good Shepherd Sunday, a day of special prayer for vocations to the work of service in the Church. There is the enduring command of Christ to his Church to go out and preach to all people. There is need for people of faith to respond to that command, people who are prepared to dedicate their lives to this work for the sake of the gospel.*

**Apr 14 Monday: Week 4 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 11: 1-18  
Response Psalm Ps 41  
Gospel Jn 10: 11-18

**Apr 15 Tuesday: Week 4 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 11: 19-26  
Response Psalm Ps 86  
Gospel Jn 10: 22-30.

**Apr 16 Wednesday: Week 4 of Easter**

**St Bernadette Soubirous**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 12: 24-13: 5  
Response Psalm Ps 66  
Gospel Jn 12: 44-50

**Apr 17 Thursday: Week 4 of Easter**

1st Reading 1 Cor 15: 1-8  
Response Psalm Acts 13: 26-33  
Gospel Ps 18: 2-5 Jn 14: 6-14

**Apr 18 Friday: Week 4 of Easter**

**St Laserian, bishop**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 13: 26-33  
Response Psalm Ps 2  
Gospel Jn 14: 1-6

**Apr 19 Saturday: Week 4 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 13: 44-52  
Response Psalm Ps 97  
Gospel Jn 14: 7-14

**Apr 20 SUN FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

1st Reading Acts 6: 1-7  
Response Psalm Ps 32: 1-2. 4-5. 18-19 (22)  
2nd Reading 1 Pt 2: 4-9  
Gospel Jn 14: 1-12

*No one can come to the Father except through Christ. The Church must work so that all peoples may come to the Father. Working together in love, all God's people can build up the kingdom in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our high priest.*

**April 21 Monday: Week 5 of Easter**

**St Anselm, bishop and doctor of the Church**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 14: 5-18

Response Psalm Ps 113b

Gospel Jn 14: 21-26

**Apr 22 Tuesday: Week 5 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 14: 19-28

Response Psalm Ps 144

Gospel Jn 14: 27-31a

**Apr 23 Wednesday: Week 5 of Easter**

**St George, martyr, and St Adalbert of Prague, bishop and martyr**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 15: 1-6

Response Psalm Ps 121

Gospel Jn 15: 1-8

**Apr 24 Thursday: Week 5 of Easter**

**St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest and martyr**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 15: 7-21

Response Psalm Ps 95

Gospel Jn 15: 9-11

**Apr 25 Friday: St Mark, evangelist**

1st Reading 1 Pt 5: 5b-14

Response Psalm Ps 88: 2-3. 6-7. 16-17

Gospel Mk 16: 15-20

**Apr 26 Saturday: Week 5 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 16: 1-10

Response Psalm Ps 99

Gospel Jn 15: 18-21

**Apr 27 SUN *SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER***

**St Asicus, bishop** is not celebrated this year

1st Reading Acts 8: 5-8. 14-17

Response Psalm Ps 66: 1-3. 4-5. 6-7. 16. 20

2nd Reading 1 Pt 3: 15-18

Gospel Jn 14: 15-21

*Through Baptism and Confirmation we have been given the Holy Spirit, who gave Christ the Victory over the world. This Advocate is our support in the difficulties of life. The Spirit of truth convinces us of the meaning and value of the Christian way.*

*(The second reading and Gospel of the Seventh Sunday of Easter may be used with the first reading and psalm of the Sixth Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17. Ps 65. Lect 1:534. 1 Pet 4: 13-16. In 17: 1-11. Lect 1:568)*

**Apr 28 Monday: Week 6 of Easter**

**St Peter Chanel, priest and martyr** optional memorial

**St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort**, priest optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 16: 11-15

Response Psalm Ps 149: 1b-2. 3-4. 5-6a and 9b

Gospel Jn 15: 26 -- 16: 4a

**April 29 Tuesday: St Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor of the church, Patron of Europe**

1st Reading 1 Jn 1:5-2:2

Response Psalm Ps 102

Gospel Mt 11:25-30

**April 30 Wednesday: Week 6 of Easter**

**St Pius V, pope** optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 17: 15. 22-18: 1

Response Psalm Ps 148

Gospel Jn 16: 12-15

***THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR MAY 2008***

***General:*** That Christians may use literature, art and the media to greater advantage to favour a culture which defends and promotes the values of the human person.

***Mission:*** That just as she accompanied the Apostles in the early stages of the Church, may the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of Evangelisation and Queen of Apostles, continue to guide missionaries throughout the world with maternal affection.

**MAY, MONTH OF MARY**

*'... since the month of May largely corresponds with the fifty days of Easter, the pious exercises practised at this time could emphasise Our lady's participation in the Paschal mystery (cf. John 19, 25-27), and the Pentecost event (cf. Acts 1, 14) with which the Church begins: Our lady journeys with the Church having shared in the novum of the Resurrection, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The fifty days are also a time for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian initiation and of the mystagogy. The pious exercises connected with the month of May could easily highlight the earthly role played by the glorified Queen of Heaven, here and now, in the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.'*

*(Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy, principles and guidelines, 191.)*

**May 1 Thursday: Week 6 of Easter**

**St Joseph the Worker**, optional memorial

1st Reading Acts 18: 1-8  
Response Psalm Ps 97  
Gospel Jn 16: 16-20

**May 2 Friday: Week 6 of Easter**

**St Athanasius, bishop and doctor** of the church  
1st Reading Acts 18: 9-18  
Response Psalm Ps 46  
Gospel Jn 16: 20-23

**May 3 Saturday: Ss Philip and James, Apostles**

1st Reading 1 Cor 15: 1-8  
Response Psalm Ps 18: 2-3. 4-5  
Gospel Jn 14: 6-14

**May 4 SUN: ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

*World Communication Day*

1st Reading: Acts 1: 1-11  
Response Psalm: Ps 46  
2nd Reading: Eph 1:17-23  
Gospel: Mt 28:16-20

**St Conleth**, bishop is not celebrated this year

*'The Ascension of Christ means our own salvation as well; where the glorious Head has gone before, the body is called to follow in hope. Let us therefore exult, beloved, as is fitting, and let us rejoice in devout thanksgiving. For on this day not only have we been confirmed in our possession of paradise, but we have even entered heaven in the person of Christ; through his grace we have regained far more than we had lost through the devil's hatred' (St Leo 'the Great, Sermon 73:4).*

**May 5 Monday: Week 7 of Easter**

**Bl Edmund Rice**, religious optional memorial  
1st Reading Acts 19: 1-8  
Response Psalm Ps 67  
Gospel Jn 16: 29-33

**May 6 Tuesday: Week 7 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 20: 17-27  
Response Psalm Ps 67  
Gospel Jn 17: 1-11

**May 7 Wednesday: Week 7 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 20: 28-38  
Response Psalm Ps 67  
Gospel Jn 17: 11b-19

**May 8 Thursday: Week 7 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 22:30, 23: 6-11  
Response Psalm Ps 15  
Gospel Jn 17: 20-26

**May 9 Friday: Week 7 of Easter**

1st Reading Acts 25: 13-21  
Response Psalm Ps 102  
Gospel Jn 21: 15-19

**May 10 Saturday: Week 7 of Easter**

**St Comgall, abbot** optional memorial  
1st Reading Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31  
Response Psalm Ps 10  
Gospel Jn 21: 20-25

**May 11 SUN *PENTECOST SUNDAY***

1st Reading: Acts 2: 1-11  
Response Psalm: Ps 103  
2nd Reading: 1 Cor 12: 3-7. 12-13  
Gospel: Jn 20: 19-23

*'The Church was made manifest to the world on the day of Pentecost by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The gift of the Spirit ushers in a new era in the dispensation of the mystery - the age of the Church, during which Christ manifests, makes present and communicates his work of salvation through the liturgy of his Church "until he comes"' (CCC, 1 076).*

*The fifty days of Easter conclude with the celebration of Pentecost*

**May 12 Monday: Week 6 in Ordinary time**

**Ss Nereus and Achilles, also Pancras, martyrs,** optional memorials  
1st Reading Jas 1: 1-11  
Response Psalm Ps 118: 67. 68. 71. 72. 75. 76  
Gospel Mk 8: 11-13

**May 13 Tuesday: Week 6 in Ordinary time**

**Our Lady of Fatima,** optional memorial  
1st Reading Jas 1: 12-18  
Response Psalm Ps 93: 12-13a. 14-15. 18-19  
Gospel Mk 8: 14-21

**May 14 Wednesday: St Mathias, Apostle**

1st Reading Acts 1: 15-17. 20-26  
Response Psalm Ps 112: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8  
Gospel Jn 15: 9-17

**May 15 Thursday: Week 6 in Ordinary time**

**St Cartage, bishop** optional memorial

1st Reading Jas 2: 1-9  
Response Psalm Ps 33: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7  
Gospel Mk 8: 27-33

**May 16 Friday: Week 6 in Ordinary time**

**St Brendan, abbot** optional memorial

1st Reading Jas 2: 14-24  
Response Psalm Ps 111: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6  
Gospel Mk 8: 34 – 9: 1

**May 17 Saturday: Week 6 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Jas 3: 1-10  
Response Psalm Ps 11: 2-3. 4-5. 7-8  
Gospel Mk 9: 2-13

**May 18 SUN *THE MOST HOLY TRINITY***

1st Reading Ex 34: 4b-6. 8-9  
Response Psalm Dn 3: 52. 53. 54. 55. 56 (52b)/  
2nd Reading 2 Cor 13: 11-13  
Gospel Jn 3: 16-18

