A desert experience is a period when we can’t seem to feel God’s presence. Today we hear of Jesus’ experience in the desert and wilderness. Sometimes in life, we find ourselves forced to be in the desert. It could be after a great loss—perhaps a friend or family member, or our own health or wellbeing—or it could be during any dry period of our life. One’s faith is truly tested there. The demons tempt, egos crumble and questions haunt. It is a time of looking deep inside ourselves, something so difficult for so many to do. The desert blooms (Isaiah 35) but it is in hindsight that one experiences the richness and blessings of time spent in the desert. Pray!

~ Elaine Rendler, *Today’s Liturgy, Oregon Catholic Press*
“Spiritus Est Qui Vivificat.”
It is the Spirit Who gives Life.

Gathering – Ashes

Verses
Lord Jesus, wisdom of God, by your miracles and teaching you reveal eternal truth.
Christ Jesus, mercy of God, by your healing and forgiveness you give hope to the world.
Lord Jesus, image of God, by your death and resurrection you unite heaven and earth.

Penitential Rite – Mass of the Angels and Saints

Steven Janco

Verses
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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STATIONS OF THE CROSS
During the Lenten season, there will be Stations of the Cross following each Friday noon Mass in the Chapel. This will take the place of the normally scheduled weekly Holy Hour throughout Lent. Stations last approximately 30 minutes.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Scripture – *Book of Genesis* 9:8–15
God establishes a covenant with Noah and his descendants. The covenant between God and Noah reaches beyond humanity to embrace all living beings.

Responsorial – *Psalm 25: To You, O Lord*  

Lord, make me know your ways, teach me your paths and keep me in the way of your truth, for you are God, my Savior.

For the Lord is good and righteous, revealing the way to those who wander, gently leading the poor and the humble.

To the ones who seek the Lord, who look to God’s word, who live God’s love, God will always be near, and will show them mercy.

Text & music: Marty Haugen © 1982 GIA Publications

Second Scripture – *First Letter of Saint Peter* 3:18–22
As the ark saved a chosen few in Noah’s day, so does baptism by faith save God’s chosen today. Baptism is “an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”
Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful – Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Gospel – Mark 1:12–15
The Spirit sent Jesus to the desert to fast and pray for forty days. Afterwards, Jesus appeared in Galilee proclaiming “the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

Music: Marty Haugen © 2010 GIA Publications.

Verse: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.
Preface Dialogue

Eucharistic Acclamations

The Roman Missal

Music & text: The Roman Missal © 2010, ICEL.
Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive to my voice in supplication.
If you, O Lord, mark iniquities, Lord, who can stand?
But with you is forgiveness, that you may be revered.
I trust in the Lord, my soul trusts in his word.
My soul waits for the Lord more than sentinels wait for the dawn,
For with the Lord is kindness and with him is plenteous redemption;
And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities.

Other spirits, lesser gods, have courted me with lies.
Here among you I have found a truth which bids me rise.

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