



READING GOD'S WORD
Daily and Sunday Mass Readings
Church Year B 2024



Creative Communications for the Parish
1564 Fencorp Drive
Fenton, MO 63026
www.creativecommunications.com



READING GOD'S WORD

Daily and Sunday Mass Readings

Church Year B 2024

© 2023 *Creative Communications for the Parish,*
a division of Bayard, Inc.

Published with the authority of the Committee on Divine Worship, United States
Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of
America*, second typical edition © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of
Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved.
No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writ-
ing from the copyright owner.

The English translation of some Psalm responses, some Alleluia and Gospel verses,
and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, some Summaries, and the Titles and Conclu-
sions of the Readings, from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1968, 1981, 1997, International
Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc., Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Used
with permission.

The poetic English translation of the sequences of the Roman Missal are taken from
the Roman Missal approved by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops of the
United States © 1964 by the National Catholic Welfare Conference, Inc. All rights
reserved.

ISBN Number: 978-1-68279-455-5

Cover Design: Jamie Wyatt
Cover Art: Adobe Stock/Howgill

INTRODUCTION

What began primarily as an aid to lectors preparing for Mass has now become a regular part of the daily prayer of Catholics who know the value of praying with Scripture. *Reading God's Word* helps us to follow the daily worship of the Church in a simple and convenient form.

Reading God's Word has the exact passages for daily Mass for an entire year, and they are available whenever you want them. More than simply convenient, *Reading God's Word* offers a way to respond to God's invitation to share his life. As the world Synod of Bishops on the "Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church" noted in October 2008, Scripture represents God's desire to speak directly to us. When we take up the texts in *Reading God's Word*, we enter into a relationship with God in a profound way, and these living words begin to take root in our lives and bear fruit.

True, some of the words are so familiar as to be commonplace after years of hearing them proclaimed at Mass. At the same time, new circumstances in our lives as well as the action of grace can give new meaning to a text that we have heard since childhood. When we hear or read these words intently, we discover that as St. Paul has taught us (Romans 15:4), everything written in Scripture is written as instruction for our benefit.

May *Reading God's Word* richly benefit you all during the coming year.

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

2023

First Sunday of Advent.....	Dec. 3
Immaculate Conception (<i>holy day of obligation</i>).....	Fri., Dec. 8
Christmas (<i>holy day of obligation</i>).....	Mon., Dec. 25
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.....	Sun., Dec. 31

2024

The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.....	Mon., Jan. 1
Epiphany.....	Sun., Jan. 7
The Baptism of the Lord.....	Mon., Jan. 8
The Presentation of the Lord.....	Fri., Feb. 2
Ash Wednesday.....	Feb. 14
St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.....	Tues., Mar. 19
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord.....	Mar. 24
Holy Thursday.....	Mar. 28
Good Friday.....	Mar. 29
Holy Saturday.....	Mar. 30
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord.....	Mar. 31
The Annunciation of the Lord.....	Mon., Apr. 8
Ascension (<i>holy day of obligation</i>).....	Thu., May 9 or Sun., May 12
Pentecost Sunday.....	May 19
The Most Holy Trinity.....	Sun., May 26
The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.....	Sun., June 2
The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.....	Fri., June 7
The Nativity of St. John the Baptist.....	Mon., June 24
St. Peter and St. Paul.....	Sat., June 29
The Transfiguration of the Lord.....	Tues., Aug. 6
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (<i>holy day of obligation</i>).....	Thurs., Aug. 15
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross.....	Sat., Sept. 14
All Saints (<i>holy day of obligation</i>).....	Fri., Nov. 1
The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day).....	Sat., Nov. 2
The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica.....	Sat., Nov. 9
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.....	Sun., Nov. 24
First Sunday of Advent.....	Dec. 1

NOTICE FOR LECTORS

If this book is used to prepare for reading at Mass, please note that the “announcement” formula is: “A reading from the Book of ...,” “A reading from the Letter of ...,” or “A reading from the holy Gospel according to ...” We have placed † before the citation as a reminder of the announcement.

At the end of the readings, the lector or presider is to say, “The word of the Lord.” We have placed † at the end of texts as a reminder of that concluding declaration.

Also, herein the Responsorial Verse of each day’s Psalm is printed only once in full, with an **R.** indicating where repetition is called for. The **R.** at the end of the Gospel Verse indicates that the response is one “Alleluia” or the acclamation used during Lent. ■

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

† *Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7*

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down!

You, LORD, are our father,
our redeemer you are named forever.
Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways,
and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?
Return for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your heritage.
Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
with the mountains quaking before you,
while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for,
such as they had not heard of from of old.
No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you
doing such deeds for those who wait for him.
Would that you might meet us doing right,
that we were mindful of you in our ways!
Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful;
all of us have become like unclean people,
all our good deeds are like polluted rags;
we have all withered like leaves,
and our guilt carries us away like the wind.
There is none who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to cling to you;
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us up to our guilt.
Yet, O LORD, you are our father;
we are the clay and you the potter:
we are all the work of your hands. †

Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

R. (4) Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken,
from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth.