St John I, pope and martyr is not celebrated this year

*The relationships in the Trinity are relationships of love. The reflection on this mystery today is not in terms of philosophy but of Christian living. The unity and harmony of the life in the Trinity is to be the aim of each community. Where love is, there God is. God's revelation of this inner life is for our salvation - a gift given in love. Our response can only be one of glory and praise.*

**May 19 Monday: Week 7 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Jas 3: 13-18  
Response Psalm Ps 18: 8. 9. 10. 15  
Gospel Mk 9: 14-29

**May 20 Tuesday: Week 7 in Ordinary time**

**St Bernadine of Sienna**, priest optional memorial

1st Reading Jas 4: 1-10  
Response Psalm Ps 54: 7-8. 9-10a. 10b-11a. 23  
Gospel Mk 9: 30-37

**May 21 Wednesday: Week 7 in Ordinary time**

**Ss Christopher Magalles, priest and companions** optional memorial

1st Reading Jas 4: 1-17  
Response Psalm Ps 48: 2-3. 6-7. 8-10. 11  
Gospel Mk 9: 38-40

**May 22 Thursday: Week 7 in Ordinary time**

**St Rita of Cascia, religious** optional memorial

1st Reading Jas 5: 1-6

Response Psalm Ps 48: 14-15ab. 15cd-16. 17-18. 19-20

Gospel Mk 9: 41-50

**May 23 Friday: Week 7 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Jas 5: 9-12

Response Psalm Ps 102: 1-2. 3-4. 8-9. 11-12

Gospel Mk 10: 1-12

**May 24 Saturday: Week 7 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Jas 5: 13-20

Response Psalm Ps 140: 1-2. 3 and 8

Gospel Mk 10: 13-16

***May 25 SUN THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST***

1st Reading Dt 8: 2-3. 14b-16a

Response Psalm Ps 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20 (12)/

2nd Reading 1 Cor 10: 16-17

Gospel Jn. 6:51-58

**St Bede the venerable**, priest and doctor of the Church, **St Gregory VII**, pope and **St Mary Magdalene de' Paddi**, virgin are not celebrated this year

*'From this feast of Corpus Christi originated many practices of Eucharistic devotion that, under the inspiration of divine grace, have increased from day to day and that the Catholic Church uses eagerly to show ever greater homage to Christ, to thank him for so great a gift and to implore his mercy' (Pope Paul VI).*

**May 26 Monday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Pt 1: 3-9

Response Psalm Ps 110: 1-2. 5-6. 9 and 10c

Gospel Mk 10: 17-27

**May 27 Tuesday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

**St Augustine of Canterbury**, bishop optional memorial

1st Reading 1 Pt 1: 10-16

Response Psalm Ps 97: 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4

Gospel Mk 10: 28-31

**May 28 Wednesday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Pt 1: 18-25

Response Psalm Ps 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20

Gospel Mk 10: 32-45

**May 29 Thursday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Pt 2: 2-5. 9-12

Response Psalm Ps 99: 2. 3. 4. 5

Gospel Mk 10: 46-52

**May 30 Friday: The Sacred Heart of Jesus**

1st Reading Dt 7: 6-11

Response Psalm Ps 102: 1-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8. 10

Gospel Mt 11: 25-

**May 31 Saturday The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

1st Reading Zep 3: 14-18a or Rom 12: 9-16

Response Psalm Is 12: 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6

Gospel Lk 1: 39-56

*The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary is not celebrated this year*

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JUNE 2008**

**General:** That Christians may cultivate a deep and personal friendship with Christ so they are able to communicate the strength of his love to those they encounter.

**Mission:** That the International Eucharistic Congress in Quebec, Canada, may lead to ever deeper understanding of the Eucharist, the heart of the Church and source of evangelisation.

**Jun 1 SUN: NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading Dt 11: 18. 26-28. 32

Response Psalm Ps 30: 2-3. 3-4. 17. 25 (3b)

2nd Reading Rom 3: 21-25. 28

Gospel Mt 7: 21- 27

*Who will enter the kingdom of heaven? The person who does God's will. Such a person will listen to God's word and then, like the sensible person who builds his house on rock, this will be seen deeds and not only words, in action and not simply theory.*

**Jun 2 Monday: Week 9 in Ordinary time**

**Ss Marcellinus and Peter, martyrs** optional memorial

1st Reading 2 Pt 1: 2-7

Response Psalm Ps 90: 1-2. 14-15b. 15c-16

Gospel Mk 12: 1-12

**Jun 3 Tuesday: Week 9 in Ordinary time**

**St Kevin, abbot**, memorial

1st Reading 2 Pt 3: 12-15a. 17-18

Response Psalm Ps 89: 2. 3-4. 10. 14 and 16

Gospel Mk 12: 13-17

**Jun 4 Wednesday: Week 9 in Ordinary time**

**St Charles Lwanga & companions**, martyrs, optional memorial

1st Reading 2 Tm 1: 1-3. 6-12

Response Psalm Ps 122: 1b-2  
Gospel Mk 12: 18-27

**Jun 5 Thursday: Week 9 in Ordinary time**

**St Boniface, bishop and martyr** optional memorial

1st Reading 2 Tm 1: 1-3. 6-12

Response Psalm Ps 24: 1b-2ab. 2cdef

Gospel Mk 12: 18-27

Jun 6 Friday: Week 9 in Ordinary time

**Ss Norbert and Jarlath, bishops**, optional memorial

1st Reading 2 Tm 3: 10-17

Response Psalm Ps 118

Gospel Mk 12: 35-37

Jun 7 Saturday: Week 9 in Ordinary time/ BVM

**St Colman, bishop**, optional memorial

1st Reading 2 Tm 4: 1-8

Response Psalm Ps 70: 8-9. 14-15ab. 16-17. 22

Gospel Mk 12: 38-44

***Jun 8 SUN TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading Hos 6: 3-6

Response Psalm Ps 49: 1. 8. 12-13. 14-15 (23b)

2nd Reading Rom 4: 18-25

Gospel Mt 9: 9-13

*Our Sunday celebration of Mass must be genuine, it must be the expression of our spiritual sacrifice. Jesus recalls the words of Hosea: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' The only perfect sacrifice is the one that Christ offered on the cross as a total offering to the Father's love and for our salvation. By uniting ourselves with his sacrifice we can make our lives a sacrifice to God.*

**Jun 9 Monday: St Columba,(Colum Cille), abbot, missionary and Secondary Patron of Ireland**

1st Reading Col 1:24-29

Response Psalm Ps 15

Gospel Mk 10: 9-9-13

**Jun 10 Tuesday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Kgs 17: 7-16

Response Psalm Ps 4

Gospel Mt 5: 113-16

**Jun 11 Wednesday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

**St Barnabas, apostle** memorial

1st Reading Acts 11: 21b-26; 13: 1-3

Response Psalm Ps 97: 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4. 5-6  
Gospel Mt 5: 17-

**Jun 12 Thursday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Kgs 18: 41-46  
Response Psalm Ps 64: 10. 11. 12-13  
Gospel Mt 5: 20-26

**Jun 13 Friday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

**St Anthony of Padua, priest and doctor of the Church** optional memorial

1st Reading 1 Kgs 19: 9a. 11-16  
Response Psalm Ps 26: 7-8a. 8b-9abc. 13-14  
Gospel Mt 5: 27-32

**Jun 14 Saturday: Week 10 in Ordinary time**

**St Davnet, virgin** optional memorial

1st Reading 1 Kgs 19: 19-21  
Response Psalm Ps 15: 1b-2a and 5. 7-8. 9-10  
Gospel Mt 5: 33-37

**Jun 15 SUN *ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading Ex 19: 2-6a  
Response Psalm Ps 99: 1-2. 3. 5  
2nd Reading Rom 5: 6-11  
Gospel Mt 9: 36 – 10:

*Jesus sees the need for labourers in the harvest. His choice of the Twelve is for the purpose of going out to seek the lost sheep, to cure and to heal. It is a total vocation for them, a dedication freely given.*

**Jun 16 Monday: Week 11 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Kgs 21: 1-16  
Response Psalm Ps 5: 2-3ab. 4b-6a. 6b-7  
Gospel Mt 5: 38-42

**Jun 17 Tuesday: Week 11 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Kgs 21: 17-29  
Response Psalm Ps 50: 3-4. 5-6ab. 11 and 16  
Gospel Mt 5: 43-48

**Jun 18 Wednesday: Week 11 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 2 Kgs 2: 1. 6-14  
Response Psalm Ps 30: 20. 21. 24  
Gospel Mt 6: 1-6. 16-18

**Jun 19 Thursday: Week 11 in Ordinary time**

**St Romuald, abbot**, optional memorial

1st Reading Sir 48: 1-14  
Response Psalm Ps 96: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 7  
Gospel Mt 6: 19-23

**Jun 20 Friday: Week 11 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of the **Irish Martyrs**  
1st Reading 2 Kgs 11: 1-4. 9-18. 20  
Response Psalm Ps 131: 11. 12. 13-14. 17-18  
Gospel Mt 6: 19-23

**Jun 21 Saturday: Week 11 in Ordinary time/ BVM**

Memorial of **St Aloysius Gonzaga**, religious  
1st Reading 2 Chr 24: 17-25  
Response Psalm Ps 88: 4-5. 29-30. 31-32. 33-34  
Gospel Mt 6: 24-34

Jun 22 SUN **TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading Jer 20: 10-13  
Response Psalm Ps 68: 8-10. 14. 17. 33-35  
2nd Reading Rom 5: 12-15  
Gospel Mt 10: 26-33

Optional Memorial of **Ss Paulinus of Nola, bishop, John Fisher, bishop, and Thomas More, martyr** are not celebrated this year

*The followers of Christ must have courage at all times. Christ has promised support in time of trial. Death and imprisonment for Christ are realities for many Christians. The erosion of faith and the dechristianising of values can also be frightening. But Jesus says to all: 'Be not afraid.'*

**Jun 23 Monday: Week 12 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 2 Kgs 17: 5-8. 13-15a. 18  
Response Psalm Ps 59: 3. 4-5. 12-13  
Gospel Mt 7: 1-5

Vigil Mass of the birth of St John the Baptist:

1st Reading: Jer 1: 4-10  
Response Psalm: Ps 70  
2nd Reading: 1 Pt 1: 8-12  
Gospel: Lk 1: 5-17.

