FEBRUARY 17, 2021

Ash Wednesday

The Lenten journey begins today, Ash Wednesday. I invite each of you to live this time in an authentic spirit of penance and conversion, like a return to the Father, who awaits us all with open arms.

— Pope Francis
“Spiritus Est Qui Vivificat.”
It is the Spirit Who gives Life.

The voice of the prophet calls the community together:
Sound the trumpet in Zion! Sound the trumpet on earth!
Sound the trumpet and listen.
Proclaim a fast. Call an Assembly. Gather the nations.
Tell all the people: Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.
Now is the time, now is the day. Turn from your sins. Return to the Lord.
– Joel 2:15

Choral Prelude - Lenten Proclamation
Fr. James Chepponis

Gathering - Again We Keep This Solemn Fast

ERHALT UNS HERR

Text: St. Gregory the Great. Music: Geistliche Lieder; J.S. Bach
LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Scripture - *Book of the Prophet Joel 2:12-18*

The Lord is slow to anger and rich in kindness. The faithful return with their whole hearts, fasting and repenting. All God’s people gather together before the Lord for mercy.

 RESPONSORIAL - *Psalm 51: Be Merciful, O Lord*

Owen Alstott

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me. For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always: “Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight.” A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me. Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Text: ICEL. Music: Owen Alstott © 1977 1990. Published by OCP.

Second Scripture - *Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 5:20-6:2*

Paul implores the Corinthians to be reconciled to God right away. As Christ carried their sins upon the cross, so they can bear his holiness within them if they turn to him. The day of salvation is today!

 Gospel Acclamation - *Praise To You*

Marty Haugen

Verse: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts..

Music: Marty Haugen, Mass of Creation © 2010 GIA Publications.

Gospel - *Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18*

Jesus warns the disciples against performing religious acts only to attract the attention of others. In giving alms, praying and fasting, Christians are to conduct themselves in such a way that no one will know except God, who sees all things.
Homily

Distribution of Ashes - *Quietly, Peacefully*  

Lori True

\[
\text{Quietly, peacefully let me rest in you.}
\]

\[
\text{Quietly, peacefully lead me back to you.}
\]

In my weakness I have strayed, drifting far from you.
In your goodness steady me, light my path to you.
Breathe your law deep in me, plant it in my soul.
Let your justice be my song, kindness be my goal
Save me from my selfish ways, keep me from my pride.
By your grace, bring me home, safely by your side.

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Prayer of the Faithful – *Lord, Hear Our Prayer*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of Gifts – *Hosea*  

Gregory Norbet
Preface Dialogue

Eucharistic Acclamations

Music & text: The Roman Missal © 2010, ICEL.
Communion - Loving and Forgiving  
Scott Soper

Text & music © 1992 OCP.

Mission Forth - Ashes  
Tom Conry

Text & music: Tom Conry © 1978 OCP

Remember you are dust...

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