

# MONDAY January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle

Lectionary: 519

Reading I

Acts 22:3-16

Paul addressed the people in these words:

“I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia,  
but brought up in this city.

At the feet of Gamaliel I was educated strictly in our ancestral law  
and was zealous for God, just as all of you are today.

I persecuted this Way to death,  
binding both men and women and delivering them to prison.

Even the high priest and the whole council of elders  
can testify on my behalf.

For from them I even received letters to the brothers  
and set out for Damascus to bring back to Jerusalem  
in chains for punishment those there as well.

“On that journey as I drew near to Damascus,  
about noon a great light from the sky suddenly shone around me.

I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me,

‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’

I replied, ‘Who are you, sir?’

And he said to me,

‘I am Jesus the Nazorean whom you are persecuting.’

My companions saw the light

but did not hear the voice of the one who spoke to me.

I asked, 'What shall I do, sir?'

The Lord answered me, 'Get up and go into Damascus, and there you will be told about everything appointed for you to do.'

Since I could see nothing because of the brightness of that light, I was led by hand by my companions and entered Damascus.

"A certain Ananias, a devout observer of the law, and highly spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, came to me and stood there and said,

'Saul, my brother, regain your sight.'

And at that very moment I regained my sight and saw him.

Then he said,

'The God of our ancestors designated you to know his will, to see the Righteous One, and to hear the sound of his voice; for you will be his witness before all to what you have seen and heard.

Now, why delay?

Get up and have yourself baptized and your sins washed away, calling upon his name.'"

OR:

[Acts 9:1-22](#)

Saul, still breathing murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, that, if he should find any men or women who belonged to the Way, he might bring them back to Jerusalem in chains.

On his journey, as he was nearing Damascus,  
a light from the sky suddenly flashed around him.  
He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him,  
“Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”  
He said, “Who are you, sir?”  
The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.  
Now get up and go into the city and you will be told what you must do.”  
The men who were traveling with him stood speechless,  
for they heard the voice but could see no one.  
Saul got up from the ground,  
but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing;  
so they led him by the hand and brought him to Damascus.  
For three days he was unable to see, and he neither ate nor drank.

There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias,  
and the Lord said to him in a vision, Ananias.”  
He answered, “Here I am, Lord.”  
The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight  
and ask at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul.  
He is there praying,  
and in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias  
come in and lay his hands on him,  
that he may regain his sight.”  
But Ananias replied,  
“Lord, I have heard from many sources about this man,  
what evil things he has done to your holy ones in Jerusalem.  
And here he has authority from the chief priests  
to imprison all who call upon your name.”  
But the Lord said to him,

“Go, for this man is a chosen instrument of mine  
to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and children of Israel,  
and I will show him what he will have to suffer for my name.”  
So Ananias went and entered the house;  
laying his hands on him, he said,  
“Saul, my brother, the Lord has sent me,  
Jesus who appeared to you on the way by which you came,  
that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”  
Immediately things like scales fell from his eyes  
and he regained his sight.  
He got up and was baptized,  
and when he had eaten, he recovered his strength.

He stayed some days with the disciples in Damascus,  
and he began at once to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues,  
that he is the Son of God.

All who heard him were astounded and said,  
“Is not this the man who in Jerusalem  
ravaged those who call upon this name,  
and came here expressly to take them back in chains  
to the chief priests?”

But Saul grew all the stronger  
and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus,  
proving that this is the Christ.

## Responsorial Psalm

117:1bc, 2

R. (Mark 16:15) Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.  
or:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Praise the LORD, all you nations;

glorify him, all you peoples!

R. Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.

or:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

For steadfast is his kindness toward us,

and the fidelity of the Lord endures forever.

R. Go out to all the world, and tell the Good News.

or:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Alleluia**

**See Jn 15:16**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I chose you from the world,

to go and bear fruit that will last, says the Lord.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel**

**Mk 16:15-18**

Jesus appeared to the Eleven and said to them:

“Go into the whole world

and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved;

whoever does not believe will be condemned.

These signs will accompany those who believe:

in my name they will drive out demons,

they will speak new languages.