**Jun 24 Tuesday: The Birth of St John the Baptist**

1st Reading: Is 49: 1-6  
Response Psalm: Ps 138  
2nd Reading: Acts 13: 22-26  
Gospel: Lk 1: 57-66. 80

**Jun 25 Wednesday: Week 12 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 2 Kgs 22: 8-13; 23: 1-3  
Response Psalm Ps 118: 33. 34. 36. 37. 40  
Gospel Mt 7: 15-20

**Jun 26 Thursday: Week 12 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 2 Kgs 24: 8-17  
Response Psalm Ps 78: 1b-2. 3-5. 8. 9  
Gospel Mt 7: 21-29

**Jun 27 Friday: Week 12 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Cyril of Alexandria, bishop**  
1st Reading 2 Kgs 25: 1-12  
Response Psalm Ps 136: 1-2. 3. 4-5. 6  
Gospel Mt 8: 1-4

**Jun 28 Saturday: Week 13 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St Irenaeus, bishop**  
1st Reading Lam 2: 2. 10-14. 18-19  
Response Psalm Ps 73: 1b-2. 3-5. 6-7. 20-21  
Gospel Mt 8: 5-17

**Vigil: Readings for Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles**

1st Reading Acts 3: 1-10  
Response Psalm Ps 18: 2-3. 4-5  
2nd Reading Gal 1: 11-20  
Gospel Jn 21: 15-19

**Jun 29 SUN: Ss PETER AND PAUL, Apostles**

1st Reading: Acts 12: 1-11  
Response Psalm: Ps 33  
2nd Reading: 2 Tm 4: 6-8. 17-18  
Gospel: Mt 16: 13-19

*On the traditional day considered in pagan Rome to be its foundation day by Romulus, we celebrate the twin founders of the Church in Rome. St Peter died by crucifixion and St Paul by beheading between 64-67.*

**June 30 Monday: Week 13 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St First Martyrs of the Church of Rome**  
1st Reading Amos 2: 6-10. 13-16  
Response Psalm Ps 49: 16bc-17. 18-19. 20-21. 22-23  
Gospel Mt 8: 18-22

***THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR JULY 2008***

***General:*** *That there may be an increase in the number of those who volunteer to serve the Christian community with generous and prompt availability.*

*Mission: That World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia, may kindle the fire of divine love in numerous young people and render them sowers of hope for a new humanity.*

**Jul 1 Tuesday: Week 13 in Ordinary time**

**St Oliver Plunkett, bishop and martyr, memorial**

1st Reading Amos 3: 1-8; 4: 11-12

Response Psalm Ps 5: 4b-6a. 6b-7. 8

Gospel Mt 8: 23-27

**Jul 2 Wednesday: Week 13 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Amos 5: 14-15. 21-24

Response Psalm Ps 49: 7. 8-9. 10-11. 12-13. 16 -17

Gospel Mt 8: 28-34

**Jul 3 Thursday: St Thomas, apostle**

1st Reading Eph 2: 19-22

Response Psalm Ps 116

Gospel Jn 20: 24-29

**Jul 4 Friday: Week 13 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Elizabeth of Portugal**

1st Reading Am 8: 4-6. 9-12

Response Psalm Ps 118: 2. 10. 20. 30. 40. 131

Gospel Mt 9: 9-13

**Jul 5 Saturday: Week 13 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Anthony Mary Zaccaria, priest**

1st Reading Am 9: 11-15

Response Psalm Ps 84: 9ab and 10. 11-12. 13-14

Gospel Mt 9: 14-17

**Jul 6 SUN *FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading: Zec 9: 9-10

Response Psalm: Ps 144: 1-2. 8-9. 10-11. 13-14

2nd Reading: Rom 8: 9. 11-13

Gospel: Mt 11: 25-30

Optional Memorials of **St Maria Goretti, virgin, martyr, St Mondayne of Kileavy** are not celebrated this year

*To know the Father and the Son we must become pupils in the school of Christ. The way of Christ is one of humility and gentleness. Intellectual pride and arrogance are not to be seen in the Christian. The teachings of Christ are to be learnt with humility and in prayer.*

**Jul 7 Monday: Week 14 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Maelruain, bishop and abbot**

1st Reading Hos 2: 16. 17c-18. 21-22

Response Psalm Ps 114: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9  
Gospel Mt 9: 18-26

Jul 8 Tuesday: Week 14 in Ordinary time  
Optional Memorial of **St Killian, bishop and martyr**  
1st Reading Hos 8: 4-7. 11-13  
Response Psalm Ps 113: 3-4. 5-6. 7ab-8. 9-10/  
Gospel Mt 9: 32-38

Jul 9 Wednesday: Week 14 in Ordinary time  
Optional Memorial of **St Augustine Zhao Rong, priest and companions**  
1st Reading Hos 10: 1-3. 7-8. 12  
Response Psalm Ps 104: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7  
Gospel Mt 10: 1-7

Jul 10 Thursday: Week 14 in Ordinary time  
1st Reading Hos 11: 1-4. 8c-9  
Response Psalm Ps 79: 2ac and 3b. 15-16  
Gospel Mt 10: 7-15

Jul 11 Friday: **St Benedict, abbot, Patron of Europe**  
Week 14 in Ordinary time  
1st Reading Prov 2:1-9  
Response Psalm Ps 33  
Gospel Mt 19:27-29

Jul 12 Saturday: Week 14 in Ordinary time  
1st Reading Is 6:1-8  
Response Psalm Ps 92  
Gospel Mt 10: 24-33

***Jul 13 SUN FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading: Is 55: 10-11  
Response Psalm: Ps 64: 10. 11. 12-13. 14  
2nd Reading: Rom 8: 18-23  
Gospel: Mt 13: 1-23  
Optional Memorial of **St Henry** is not celebrated this year  
**We must have faith in the power of God's word. It is the instrument by which God effects his purpose. It does not work automatically, but grows in a soil of faith and prayer. We have to be concerned about teaching, preaching and praying the word and to work to ensure a receptive soil.**

Jul 14 Monday: Week 15 in Ordinary time  
Optional Memorial of **St Camillus de Lellis, priest**  
1st Reading Is 1: 10-17  
Response Psalm Ps 49: 8-9. 16bc-17. 21 and 23/

Gospel Mt 10: 34 – 11: 1

**15-20 July: WORLD YOUTH DAY -IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA**

*The WYD08 theme, received from The Holy Father is: 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses' (Acts 1 :8).*

*This passage occurs after the death and resurrection of Jesus, just before his ascension to the Father. It represents the birth of the Church.*

*The disciples had questioned Jesus about the time of the restoration of Israel. His words 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you' were somewhat surprising - they referred to a new meaning of the word 'power'. Jesus promises a different kind of 'power' to help the Jews from under the yoke of Roman occupation. The power he promises to give is the very Spirit of God, the dynamic potential for transformation, the very condition of living according to the manner of Jesus' life.*

*This Spirit is not a vague ambiguous force, rather it is a Divine Person, the true Self Gift of the Father to the Son, and the Son to the Father, and hence the gift of the Father to us in the Son - with him we say 'Our Father'. Only with the reception of the Spirit of Jesus can we exercise the authentic passion of the Heart of Christ, and hence by being set on fire with it do we as persons become witnesses to him and everything for which he stands. The ultimate witness we can make is to follow in the pattern of his life through the total self gift of our lives, lived authentically in truth and love for him and at the service of others.*

**Jul 15 Tuesday: Week 15 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Is 7: 1-9

Response Psalm Ps 47: 2-3a. 3b-4. 5-6. 7-8

Gospel Mt 11: 20-24

**Jul 16 Wednesday: Week 15 in Ordinary time**

**St Bonaventure, bishop and doctor of the Church**, memorial

Optional Memorial of **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

1st Reading Is 10: 5-7. 13b-16

Response Psalm Ps 93: 5-6. 7-8. 9-10. 14-15

Gospel Mt 11: 25-27

**Jul 17 Thursday: Week 15 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Is 26: 7-9. 11. 16-19

Response Psalm Ps 101: 13-14ab and 15. 16-18. 19-21/

Gospel Mt 11: 28-30

**Jul 18 Friday: Week 15 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Is 38: 1-6. 21-22. 7-8

Response Psalm Is 38: 10. 11. 12abcd. 16/

Gospel Mt 12: 1-8

**Jul 19 Saturday: Week 15 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Mi 2: 1-5

Response Psalm Ps 9b: 1-2. 3-4. 7-8. 14  
Gospel Mt 12: 14-21

***Jul 20 SUN: SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading: Wis 12: 13. 16-19  
Response Psalm: Ps 85: 5-6. 9-10. 15-16  
2nd Reading: Rom 8: 26-27  
Gospel: Mt 13: 24-43  
Optional Memorial of **St Apollinarius, bishop, martyr** is not celebrated this year

