



Collect

Blessed Lord,
 who caused all holy Scriptures to be written
 for our learning:
 help us so to hear them,
 to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
 that, through patience, and the comfort of
 your holy word,
 we may embrace and for ever hold fast
 the hope of everlasting life,
 which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus
 Christ,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

First Reading I Thessalonians 2:1-8

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the

gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Gospel Reading Matthew 22:34-end

Hear the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'" This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Post Communion Prayer

God of all grace,
 your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
 with the bread of his life
 and the word of his kingdom:
 renew your people with your heavenly grace,
 and in all our weakness
 sustain us by your true and living bread;
 who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.