They will pick up serpents with their hands,

and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them.  
They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

# Tuesday 1/26/21

## Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, bishops

Lectionary: 520/318

Reading I

2 Tm 1:1-8

Paul, an Apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God  
for the promise of life in Christ Jesus,  
to Timothy, my dear child:  
grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father  
and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God,  
whom I worship with a clear conscience as my ancestors did,  
as I remember you constantly in my prayers, night and day.  
I yearn to see you again, recalling your tears,  
so that I may be filled with joy,  
as I recall your sincere faith  
that first lived in your grandmother Lois  
and in your mother Eunice  
and that I am confident lives also in you.

For this reason, I remind you to stir into flame  
the gift of God that you have through the imposition of my hands.  
For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice  
but rather of power and love and self-control.  
So do not be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord,  
nor of me, a prisoner for his sake;

but bear your share of hardship for the Gospel  
with the strength that comes from God.

OR:

**Ti 1:1-5**

Paul, a slave of God and Apostle of Jesus Christ  
for the sake of the faith of God's chosen ones  
and the recognition of religious truth,  
in the hope of eternal life  
that God, who does not lie, promised before time began,  
who indeed at the proper time revealed his word  
in the proclamation with which I was entrusted  
by the command of God our savior,  
to Titus, my true child in our common faith:  
grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our savior.

For this reason I left you in Crete  
so that you might set right what remains to be done  
and appoint presbyters in every town, as I directed you.

## Responsorial Psalm

**96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10**

R. (3) Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.

Sing to the LORD a new song;

    sing to the LORD, all you lands.

Sing to the LORD; bless his name.

R. Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.

Announce his salvation, day after day.

Tell his glory among the nations;

    among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.



R. Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.  
Give to the LORD, you families of nations,  
give to the LORD glory and praise;  
give to the LORD the glory due his name!

R. Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.  
Say among the nations: The LORD is king.  
He has made the world firm, not to be moved;  
he governs the peoples with equity.

R. Proclaim God's marvelous deeds to all the nations.  
**Alleluia**

**See Mt 11:25**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.  
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel**

**Mk 3:31-35**

The mother of Jesus and his brothers arrived at the house.  
Standing outside, they sent word to Jesus and called him.  
A crowd seated around him told him,  
"Your mother and your brothers and your sisters  
are outside asking for you."  
But he said to them in reply,  
"Who are my mother and my brothers?"  
And looking around at those seated in the circle he said,  
"Here are my mother and my brothers.  
For whoever does the will of God  
is my brother and sister and mother."

# Wednesday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 319

Reading I

Heb 10:11-18

Every priest stands daily at his ministry,  
offering frequently those same sacrifices  
that can never take away sins.

But this one offered one sacrifice for sins,  
and took his seat forever at the right hand of God;  
now he waits until his enemies are made his footstool.  
For by one offering he has made perfect forever  
those who are being consecrated.

The Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying:

*This is the covenant I will establish with them  
after those days, says the Lord:  
“I will put my laws in their hearts,  
and I will write them upon their minds,”*

he also says:

*Their sins and their evildoing  
I will remember no more.*

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer offering for sin.

Responsorial Psalm

110:1, 2, 3, 4

R. (4b) You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.  
The LORD said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand

till I make your enemies your footstool.”

R. You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

The scepter of your power the LORD will stretch forth from Zion:

“Rule in the midst of your enemies.”

R. You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

“Yours is princely power in the day of your birth, in holy splendor;

before the daystar, like the dew, I have begotten you.”

R. You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

The LORD has sworn, and he will not repent:

“You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

R. You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

**Alleluia**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;

all who come to him will live for ever.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel**

**Mk 4:1-20**

On another occasion, Jesus began to teach by the sea.

A very large crowd gathered around him

so that he got into a boat on the sea and sat down.

And the whole crowd was beside the sea on land.

And he taught them at length in parables,

and in the course of his instruction he said to them,

“Hear this! A sower went out to sow.

And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path,

and the birds came and ate it up.

Other seed fell on rocky ground where it had little soil.