*'You have given us the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.' That God allows evil to flourish along with the good has always been a problem to those who know of God. In this the patience of God contrasts with the impatience of humans. The kingdom grows like the yeast spreading through the dough. The Day of the Lord will reveal all. Meanwhile we wait in hope, and pray to remain faithful.*

Jul 21 Monday: Week 16 in Ordinary time  
Optional Memorial of **St Lawrence of Brindisi, priest, doctor of the Church**  
1st Reading Mic 6: 1-4. 6-8  
Response Psalm Ps 49: 5-6. 8-9. 16bc-17. 21 and 23  
Gospel Mt 12: 38-42

Jul 22 Tuesday: Week 16 in Ordinary time  
**St Mary Magdalene**, memorial  
1st Reading Songs 3:1-4 or 2 Cor 5:14-17  
Response Psalm Ps 62  
Gospel Jn 20: 1-2. 11-18

**Jul 23 Wednesday: St Bridget of Sweden, religious, Patron of Europe**

1st Reading Gal 2:19-20  
Response Psalm Ps 33  
Gospel Jn 15:1-8

Jul 24 Thursday: Week 16 in Ordinary time  
Optional Memorial of **St Charbel Makhlūf, priest**  
Optional Memorial of **St Declan, bishop**  
1st Reading Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13.  
Response Psalm Ps: 35  
Gospel Mt 13: 10-17

Jul 25 Friday: **St James, apostle**  
1st Reading 2 Cor 4: 7-15  
Response Psalm Ps 125  
Gospel Mt 20: 20-28

Jul 26 Saturday: Week 16 in Ordinary time

St Joachim and Anne, parents of the Virgin Mary, memorial  
1st Reading Jer 7: 1-11  
Response Psalm Ps 84: 3. 4. 5-6a and 8a. 11  
Gospel Mt 13: 24-30

***Jul 27 SUN SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading 1 Kgs 3: 5. 7-12  
Response Psalm Ps 118: 57. 72. 76-77. 127-128. 129-130 (97a)  
2nd Reading Rom 8: 28-30/  
Gospel Mt 13: 44-52

*Listening to the word of God enables us to acquire true wisdom. By it we learn where our true good lies, that it means more than silver and gold. This wisdom helps us to make the right choices in our search for the real treasure. We ought to pray for the ability to make the positive, radical decision for the Kingdom. Jesus asks us all, 'Have you understood all this?'*

**Jul 28 Monday: Week 17 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Jer 13: 1-11  
Response Psalm Dt 32: 18-19. 20. 21  
Gospel Mt 13: 31-35

**Jul 29 Tuesday: Week 17 in Ordinary time**

**St Martha**, memorial  
1st Reading Jer 14: 17-22  
Response Psalm Ps 33  
Gospel Jn 11: 19-27 or Lk 10: 38-42

**Jul 30 Wednesday: Week 17 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Peter Chrysologus, bishop and doctor of the Church**  
1st Reading Jer 15: 10. 16-21  
Response Psalm Ps 58: 2-3. 4. 10-11. 17. 18  
Gospel Mt 13: 44-46

**Jul 31 Thursday: Week 17 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Ignatius of Loyola, priest**  
1st Reading Jer 18: 1-6  
Response Psalm Ps 145: 1b-2. 3-4. 5-6ab  
Gospel Mt 13: 47-53

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2008

**General:** That the human family may learn to respect God's plan for the world and become ever more aware that Creation is God's great gift.

**Mission:** That the answer of the entire people of God to the common calling to holiness and mission may be promoted and fostered by means of careful discernment of charisma and constant commitment to spiritual and cultural formation.

**Aug 1 Friday: Week 17 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Alphonus Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church**

1st Reading Jer 26: 1-9

Response Psalm Ps 68: 5. 8-10. 14

Gospel Mt 13: 54-58

**Aug 2 Saturday: Week 17 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorials of **Ss Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop and Peter**

**Julian Eymard, priest**

1st Reading Jer 26: 11-16. 24

Response Psalm Ps 68: 15-16. 30-31. 33-34

Gospel Mt 14: 1-12

**Aug 3 SUN: EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading Is 55: 1-3

Response Psalm Ps 144: 8-9. 15-16. 17-18

2nd Reading Rom 8: 35. 37-39

Gospel Mt 14: 13-21

*Like the manna in the desert, bread in plenty for the crowds is seen as a sign of the coming of the kingdom and of the heavenly banquet in the end times. The actions of Jesus in the desert are described in the same way as his actions at the last Supper: he takes, blesses, breaks and gives.*

**Aug 4 Monday: Week 18 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St John Mary Vianney, priest**

1st Reading Jer 28: 1-17

Response Psalm Ps 118: 29. 43. 79. 80. 95. 102

Gospel Mt 14: 22-36

**Aug 5 Tuesday: Week 18 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Jer 30: 1-2. 12-15. 18-22

Response Psalm Ps 101: 16-18. 19-21. 29 a22-23

Gospel Mt 14: 22-36

Optional memorial of the **Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome**

1st Reading Apoc 1:21:1-5

Response Psalm Jud 13:18-19

Gospel Lk 11: 27-28

**Aug 6 Wednesday: TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

1st Reading Dn 7: 9-10. 13-14

Response Psalm Ps 96: 1-2. 5-6. 9

2nd Reading 2 Pt 1: 16-19

Gospel Mt 17: 1-9

**Aug 7 Thursday: Week 19 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **Ss Sixtus II, pope, and companions, martyrs**

Optional Memorial of **St Cajetan, priest**

1st Reading Jer 31: 31-34

Response Psalm Ps 50: 12-13. 14-15. 18-19

Gospel Mt 16: 13-23

**Aug 8 Friday: Week 19 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Dominic, priest**

1st Reading Na 2: 1. 3; 3: 1-3. 6-7

Response Psalm Dt 32: 35cd-36ab. 39abcd. 41

Gospel Mt 16: 24-28

**Aug 9 Saturday: St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin, martyr, Patron of Europe Ss Nathy and Felim, bishops, are not celebrated this year**

1st Reading Hos 2:16-17, 21-22

Response Psalm Ps 44

Gospel Mt 25: 1-13

**Aug 10 SUN: *NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

**St Lawrence, deacon and martyr** is not celebrated this year

1st Reading: 1 Kgs 19: 9a. 11-13a/

Response Psalm: Ps 84: 9. 10. 11-12. 13-14

2nd Reading: Rom 9: 1-5

Gospel: Mt 14: 22-33

*For Elijah the lord was not in the mighty wind but in the gentle breeze. Peter's faith fails in the face of the force of the wind on the sea. 'Lord! Save me' is a prayer for all in times of fear and opposition.*

**Aug 11 Monday: Week 19 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St Clare, virgin**

1st Reading Ez 1: 2-5. 24-28c

Response Psalm Ps 148: 1-2. 11-12. 13. 14

Gospel Mt 17: 22-

**Aug 12 Tuesday: Week 19 in Ordinary time**

Optional memorial of **St Jane Frances de Chantal, religious**

Optional memorial of **St Muredach, bishop**

Optional memorial of **St Attracta, virgin**

1st Reading Ez 1: 2-5. 24-28c/

Response Psalm Ps 148: 1-2. 11-12. 13. 14

Gospel Mt 17: 22-

**Aug 13 Wed: Week 19 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Pontian, pope, martyr**

Optional Memorial of **St Hippolytus, priest, martyr**

**Optional Memorial of St Fachtna, bishop**

1st Reading Ez 9: 1-7; 10: 18-22/  
Response Psalm Ps 113: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/  
Gospel Mt 18: 15-20

**Aug 14 Thursday: Week 19 in Ordinary time**

**St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, priest and martyr Memorial**

1st Reading Ez 12: 1-12  
Response Psalm Ps 78: 56-57. 58-59. 61-62  
Gospel Mt 18: 21 – 19: 1

**Vigil: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

1st Reading: 1 Chr 15: 3-4. 15-16; 16: 1-2  
Response Psalm: Ps 131  
2nd Reading: 1 Cor 15: 54b-57  
Gospel: Lk 11: 27-28

**Aug 15 Fri: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

1st Reading: Apoc 11: 19; 12: 1-6. 10  
Response Psalm: Ps 44  
2nd Reading: 1 Cor 15: 20-27  
Gospel: Lk 1: 39-56

**Aug 16 Saturday: Week 19 in Ordinary time**

**Optional Memorial of St Stephen of Hungary**

1st Reading Ez 18: 1-10. 13b. 30-32  
Response Psalm Ps 50: 12-13. 14-15. 18-19  
Gospel Mt 19: 13-15

**Aug 17 SUN TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading Is 56: 1. 6-7  
Response Psalm Ps 67: 2-3. 5. 6. 8 (4)  
2nd Reading Rom 11: 13-15. 29-32  
Gospel Mt 15: 21-28

*There is a great mystery in the will of God that all be saved. He knows the minds and hearts of all and does not judge in a human way. We hold to the belief in the need of membership for salvation, but we do so in the light of the universality of salvation. Like the Canaanite woman we must persevere with a determined faith in seeking the truth in love, until all nations learn of God's salvation, and all peoples praise his name.*