Rouse your power,
and come to save us. **R.**

Once again, O LORD of hosts,
look down from heaven, and see;
take care of this vine,
and protect what your right hand has planted,
the son of man whom you yourself made strong. **R.**

May your help be with the man of your right hand,
with the son of man whom you yourself made strong.
Then we will no more withdraw from you;
give us new life, and we will call upon your name. **R.**

† 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

We wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Brothers and sisters:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account
for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus,
that in him you were enriched in every way,
with all discourse and all knowledge,
as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you,
so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift
as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He will keep you firm to the end,
irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
God is faithful,
and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord. †

Psalm 85:8

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us, Lord, your love;
and grant us your salvation. **R.**

† Mark 13:33-37

Be watchful! You do not know when the lord of the house is coming.

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge,

each with his own work,

and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore;

you do not know when the lord of the house is coming,

whether in the evening, or at midnight,

or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’” †

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4
ADVENT WEEKDAY, ST. JOHN DAMASCENE

† *Isaiah 2:1-5*

The LORD will gather all nations into the eternal peace of the Kingdom of God.

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz,
saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come,
The mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest mountain
and raised above the hills.
All nations shall stream toward it;
many peoples shall come and say:
"Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
That he may instruct us in his ways,
and we may walk in his paths."
For from Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and impose terms on many peoples.
They shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
One nation shall not raise the sword against another,
nor shall they train for war again.

O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the LORD! †

Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9

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

I rejoiced because they said to me,
"We will go up to the house of the LORD."

And now we have set foot
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

Jerusalem, built as a city
with compact unity.

To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD. **R.**

According to the decree for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

In it are set up judgment seats,
seats for the house of David. **R.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

May those who love you prosper!
May peace be within your walls,
prosperity in your buildings. **R.**
Because of my relatives and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you!"
Because of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will pray for your good. **R.**

See Psalm 80:4

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Come and save us, Lord our God;
let your face shine upon us, that we may be saved. **R.**

† Matthew 8:5-11

Many will come from the east and the west into the Kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus entered Capernaum,
a centurion approached him and appealed to him, saying,
"Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, suffering dreadfully."
He said to him, "I will come and cure him."
The centurion said in reply,
"Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof;
only say the word and my servant will be healed.
For I too am a man subject to authority,
with soldiers subject to me.
And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes;
and to another, 'Come here,' and he comes;
and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it."
When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him,
"Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith.
I say to you, many will come from the east and the west,
and will recline with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
at the banquet in the Kingdom of heaven." †

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

ADVENT WEEKDAY

† Isaiah 11:1-10

The Spirit of the LORD God shall rest upon him.

On that day,
A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,
and from his roots a bud shall blossom.
The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him:
a Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
A Spirit of counsel and of strength,
a Spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD,

and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD.
Not by appearance shall he judge,
nor by hearsay shall he decide,
But he shall judge the poor with justice,
and decide aright for the land's afflicted.
He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.
Justice shall be the band around his waist,
and faithfulness a belt upon his hips.

Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
The calf and the young lion shall browse together,
with a little child to guide them.
The cow and the bear shall be neighbors,
together their young shall rest;
the lion shall eat hay like the ox.
The baby shall play by the cobra's den,
and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair.
There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD,
as water covers the sea.

On that day,
The root of Jesse,
set up as a signal for the nations,
The Gentiles shall seek out,
for his dwelling shall be glorious. †

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17

R. (see 7) **Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.**

O God, with your judgment endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son;
He shall govern your people with justice
and your afflicted ones with judgment. **R.**
Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, till the moon be no more.
May he rule from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth. **R.**
He shall rescue the poor when he cries out,
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor;
the lives of the poor he shall save. **R.**
May his name be blessed forever;
as long as the sun his name shall remain.

In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed;
all the nations shall proclaim his happiness. **R.**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, our Lord shall come with power;
he will enlighten the eyes of his servants. **R.**

† *Luke 10:21-24*

Jesus rejoices in the Holy Spirit.

Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said,
“I give you praise, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things
from the wise and the learned
you have revealed them to the childlike.
Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.
All things have been handed over to me by my Father.
No one knows who the Son is except the Father,
and who the Father is except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.”

Turning to the disciples in private he said,
“Blessed are the eyes that see what you see.
For I say to you,
many prophets and kings desired to see what you see,
but did not see it,
and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.” †

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

ADVENT WEEKDAY, ST. NICHOLAS

† *Isaiah 25:6-10a*

The LORD invites us to his feast and will wipe away the tears from all faces.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts
will provide for all peoples
A feast of rich food and choice wines,
juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines.
On this mountain he will destroy
the veil that veils all peoples,
The web that is woven over all nations;
he will destroy death forever.
The Lord GOD will wipe away
the tears from all faces;
The reproach of his people he will remove
from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.