It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep.  
And when the sun rose, it was scorched and it withered for lack of roots.  
Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it  
and it produced no grain.  
And some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit.  
It came up and grew and yielded thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold.”  
He added, “Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear.”

And when he was alone,  
those present along with the Twelve  
questioned him about the parables.  
He answered them,  
“The mystery of the Kingdom of God has been granted to you.  
But to those outside everything comes in parables, so that

*they may look and see but not perceive,  
and hear and listen but not understand,  
in order that they may not be converted and be forgiven.”*

Jesus said to them, “Do you not understand this parable?  
Then how will you understand any of the parables?  
The sower sows the word.

These are the ones on the path where the word is sown.  
As soon as they hear, Satan comes at once  
and takes away the word sown in them.

And these are the ones sown on rocky ground who,  
when they hear the word, receive it at once with joy.  
But they have no roots; they last only for a time.

Then when tribulation or persecution comes because of the word,  
they quickly fall away.

Those sown among thorns are another sort.

They are the people who hear the word,  
but worldly anxiety, the lure of riches,  
and the craving for other things intrude and choke the word,  
and it bears no fruit.

But those sown on rich soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it  
and bear fruit thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”

# Thursday 1/28/21 Memorial of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Lectionary: 320

Reading I

Heb 10:19-25

Brothers and sisters:

Since through the Blood of Jesus

we have confidence of entrance into the sanctuary

by the new and living way he opened for us through the veil,

that is, his flesh,

and since we have “a great priest over the house of God,”

let us approach with a sincere heart and in absolute trust,

with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience

and our bodies washed in pure water.

Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope,

for he who made the promise is trustworthy.

We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works.

We should not stay away from our assembly,

as is the custom of some, but encourage one another,

and this all the more as you see the day drawing near.

## Responsorial Psalm

24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6

R. (see 6) Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness;

the world and those who dwell in it.

For he founded it upon the seas  
and established it upon the rivers.

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?

or who may stand in his holy place?

He whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean,  
who desires not what is vain.

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD,

a reward from God his savior.

Such is the race that seeks for him,

that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

**Alleluia**

**Ps 119:105**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

A lamp to my feet is your word,

a light to my path.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

**Gospel**

**Mk 4:21-25**

Jesus said to his disciples,

“Is a lamp brought in to be placed under a bushel basket  
or under a bed,

and not to be placed on a lampstand?

For there is nothing hidden except to be made visible;

nothing is secret except to come to light.

Anyone who has ears to hear ought to hear.”

He also told them, “Take care what you hear.

The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you,  
and still more will be given to you.

To the one who has, more will be given;

from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.”



# Friday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 321

Reading I

Heb 10:32-39

Remember the days past when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a great contest of suffering.

At times you were publicly exposed to abuse and affliction; at other times you associated yourselves with those so treated.

You even joined in the sufferings of those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, knowing that you had a better and lasting possession.

Therefore, do not throw away your confidence; it will have great recompense.

You need endurance to do the will of God and receive what he has promised.

*For, after just a brief moment,  
he who is to come shall come;  
he shall not delay.*

*But my just one shall live by faith,  
and if he draws back I take no pleasure in him.*

We are not among those who draw back and perish, but among those who have faith and will possess life.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40

R. (39a) The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

Trust in the LORD and do good,

that you may dwell in the land and be fed in security.

Take delight in the LORD,

and he will grant you your heart's requests.

R. The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

Commit to the LORD your way;

trust in him, and he will act.

He will make justice dawn for you like the light;

bright as the noonday shall be your vindication.

R. The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

By the LORD are the steps of a man made firm,

and he approves his way.

Though he fall, he does not lie prostrate,

for the hand of the LORD sustains him.

R. The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

The salvation of the just is from the LORD;

he is their refuge in time of distress.

And the LORD helps them and delivers them;

he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,

because they take refuge in him.

R. The salvation of the just comes from the Lord.

**Alleluia**

**See Mt 11:25**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

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

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

# Gospel

Mk 4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds:

“This is how it is with the Kingdom of God;  
it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land  
and would sleep and rise night and day  
and the seed would sprout and grow,  
he knows not how.