**Aug 18 Monday: Week 20 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Ez 24: 15-23  
Response Psalm Dt 32: 18-19. 20. 21  
Gospel Mt 19: 16-22

**Aug 19 Tuesday: Week 20 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St John Eudes, priest**

1st Reading Ez 28: 1-10/

Response Psalm Dt 32: 26-27ab. 27cd-28. 30. 35cd-36ab

Gospel Mt 19: 23-30

Aug 20 Wednesday: Week 20 in Ordinary time

**St Bernard, abbot and doctor of the Church** memorial

1st Reading Ez 34: 1-11

Response Psalm Ps 22: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6

Gospel Mt 20: 1-16

Aug 21 Thursday: Week 20 in Ordinary time/

**St Pius X, pope** memorial

1st Reading Ez 36: 23-28

Response Psalm Ps 50: 12-13. 14-15. 18-19

Gospel Mt 22: 1-16

**Aug 22 Friday: St Bartholomew, apostle**

**The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary** memorial

1st Reading Is 9:1-6

Response Psalm Ps 112

Gospel Lk 1:26-38

**Aug 24 Saturday: Week 20 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Rose of Lima, virgin**

1st Reading Ez 43: 1-7ab

Response Psalm Ps 84: 9ab and 10. 11-12. 13-14

Gospel Mt 23: 1-12

**Aug 24 SUN: TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading Is 22: 19-23

Response Psalm Ps 137: 1-2. 2-3. 6. 8 (8bc)

2nd Reading Rom 11: 33-36

Gospel Mt 16: 13-20

*Because of Peter's faith the promise is given to him. It is through faith that the Church at all times can have trust in the promise of God's protecting power. So encouraged, we can meet the difficulties and human weaknesses that are part of the Church's life. Each member must search for deeper faith through study of the Scriptures and the teaching of the Church, and by more fervent prayer.*

**Aug 25 Monday: Week 21 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Louis of France**

Optional Memorial of **St Joseph Calasanz, priest**

1st Reading 2 Thess 1: 1-5. 11-12/

Response Psalm Ps 95: 1-2a. 2b-3. 4-5/

Gospel Mt 23: 13-22

**Aug 26 Tuesday: Week 21 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 2 Thess 2: 1-3a. 14-17  
Response Psalm Ps 95: 10. 11-12. 13  
Gospel Mt 23: 23-26

Aug 27 Wednesday: Week 21 in Ordinary time

**St Monica** memorial

1st Reading 2 Thess 3: 6-10. 16-18/  
Response Psalm Ps 127: 1-2. 4-5/  
Gospel Mt 23: 27-32

**Aug 28 Thursday: Week 21 in Ordinary time**

**St Augustine, bishop, doctor of the church** memorial

1st Reading 1 Cor 1: 1-9  
Response Psalm Ps 145: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7  
Gospel Mt 24: 42-51

**Aug 29 Friday: Week 21 in Ordinary time**

**The Beheading of John the Baptist, martyr** memorial

1st Reading 1 Cor 1: 1-9  
Response Psalm Ps 144: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7/  
Gospel Mt 24: 42-51

**Aug 30 Saturday: Week 21 in Ordinary time**

Optional memorial of **St Fiacre, Monk**

1st Reading 1 Cor 1: 26-31  
Response Psalm Ps 32: 12-13. 18-19. 20-21/  
Gospel Mt 25: 14-30

**Aug 31 SUN: *TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading Jer 20: 7-9  
Response Psalm Ps 62: 2. 3-4. 5-6. 8-9 (2b)  
2nd Reading Rom 12: 1-2  
Gospel: Mt 16: 21-27

*As the day of resurrection, Sunday is not only a remembrance of a past event; it is a celebration of the living presence of the risen Lord in the midst of his own people. For this presence to be properly proclaimed it is important that the disciples of Christ, saved as the People of God, come together to express fully the very identity of the Church (Pope John Paul II - Dies Domini, 31).*

***THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2008***

**General:** That those who are forced to leave home and country because of war or oppressive regimes may be supported by Christians in the defence and protection of their rights.

**Mission:** That faithful to the sacrament of matrimony every Christian family may cultivate the values of love and communion in order to be a small evangelising community, sensitive and open to the material and spiritual needs of others.

**Sept 1 Monday: Week 22 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Cor 2: 1-5

Response Psalm Ps 118: 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102/

Gospel Lk 4: 16-30

**Sept 2 Tuesday: Week 22 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Cor 2: 10b-16

Response Psalm Ps 144: 8-9. 10-11. 12-13ab. 13cd-14/

Gospel Lk 4: 31-37

**Sept 3 Wednesday: Week 22 in Ordinary time**

**St Gregory the Great, pope and doctor of the Church** memorial

1st Reading 1 Cor 3: 1-9

Response Psalm Ps 32: 12-13. 14-15. 20-21/

Gospel Lk 4: 38-44

**Sept 4 Thursday: Week 22 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Mac Nissi, bishop**

1st Reading 1 Cor 3: 18-23

Response Psalm Ps 23: 1bc-2. 3-4ab. 5-6

Gospel Lk 5: 1-11

**Sept 5 Friday: Week 22 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Cor 4: 1-5

Response Psalm Ps 36: 3-4. 5-6. 27-28. 39-40

Gospel Lk 5: 33-39

**Sept 6 Saturday: Week 22 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Cor 4: 6b-15

Response Psalm Ps 144: 17-18. 19-20. 21/

Gospel Lk 6: 1-5

**Sept 7 SUN TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading Ezek 33: 7-9

Response Psalm Ps 94: 1-2. 6-7. 8-9 (8)

2nd Reading Rom 13: 8-10/

Gospel Mt 18: 15-20

*The three readings today by chance deal with the same theme of neighbourly correction. This is a difficult art and can only be exercised through genuine love and the purest of motives. We have to learn to help and to heal each other. In this we have to avoid attitudes of prying, denunciation, jealousy and informing.*

*The spirit of the Gospel which lays down a procedure must be our guide.*

**Sept 8 Monday: Week 23 in Ordinary time**

**The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

1st Reading Mic 5: 1-4a or Rom 8: 28-30

Response Psalm Ps 12: 6ab. 6c/

Gospel Mt 1: 1-16. 18-23

**Sept 9 Tuesday: Week 23 in Ordinary time**

**St Ciaran, abbot, memorial**

1st Reading 1 Cor 6: 1-11/

Response Psalm Ps 149: 1b-2. 3-4. 5-6a and 9b

Gospel Lk 6: 12-19

Sept 10 Wednesday: Week 23 in Ordinary time

1st Reading 1 Cor 7: 25-31

Response Psalm Ps 44: 11-12. 14-15. 16-17

Gospel Lk 6: 20-26

Sept 11 Thursday: Week 23 in Ordinary time

1st Reading 1 Cor 8: 1b-7. 11-13

Response Psalm Ps 138: 1b-3. 13-14ab. 23-24

Gospel Lk 6: 27-38

Sept 12 Friday:

Optional Memorial of **St Ailbe, bishop**

1st Reading 1 Cor 9: 16-19. 22b-27

Response Psalm Ps 83: 3. 4. 5-6. 12/

Gospel Lk 6: 39-42

Optional Memorial of **St Holy Name of Mary**

1st Reading Gal 4:4-7 or Eph 1: 3-6

Response Psalm Lk 1:46-55

Gospel Lk 1:39-47

**Sept 13 Saturday: Week 23 in Ordinary time**

**St John Chrysostom, bishop memorial**

1st Reading 1 Cor 10: 14-22

Response Psalm Ps 116: 12-13. 17-18

Gospel Lk 6: 43-49

***Sept 14 SUN: TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

***The Triumph of the Holy Cross***

1st Reading: Nm 21: 4-9

Response Psalm: Ps 77

2nd Reading: Phil 2: 6-11

Gospel: Jn 3: 13-17

*The Triumph of the Cross. The discovery of the True Cross is dated to 14*

*September 320. On 13 September 335 the churches on Calvary were dedicated and the cross that St Helena discovered was venerated there the next day. The annual commemoration of that event has been celebrated since, in praise of the redemption won for us by Christ.*

**Sept 15 Monday: Week 24 in Ordinary time**

**Our Lady of Sorrows, memorial**

1st Reading Heb 5: 7-9

Response Psalm Ps 30 Optional Sequence Stabat Mater

Gospel Jn 19: 25-27 or Lk 2: 33-35

**Sept 16 Tuesday: Week 24 in Ordinary time**

**Ss Cornelius, pope and Cyprian, bishops, martyrs memorial**

1st Reading 1 Cor 12: 12-14. 27-31a

Response Psalm Ps 99: 1b-2. 3. 4. 5

Gospel Lk 7: 11-17

**Sept 17 Wednesday: Week 24 in Ordinary time**

**St Robert Bellarmine, bishop, doctor of the Church, Optional Memorial**

1st Reading 1 Cor 12: 31 – 13: 13

Response Psalm Ps 33: 2-3. 4-5. 12 and 22

Gospel Lk 7: 31-35

**Sept 18 Thursday: Week 24 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 1 Cor 15: 1-11

Response Psalm Ps 117: 1b-2. 16ab-17. 28

Gospel Lk 7: 36-50

**Sept 19 Friday: Week 24 in Ordinary time**

**St Januarius, bishop, optional memorial**

1st Reading 1 Cor 15: 12-20/

Response Psalm Ps 17: 1bcd. 6-7. 8b and 15/

Gospel Lk 8: 1-3

**Sept 20 Saturday: Week 24 in Ordinary time**

**Ss Andrew Kim Taegon, priest, Paul Chong Hasang and Companions, martyrs, memorial**

1st Reading 1 Cor 15: 1-11

Response Psalm Ps 118: 1b-2. 16ab-17. 28

Gospel Lk 7: 36-

***Sep 21 SUN: TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading: Is 55: 6-9

Response Psalm: Ps 144: 2-3. 8-9. 17-18

2nd Reading: Phil 1: 20c-24. 27

Gospel: Mt 20: 1-16

*The Gospel of St Matthew, directed to Jewish Christians, stresses that the pagans have also come to God's mercy and are to be accepted. As Christ came to call sinners, so the Church must accept them. God's thoughts of justice are beyond ours, his mercy cannot be measured. That is the point of the gospel story today, whatever about the details. No one can be content with his own state at sanctity and despise or judge others. God's judgement may be quite different.*