On that day it will be said:

“Behold our GOD, to whom we looked to save us!

This is the LORD for whom we looked;

let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain. †

Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

R. (6cd) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

In verdant pastures he gives me repose;

Beside restful waters he leads me;

he refreshes my soul. **R.**

He guides me in right paths

for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk in the dark valley

I fear no evil; for you are at my side

With your rod and your staff

that give me courage. **R.**

You spread the table before me

in the sight of my foes;

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows. **R.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me

all the days of my life;

And I shall dwell in the house of the LORD

for years to come. **R.**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, the Lord comes to save his people;

blessed are those prepared to meet him. **R.**

† Matthew 15:29-37

Jesus heals many and multiplies the bread.

At that time:

Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee,

went up on the mountain, and sat down there.

Great crowds came to him,

having with them the lame, the blind, the deformed, the mute,

and many others.

They placed them at his feet, and he cured them.

The crowds were amazed when they saw the mute speaking,

the deformed made whole,

the lame walking,

and the blind able to see,

and they glorified the God of Israel.

Jesus summoned his disciples and said,

“My heart is moved with pity for the crowd,
for they have been with me now for three days
and have nothing to eat.

I do not want to send them away hungry,
for fear they may collapse on the way.”

The disciples said to him,

“Where could we ever get enough bread in this deserted place to satisfy
such a crowd?”

Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?”

“Seven,” they replied, “and a few fish.”

He ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground.

Then he took the seven loaves and the fish,
gave thanks, broke the loaves,

and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds.

They all ate and were satisfied.

They picked up the fragments left over—seven baskets full. †

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

ST. AMBROSE

† Isaiah 26:1-6

Let in a nation that is just, one that keeps faith.

On that day they will sing this song in the land of Judah:

“A strong city have we;
he sets up walls and ramparts to protect us.

Open up the gates
to let in a nation that is just,
one that keeps faith.

A nation of firm purpose you keep in peace;
in peace, for its trust in you.”

Trust in the LORD forever!

For the LORD is an eternal Rock.

He humbles those in high places,
and the lofty city he brings down;

He tumbles it to the ground,
levels it with the dust.

It is trampled underfoot by the needy,
by the footsteps of the poor. †

Psalm 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a

R. (26a) Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. (or Alleluia.)

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his mercy endures forever.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to trust in man.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to trust in princes. **R.**

Open to me the gates of justice;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.

This gate is the LORD's;
the just shall enter it.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and have been my savior. **R.**

O LORD, grant salvation!

O LORD, grant prosperity!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD;
we bless you from the house of the LORD.

The LORD is God, and he has given us light. **R.**

Isaiah 55:6

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call him while he is near. **R.**

† Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Whoever does the will of my Father will enter the Kingdom of heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’
will enter the Kingdom of heaven,
but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

“Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them
will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.

The rain fell, the floods came,
and the winds blew and buffeted the house.

But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.

And everyone who listens to these words of mine
but does not act on them

will be like a fool who built his house on sand.

The rain fell, the floods came,
and the winds blew and buffeted the house.

And it collapsed and was completely ruined.” †

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
(PATRONAL FEASTDAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)**

† *Genesis 3:9-15, 20*

I will put enmity between your offspring and hers.

After the man, Adam, had eaten of the tree,
the LORD God called to the man and asked him, "Where are you?"
He answered, "I heard you in the garden;
but I was afraid, because I was naked,
so I hid myself."
Then he asked, "Who told you that you were naked?
You have eaten, then,
from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat!"
The man replied, "The woman whom you put here with me—
she gave me fruit from the tree, and so I ate it."
The LORD God then asked the woman,
"Why did you do such a thing?"
The woman answered, "The serpent tricked me into it, so I ate it."

Then the LORD God said to the serpent:
"Because you have done this, you shall be banned
from all the animals
and from all the wild creatures;
on your belly shall you crawl,
and dirt shall you eat
all the days of your life.
I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike at your head,
while you strike at his heel."

The man called his wife Eve,
because she became the mother of all the living. †

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

R. (1) Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.

Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done wondrous deeds;
His right hand has won victory for him,
his holy arm. **R.**

The LORD has made his salvation known:
in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.
He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness
toward the house of Israel. **R.**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation by our God.
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;
break into song; sing praise. **R.**

† *Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12*

He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world.

Brothers and sisters:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,
as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world,
to be holy and without blemish before him.

In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ,
in accord with the favor of his will,
for the praise of the glory of his grace
that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we were also chosen,
destined in accord with the purpose of the One
who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will,
so that we might exist for the praise of his glory,
we who first hoped in Christ. †

See Luke 1:28

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you;
blessed are you among women. **R.**

† *Luke 1:26-38*

Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.

The angel Gabriel was sent from God
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,
of the house of David,
and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said,

“Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.”

But she was greatly troubled at what was said
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her,

“Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor with God.

Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.