Of its own accord the land yields fruit,  
first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.  
And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once,  
for the harvest has come.”

He said,

“To what shall we compare the Kingdom of God,  
or what parable can we use for it?

It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground,  
is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth.

But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants  
and puts forth large branches,  
so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade.”

With many such parables

he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it.

Without parables he did not speak to them,

but to his own disciples he explained everything in private.

# Saturday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 322

Reading I

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

Brothers and sisters:

Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen.

Because of it the ancients were well attested.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance;

he went out, not knowing where he was to go.

By faith he sojourned in the promised land as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs of the same promise;

for he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and maker is God.

By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age and Sarah herself was sterile

for he thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.

So it was that there came forth from one man, himself as good as dead,

descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sands on the seashore.

All these died in faith.

They did not receive what had been promised

but saw it and greeted it from afar  
and acknowledged themselves to be strangers and aliens on earth,  
for those who speak thus show that they are seeking a homeland.  
If they had been thinking of the land from which they had come,  
they would have had opportunity to return.  
But now they desire a better homeland, a heavenly one.  
Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God,  
for he has prepared a city for them.

By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac,  
and he who had received the promises was ready to offer his only son,  
of whom it was said,

*Through Isaac descendants shall bear your name.*

He reasoned that God was able to raise even from the dead,  
and he received Isaac back as a symbol.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Luke 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75**

R. (see 68) Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel; he has come to his  
people.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,  
born of the house of his servant David.

R. Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel; he has come to his people.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old.

that he would save us from our sins  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers  
and to remember his holy covenant.

R. Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel; he has come to his people.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the bonds of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

R. Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel; he has come to his people.  
**Alleluia**

**Jn 3:16**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel

**Mk 4:35-41**

On that day, as evening drew on, Jesus said to his disciples:

“Let us cross to the other side.”

Leaving the crowd, they took Jesus with them in the boat just as he was.

And other boats were with him.

A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat,  
so that it was already filling up.

Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion.

They woke him and said to him,

“Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”

He woke up,

rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Quiet! Be still!”

The wind ceased and there was great calm.

Then he asked them, “Why are you terrified?

Do you not yet have faith?”

They were filled with great awe and said to one another,  
“Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?”

# Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 71

## Reading I

Dt 18:15-20

Moses spoke to all the people, saying:

“A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you  
from among your own kin;  
to him you shall listen.

This is exactly what you requested of the LORD, your God, at Horeb  
on the day of the assembly, when you said,

‘Let us not again hear the voice of the LORD, our God,  
nor see this great fire any more, lest we die.’

And the LORD said to me, ‘This was well said.

I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kin,  
and will put my words into his mouth;  
he shall tell them all that I command him.

Whoever will not listen to my words which he speaks in my name,  
I myself will make him answer for it.

But if a prophet presumes to speak in my name  
an oracle that I have not commanded him to speak,  
or speaks in the name of other gods, he shall die.’”

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9



**R. (8) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;

let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship;

let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

For he is our God,

and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:

“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,

as in the day of Massah in the desert,

Where your fathers tempted me;

they tested me though they had seen my works.”

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Reading II

1 Cor 7:32-35

Brothers and sisters:

I should like you to be free of anxieties.

An unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord,  
how he may please the Lord.

But a married man is anxious about the things of the world,

how he may please his wife, and he is divided.

An unmarried woman or a virgin is anxious about the things of the Lord,  
so that she may be holy in both body and spirit.

A married woman, on the other hand,  
is anxious about the things of the world,  
how she may please her husband.

I am telling you this for your own benefit,  
not to impose a restraint upon you,  
but for the sake of propriety  
and adherence to the Lord without distraction.

Alleluia

Mt 4:16

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light;  
on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death,  
light has arisen.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

Mk 1:21-28

Then they came to Capernaum,  
and on the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught.  
The people were astonished at his teaching,

for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit;

he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?

Have you come to destroy us?

I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

Jesus rebuked him and said,

“Quiet! Come out of him!”

The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him.

All were amazed and asked one another,

“What is this?

A new teaching with authority.

He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him.”

His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.