**St Matthew, apostle, evangelist** is not celebrated this year

**Sept 22 Monday: Week 25 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Prov 3: 27-34

Response Psalm Ps 14: 2-3a. 3bc-4ab. 5

Gospel Lk 8: 16-18

**Sept 23 Tuesday: Week 25 in Ordinary time**

**St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), priest, memorial**

1st Reading Prov 21: 1-6. 10-13

Response Psalm Ps 118: 1. 27. 30. 34. 35. 44

Gospel Lk 8: 19-21

Sept 24 Wednesday: Week 25 in Ordinary time

1st Reading Prov 30: 5-9

Response Psalm Ps 118: 29. 72. 89. 101. 104. 163

Gospel Lk 9: 1-6

**Sept 25 Thursday: Week 25 in Ordinary time**

**St Finbarr, bishop, optional memorial**

1st Reading Eccl 1: 2-11

Response Psalm Ps 89: 3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14 and 17bc

Gospel Lk 9: 7-9

Sept 26 Friday: Week 25 in Ordinary time/

**Ss Cosmas and Damian, martyrs, optional memorial**

1st Reading Eccl 3: 1-11

Response Psalm Ps 143: 1b and 2abc. 3-4

Gospel Lk 9: 18-22

**Sept 27 Saturday: Week 25 in Ordinary time**

**St Vincent de Paul, priest memorial**

1st Reading Eccl 11: 9 – 12: 8

Response Psalm Ps 90: 3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14 and 17

Gospel Lk 9: 43b-45

***Sept 28 SUN: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading Ezek 18: 25-28

Response Psalm Ps 24: 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 (6a)

2nd Reading Phil 2: 1-11

Gospel Mt 21: 28-32

**St Wenceslaus and St Lawrence Ruiz and companions**, martyrs, are not celebrated this year

*God gives us the gift of repentance. In the parable of the two sons Jesus holds up the example of the public sinners in his time being converted while the establishment figures refuse to listen to his message. Ezekiel reminds us that repentance is always possible, for the Lord remembers his mercy.*

**Sept 29 Monday: Ss Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Archangels**

1st Reading Dn 7: 9-10. 13-14 or Apoc 12: 7-12a

Response Psalm Ps 137: 1-2ab. 2cde-3. 4-5

Gospel Jn 1: 47-51

**Sept 30 Tuesday: Week 26 in Ordinary time**

**St Jerome, priest and doctor of the Church**, memorial

1st Reading Jb 3: 1-3. 11-17. 20-23

Response Psalm Ps 87: 2-3. 4-5. 6. 7-8

Gospel Lk 9: 51-56

### ***THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER 2008***

***General:*** That the Synod of Bishops may help bishops and theologians as well as catechists and pastoral workers engaged in the service of the Word of God transmit with courage the truth of the faith in communion with the entire Church.

***Mission:*** That in this month dedicated to the Missions every Christian community may feel the need to share in the Church's universal mission with prayers, sacrifices and material help.

**Oct 1 Wednesday: Week 26 in Ordinary time**

**St Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin**, doctor of the Church memorial

1st Reading Job 9: 1-12. 14-16

Response Psalm Ps 87: 10bc-11. 12-13. 14-15

Gospel Lk 9: 57-62

**Oct 2 Thursday: Week 26 in Ordinary time**

**The Guardian Angels**, Memorial

1st Reading Ex 23:20-23

Response Psalm Ps 90

Gospel Mt 18: 1-5. 10

**Oct 3 Friday: Week 26 in Ordinary time**

**Bl Columba Marmion** may be celebrated in some places

1st Reading Job 38: 1. 12-21; 40: 3-5

Response Psalm Ps 138: 1-3. 7-8. 9-10. 13-14ab

Gospel Lk 10: 13-16

**Oct 4 Saturday: Week 26 in Ordinary time**

**St Francis of Assisi, Memorial**

1st Reading Job 42: 1-3. 5-6. 12-17

Response Psalm Ps 118: 66. 71. 75. 91. 125. 130

Gospel Lk 10: 17-

***Oct 5 SUN: TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

(Day for Life)

1st Reading Is 5: 1-7

Response Psalm Ps 80: 9. 12. 13-14. 15-16. 19-20

2nd Reading Phil 4: 6-9

Gospel Mt 21: 33-43

*Israel, God's first chosen people, did not produce the fruit expected of them. God found fault with them and the promised inheritance passed from them. The Church today must prove itself worthy of God's call by bringing forth the fruit of love and good works.*

**Oct 6 Monday: Week 27 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Bruno, priest**

1st Reading Gal 1: 6-12

Response Psalm Ps 110: 1b-2. 7-8. 9 and 10

Gospel Lk 10: 25- 37

**Oct 7 Tuesday: Week 27 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **Our Lady of the Rosary**

1st Reading Act 1:12-14

Response Psalm Lk 1: 46-55

Gospel Lk 1 26-38

**Oct 8 Wednesday: Week 27 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Gal 2: 1-2. 7-14

Response Psalm Ps 116: 1bc. 2

Gospel Lk 11: 1-4

**Oct 9 Thursday: Week 27 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **Ss Denis, bishop, John Leonardi, priest**

1st Reading Gal 3: 1-5/

Response Psalm Lk 1: 69-70. 71-72. 73-75

Gospel Lk 11: 5-13

**Oct 10 Friday: Week 27 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Gal 3: 7-14

Response Psalm Ps 110: 1b-2. 3-4. 5-6

Gospel Lk 11: 15-26

**Oct 11 Saturday: Week 27 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Canice, abbot**

1st Reading Gal 3: 22-29  
Response Psalm Ps 104: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7  
Gospel Lk 11: 27-28

***Oct 12 SUN: TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading Is 25: 6-10a  
Response Psalm Ps 22: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6 (6cd)  
2nd Reading Phil 4: 12-14. 19-20  
Gospel Mt 22: 1-14

*We gather to celebrate the Eucharist, which is to be a celebration in hope and joy as a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. To take part in it is a grace and a privilege. But we must wear the wedding garment of sinlessness and obedience to God's will. Many before us have been called to the feast but failed to stay.*

**Oct 13 Monday: Week 28 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Gal 4: 22-24. 26-27. 31 – 5: 1  
Response Psalm Ps 112: 1b-2. 3-4. 5a and 6-7  
Gospel Lk 11: 29-32

**Oct 14 Tuesday: Week 28 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Gal 5: 1-6  
Response Psalm Ps 118  
Gospel Lk 11: 37-41

**Oct 15 Wednesday: Week 28 in Ordinary time**

**Memorial of St Teresa of Avila, virgin, doctor of the Church**  
1st Reading Gal 5: 18-25  
Response Psalm Ps 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6  
Gospel Lk 11: 42-46

**Oct 16 Thursday: Week 28 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Hedwig, religious**  
Optional Memorial of **St Margaret Mary Alacoque, virgin**  
Optional Memorial of **St Gall, abbot and missionary**  
1st Reading Eph 1: 1-10  
Response Psalm Ps 97: 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4. 5-6  
Gospel Lk 11: 47-54

**Oct 17 Friday: Week 28 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Ignatius of Antioch, bishop, martyr**  
1st Reading Eph 1: 11-14  
Response Psalm Ps 32: 1-2. 4-5. 12-13  
Gospel Lk 12: 1-7

**Oct 18 Saturday: St Luke, Evangelist**

1st Reading 2 Tm 4: 10-17

Response Psalm Ps 144: 10-11. 12-13. 17-18  
Gospel Lk 10: 1-9

***Oct 19 SUN: TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

*(Mission Sunday: Go and Tell)*

1st Reading: Is 45: 1. 4-6

Response Psalm: Ps 95: 1. 3. 4-5. 7-8. 9-10 (7b)

2nd Reading: 1 Thes 1: 1-5b

Gospel: Mt 22: 15-21

**Ss John Brébeuf, Isaac Joques, priests, and companions, martyrs and St Paul of the Cross, priest are not celebrated this year.**

*Mission Sunday. Go -and- Tell. 'We cannot approach the eucharistic table without being drawn into the mission ... which is meant to reach all people. Missionary' outreach is thus an essential part of the eucharistic form of the Christian life' (Pope Benedict XVI, Sacramentum Caritatis, 84).*

**Oct 20 Monday: Week 29 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Eph 2: 1-10

Response Psalm Ps 99: 1b-2. 3. 4ab. 4c-5

Gospel Lk 12: 13-21

**Oct 21 Tuesday: Week 29 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Eph 2: 12-22

Response Psalm Ps 84: 9ab-10. 11-12. 13-14

Gospel Lk 12: 35-38

**Oct 22 Wednesday: Week 29 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Eph 3: 2-12

Response Psalm Is 12: 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6

Gospel Lk 12: 39-48

**Oct 23 Thursday: Week 29 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St John of Capistrano, priest**

1st Reading Eph 3: 14-21

Response Psalm Ps 32: 1-2. 4-5. 11-12. 18-19

Gospel Lk 12: 49-53

**Oct 24 Friday: Week 29 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Anthony Mary Claret, bishop**

1st Reading Eph 4: 1-6

Response Psalm Ps 23: 1-2. 3-4ab. 5-6

Gospel Lk 12: 54-59

**Oct 25 Saturday: Week 29 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Thaddeus MacCarthy, bishop**

1st Reading Eph 4: 7-16

Response Psalm Ps 121: 1-2. 3-4ab. 4cd-5  
Gospel Lk 13: 1-9

***Oct 26 SUN: THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

1st Reading Ex 22: 20-26  
Response Psalm Ps 17: 2-3. 3-4. 47. 51 (2)  
2nd Reading 1 Thes 1: 5c-10  
Gospel Mt 22: 34-40

*The Church of the Third Millennium will need to encourage all the baptised and confirmed to be aware of their active responsibility in the Church's life. Together with the ordained ministry, other ministries, whether formally instituted or simply recognised, can flourish for the good of the whole community sustaining it in all its many needs: from catechesis to liturgy, from the education of the young to the widest array of charitable works (Pope John Paul II, Novo Millennio Ineunte).*

**Oct 27 Monday: Week 30 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Otterman, monk**  
1st Reading Eph 4: 32 – 5: 8  
Response Psalm Ps 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6  
Gospel Lk 13: 10-17

**Oct 28 Tuesday: St Simon and Jude, Apostles**

1st Reading Eph 2: 19-22  
Response Psalm Ps 18: 2-3. 4-5  
Gospel Lk 6: 12-16

**Oct 29 Wednesday: Week 30 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Colman**  
1st Reading  
Response Psalm  
Gospel Ps 144: 10-11. 12-13ab. 13cd-14/ Lk 13: 22-30

**Oct 30 Thursday: Week 30 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Eph 6: 10-20  
Response Psalm Ps 143: 1b. 2. 9-10  
Gospel Lk 13: 31-35

**Oct 31 Friday: Week 30 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Phil 1: 1-11  
Response Psalm Ps 110: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6  
Gospel Lk 14: 1-6

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 2008**

**General:** That the testimony of love offered by the Saints may fortify Christians in their service to God and neighbour, imitating Christ who came not to be served but to serve.

**Mission:** That Christian communities in Asia, contemplating the face of Christ, may find

the most suitable way to announce him in full fidelity to the Gospel to the peoples of that vast continent so rich in culture and ancient forms of spirituality.

**Nov 1 Saturday: ALL SAINTS**

1st Reading: Apoc 7: 2-4. 9-14

Response Psalm: Ps 23

2nd Reading: 1 Jn 3: 1-3

Gospel: Mt 5: 1-12

*All Saints: 'The ultimate object of veneration of the Saints is the glory of God and the sanctification of man by conforming one's life fully to the divine will and by imitating the virtue of those who were preeminent disciples of the Lord.*

*Catechesis and other forms of doctrinal instruction should therefore make known to the faithful that: our relationship with the Saints must be seen in the light of the faith and should not obscure the "cultus latrae due to God the Father through Christ in the Holy Spirit, but intensify it" (Popular Piety and the Liturgy, 212).*

**Nov 2 Sunday: THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)**

1st Reading Is 25:6-9

Response Psalm Ps 26

2nd Reading Rom 5:5-11

Gospel Mt 11:25-30

or Readings may also be taken from Masses for the Dead

*All Souls: 'Indeed, the Church in its pilgrim members, from the very earliest days of the Christian religion, has honoured with great respect the memory of the dead' and "because it is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins" (2 Mac 12, 46) she offers her suffrages for them. These consist, primarily, in the celebration of the holy sacrifice of the Eucharist, and in other pious exercises, such as prayers for the dead, alms deeds, works of mercy, and the application of indulgences to the souls of the faithful departed' (Popular Piety and the Liturgy, 251).*

**Nov 3 Monday: Week 31 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St Malachy, bishop**

1st Reading Phil 2: 1-4

Response Psalm Ps 130: 1bcde. 2. 3

Gospel Lk 14: 12-14

**Nov 4 Tuesday: Week 31 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St Charles Borromeo, bishop**

1st Reading Phil 2: 5-11

Response Psalm Ps 21: 26b-27. 28-30ab. 30e. 31-32

Gospel Lk 14: 15-24

**Nov 5 Wednesday: Week 31 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Phil 2: 12-18

Response Psalm Ps 26: 1. 4. 13-14

Gospel Lk 14: 25-33

**Nov 6 Thursday: All the Saints of Ireland**

1st Reading Eccles 44:1-15

Response Psalm Ps 121

Gospel Lk 6:17-23

**Nov 7 Friday: Week 31 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Willibrord, bishop, missionary**

1st Reading Phil 3: 17 – 4: 1

Response Psalm Ps 121: 1-2. 3-4ab. 4cd-5

Gospel Lk 16: 1-8

**Nov 8 Saturday: Week 31 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Phil 4: 10-19

Response Psalm Ps 111: 1b-2. 5-6. 8a and 9

Gospel Lk 16: 9-15

**Nov 9 SUN: THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA**

**(Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

1st Reading Ez 47: 1-2. 8-9. 12

Response Psalm Ps 45: 2-3. 5-6. 8-9

2nd Reading 1 Cor 3: 9c-11. 16-17

Gospel Jn 2: 13-22

*The Church of St John on the Lateran is 'Mother and Head of all the churches of the City and the World'. It is the cathedral church of the Bishop of Rome, and was called 'St John' alter the two monasteries once attached, dedicated to St John the Divine and St John the Baptist. It is however dedicated to the Most Holy Saviour.*

**Nov 10 Monday: Week 32 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St Leo the Great, pope, doctor of the Church.**

1st Reading Tit 1: 1-9

Response Psalm Ps 23: 1b-2. 3-4ab. 5-6

Gospel Lk 17: 1-6

**Nov 11 Tuesday: Week 32 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St Martin of Tours, bishop**

1st Reading Tit 2: 1-8. 11-14

Response Psalm Ps 36: 3-4. 18 and 23. 27 and 29

Gospel Lk 17: 7-10

**Nov 12 Wednesday: Week 32 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Josaphat, bishop, martyr**

1st Reading Tit 3: 1-7

Response Psalm Ps 22: 1b-3a. 3bc-4. 5. 6

Gospel Lk 17: 11-19

**Nov 13 Thursday: Week 32 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Philem 7-20

Response Psalm Ps 145: 7. 8-9a. 9bc-10

Gospel Lk 17: 20-25

**Nov 14 Friday: Week 32 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Laurence O'Toole, bishop**

1st Reading 2 Jn 4-9

Response Psalm Ps 118: 1. 2. 10. 11. 17. 18

Gospel Lk 17: 26-37

**Nov 15 Saturday: Week 32 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading 3 Jn 5-8

Response Psalm Ps 111: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6

Gospel Lk 18: 1-8

Optional Memorial of **St Albert the Great, bishop, doctor of the Church**

**Nov 16 SUN: THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

1st Reading Prov 31: 10-13. 19-20. 30-31

Response Psalm Ps 127: 1-2. 3. 4-5

2nd Reading 1 Thes 5: 1-6

Gospel Mt 25: 14-30

Optional Memorials of **St Margaret of Scotland, and St Gertrude**, virgin are not celebrated this year

*The emphasis in the readings today is on fidelity and on dedication to duty and work. It is more blessed to give: talents and gifts are given for service of the community. The Christian is to be fully' dedicated to working in the service of others while watching and waiting for the life to come. There is always so much good to be done for others and so little time in which to do it.*

**Nov 17 Monday: Week 33 in Ordinary time**

Memorial of **St Elizabeth of Hungary, religious**

1st Reading Apoc 1: 1-4; 2: 1-5

Response Psalm Ps 1: 1-2. 3. 4 and 6

Gospel Lk 18: 35-43

**Nov 18 Tuesday: Week 33 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Apoc 3: 1-6. 14-22

Response Psalm Ps 14: 2-3a. 3bc-4ab. 5

Gospel Lk 19: 1-10.  
Dedication of the **Basilicas of SsPeter and Paul** Optional memorial  
1st Reading Acts 28: 11-16. 30-31  
Response Psalm Ps 97: 1. 2-3ab. 3cd-4. 5-6  
Gospel Mt 14: 22-33

**Nov 19 Wednesday: Week 33 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Apoc 4: 1-11  
Response Psalm Ps 150: 1b-2. 3-4. 5-6  
Gospel Lk 19: 11-28

**Nov 20 Thursday: Week 33 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Apoc 5: 1-10  
Response Psalm Ps 149: 1b-2. 3-4. 5-6a and 9b  
Gospel Lk 19: 41-44

**Nov 21 Friday: Week 33 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
1st Reading Zech 2:14-17  
Response Psalm Lk 1:46-55  
Gospel Mt 12:46-50

**Nov 22 Saturday: Week 33 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Cecilia, virgin**  
1st Reading Apoc 11: 4-12  
Response Psalm Ps 143: 1b. 2. 9-1  
Gospel Lk 20: 27-40

**Nov 23 SUN: Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King  
(Thirty-fourth and Final Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

1st Reading Ezek 34: 11-12. 15-17  
Response Psalm Ps 22: 1-2. 2-3. 5-6 (1)  
2nd Reading 1 Cor 15: 20-26. 28  
Gospel Mt 25: 31-46

**St Columban, abbot and missionary** is not celebrated this year

*Christ the King. At the end of our earthly life we will be judged on how we have lived and acted. At the end of time the kingdom of God will be established through the saving work of Christ. Then the Shepherd-King will come to judge how we have loved. Our lives are to be characterised by a love that welcomes Christ in those most in need, and by joyful expectation of his glorious coming.*

**Nov 24 Monday: Week 34 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Andrew Dung-Lac, priest and Companions, martyrs**  
1st Reading Apoc 14: 1-3. 4b-5  
Response Psalm Ps 23: 1bc-2. 3-4ab. 5-6  
Gospel Lk 21: 1-4

**Nov 25 Tuesday: Week 34 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorials of **St Catherine of Alexandria and St Colman, bishop**

1st Reading Apoc 14: 14-19

Response Psalm Ps 95: 10. 11-12. 13

Gospel Lk 21: 5-11

**Nov 26 Wednesday: Week 34 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Apoc 15: 1-4

Response Psalm Ps 97: 1. 2-3ab. 7-8. 9

Gospel Lk 21: 12-19

**Nov 27 Thursday: Week 34 in Ordinary time**

Optional Memorial of **St Fergal, bishop and missionary**

1st Reading Apoc 18: 1-2. 21-23; 19: 1-3. 9a

Response Psalm Ps 99: 1b-2. 3. 4. 5

Gospel Lk 21: 20-28.

**Nov 28 Friday: Week 34 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Apoc 20: 1-4. 11 – 21: 2

Response Psalm Ps 83: 3. 4. 5-6a and 8a

Gospel Lk 21: 29-33

**Nov 29 Saturday: Week 34 in Ordinary time**

1st Reading Apoc 22: 1-7

Response Psalm Ps 94: 1-2. 3-5. 6-7ab

Gospel Lk 21: 34-36

**Nov 30 SUN: FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT for the year 2009 Year B**

Readings: Is 63: 16b-17. 19b; 64: 2-7/ Ps 78: 2-3. 15-16. 18-19 (4)/ 1 Cor 1: 3-9/ Mk 13: 33-37

***THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 2008***

(Not available at this time)

Dec 1 Monday: Week 1 of Advent

Readings Is 2: 1-5/ Ps 120: 1-2. 3-4b. 4cd-5. 6-7. 8-9/ Mt 8: 5-11

Dec 2 Tuesday: Week 1 of Advent

Readings: Is 11: 1-10/ Ps 70: 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17/ Lk 10: 21-24

Dec 3 Wednesday: Week 1 of Advent / St Francis Xavier, priest

Readings: Is 25: 6-10a/ Ps 21: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6/ Mt 15: 29-37

Dec 4 Thursday: Week 1 of Advent / St John of Damascus, priest

Readings : Is 26: 1-6 Ps 116 Mt 7: 21. 24-27

Dec 5 Friday: Week 1 of Advent/ St Ambrose, bishop

Readings : Is 29: 17-24 Ps 25 Mt 9: 27-31

Dec 6 Saturday: Week 1 of Advent / St Nicholas, bishop

Readings: s 30: 19-21. 23-26/ Ps 145: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/ Mt 9: 35 – 10: 1. 5a. 6-8

Dec 7 SUN: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings: Is 40: 1-5. 9-11/ Ps 83: 9-10. 11-12. 13-14 (8)/ 2 Pt 3: 8-14/ Mk 1: 1-8

**Dec 8 Monday: IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Readings Gn 3: 9-15. 20 Ps 96 Eph 1: 3-6. 11-12 Lk 1: 26-38

Dec 9 Tuesday: Week 2 of Advent

Readings : Is 40: 1-11 Ps 94 Mt 18: 12-14

Dec 10 Wednesday: Week 2 of Advent

Readings: Is 40: 25-31/ Ps 101: 1-2. 3-4. 8 and 10/ Mt 11: 28-30

Dec 11 Thursday: Week 2 of Advent, St Damasus I, pope

Readings : Is 41: 13-20 Ps 143 Mt 11: 11-15

Dec 12 Friday: Week 2 of Advent / Our Lady of Guadalupe/St Finnian, bishop

Readings : Is 48: 17-19 Ps 1 Mt 11: 16-19

Dec 13 Saturday: Week 2 of Advent/ St Lucy, virgin

Readings : Sir 48: 1-4. 9-11 Ps 78 Mt 17: 9a. 10-13

Dec 14 SUN: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings: Is 61: 1-2a. 10-11/ Lk 1: 46-48. 49-50. 53-54/ 1 Thes 5: 16-24/ Jn 1: 6-8. 19-28

Dec 15 Monday: Week 3 of Advent

Readings: Nm 24: 2-7. 15-17a/ Ps 23: 4-5ab. 6 and 7bc. 8-9/ Mt 21: 23-27

Dec 16 Tuesday: Week 3 of Advent

Readings: Zep 3: 1-2. 9-13/ Ps 32: 2-3. 6-7. 17-18. 19 and 23/ Mt 21: 28-

Dec 17 Wednesday: Week 3 of Advent (O Sapientia)

Readings: Gn 49: 2. 8-10/ Ps 71: 1-2. 3-4ab. 7-8. 17/ Mt 1: 1-17

Dec 18 Thursday: Week 3 of Advent (O Adonai) St Flannan, bishop

Readings: Jer 23: 5-8/ Ps 71: 1-2. 12-13. 18-19/ Mt 1: 18-25

Dec 19 Friday: Week 3 of Advent (O Radix Jesse) / St Peter Canisius, p, dr

Readings: Jgs 13: 2-7. 24-25a/ Ps 70: 3-4a. 5-6ab. 16-17/ Lk 1: 5-25

Dec 20 Saturday: Week 3 of Advent (O Clavis David)

Readings: Is 7: 10-14/ Ps 22: 1-2. 3-4ab. 5-6/ Lk 1: 26-

***Dec 21 SUN: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O Oriens)***

Readings: 2 Sm 7: 1-5. 8b-12. 14a. 16/ Ps 88: 2-3. 4-5. 27. 29 (2a)/ Rom 16: 25-27/ Lk 1: 26-38

Dec 22 Monday: Week 4 of Advent (O Rex Gentium)

Readings: 1 Sm 1: 24-28/ 1 Sm 2: 1. 4-5. 6-7. 8abcd/ Lk 1: 46-56

Dec 23 Tuesday: Week 4 of Advent (O Emmanuel)/ St John of Kanty, priest

Readings: Mal 3: 1-4. 23-24/ Ps 24: 4-5ab. 8-9. 10 and 14/ Lk 1: 57-66

Dec 24 Wednesday: Week 4 of Advent

Readings: 2 Sm 7: 1-5. 8b-12. 14a. 16/ Ps 88: 2-3. 4-5. 27 and 29/ Lk 1: 67-79

**Dec 25 Thursday: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

Vigil: Readings : Is 62: 1-5 Ps 88 Acts 13:16-17. 22-25 Mt 1: 1-25.

Midnight: Readings : Is 9: 1-6 Ps 95 Ti 2: 11-14 Lk 2: 1-14.

Dawn: Readings : Is 62: 11-12 Ps 96 Ti 3: 4-7 Lk 2: 15-20.

Day: Readings : Is 52: 7-10 Ps 97 Heb 1: 1-6 Jn 1: 1-18

Dec 26 Friday: St Stephen, protomartyr

Readings: Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59/ Ps 30: 3cd-4. 6 and 8ab. 16bc and 17/ Mt 10: 17-22

Dec 27 Saturday St John, apostle, evangelist

Readings: 1 Jn 1: 1-4 Ps 96 Jn 20: 1a and 2-8

***Dec 28 SUN: HOLY FAMILY***

Readings Gn 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3/ Ps 105: 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 8-9 (7a. 8a)/ Heb 11: 8. 11-12. 17-19/  
Lk 2: 22-40

Dec 29 Monday: Day 5, Christmas Octave / St Thomas Becket, bishop, martyr  
memorial

Readings: 1 Jn 2: 3-11/ Ps 95: 1-2a. 2b-3. 5b-6/ Lk 2: 22-35

Dec 30 Tues: Day 6, Christmas Octave /

Readings: 1 Jn 2: 12-17/ Ps 95: 7-8a. 8b-9. 10/ Lk 2: 36-40

Dec 31 Wednesday: Day 7, Christmas Octave/ Sylvester I, pope, memorial

Readings: 1 Jn 2: 18-21/ Ps 95: 1-2. 11-12. 13/ Jn 1: 1-18

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This 2008 Catholic Calendar is not the work of any official Catholic office or representative but is in line with the Veritas Liturgical Calendar for Ireland. c/f [www.veritas.ie](http://www.veritas.ie) These pages are built on the standard guidelines of the Church calendar, and do not represent all of the possible variants, as each individual Church, Diocese, Archdiocese, National Conference of Bishops has significant choice in the exact schedule of services. Please always check with your local Church for information concerning your area.