

Selected Readings: February Liturgies 2019

February 3rd – 4th Sunday Ordinary

First Reading: Jeremiah 1: 4 – 5, 17 -18

The word of the LORD came to me, saying:
 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
 before you were born I dedicated you,
 a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

But do you gird your loins;
 stand up and tell them
 all that I command you.
 Be not crushed on their account,
 as though I would leave you crushed before them;
 for it is I this day
 who have made you a fortified city,
 a pillar of iron, a wall of brass,
 against the whole land:
 against Judah's kings and princes,
 against its priests and people.
 They will fight against you but not prevail over you,
 for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13: 13

Brothers and sisters:
 Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.
 But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in human and angelic tongues,
 but do not have love,
 I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.
 And if I have the gift of prophecy,
 and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;
 if I have all faith so as to move mountains,
 but do not have love, I am nothing.
 If I give away everything I own,
 and if I hand my body over so that I may boast,
 but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind.
 It is not jealous, it is not pompous,
 It is not inflated, it is not rude,
 it does not seek its own interests,

it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,
 it does not rejoice over wrongdoing
 but rejoices with the truth.
 It bears all things, believes all things,
 hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.
 If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing;
 if tongues, they will cease;
 if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.
 For we know partially and we prophesy partially,
 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.
 When I was a child, I used to talk as a child,
 think as a child, reason as a child;
 when I became a man, I put aside childish things.
 At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror,
 but then face to face.
 At present I know partially;
 then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.
 So faith, hope, love remain, these three;
 but the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Reading: Luke 4: 21-30

Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying:
 "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."
 And all spoke highly of him
 and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth.
 They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?"
 He said to them, "Surely you will quote me this proverb,
 'Physician, cure yourself,' and say,
 'Do here in your native place
 the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.'"
 And he said, "Amen, I say to you,
 no prophet is accepted in his own native place.
 Indeed, I tell you,
 there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah
 when the sky was closed for three and a half years
 and a severe famine spread over the entire land.
 It was to none of these that Elijah was sent,
 but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon.
 Again, there were many lepers in Israel
 during the time of Elisha the prophet;
 yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian."
 When the people in the synagogue heard this,
 they were all filled with fury.
 They rose up, drove him out of the town,

and led him to the brow of the hill
 on which their town had been built,
 to hurl him down headlong.
 But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away.

February 10th - 5th Sunday Ordinary

First Reading: Isaiah 4: 1-6

In the year King Uzziah died,
 I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne,
 with the train of his garment filling the temple.
 Seraphim were stationed above.

They cried one to the other,
 "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts!
 All the earth is filled with his glory!"
 At the sound of that cry, the frame of the door shook
 and the house was filled with smoke.

Then I said, "Woe is me, I am doomed!
 For I am a man of unclean lips,
 living among a people of unclean lips;
 yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"
 Then one of the seraphim flew to me,
 holding an ember that he had taken with tongs from the altar.

He touched my mouth with it, and said,
 "See, now that this has touched your lips,
 your wickedness is removed, your sin purged."

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
 "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"
 "Here I am," I said; "send me!"

Gospel Reading: Luke 5: 1-11

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening
 to the word of God,
 he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret.
 He saw two boats there alongside the lake;
 the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets.
 Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon,
 he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore.
 Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.
 After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon,

"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch."
 Simon said in reply,
 "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing,
 but at your command I will lower the nets."
 When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish
 and their nets were tearing.
 They signaled to their partners in the other boat
 to come to help them.
 They came and filled both boats
 so that the boats were in danger of sinking.
 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said,
 "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."
 For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him
 and all those with him,
 and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee,
 who were partners of Simon.
 Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid;
 from now on you will be catching men."
 When they brought their boats to the shore,
 they left everything and followed him.

February 17th – 6th Ordinary

Jeremiah 17: 5-8

Thus says the LORD:
 Cursed is the one who trusts in human beings,
 who seeks his strength in flesh,
 whose heart turns away from the LORD.
 He is like a barren bush in the desert
 that enjoys no change of season,
 but stands in a lava waste,
 a salt and empty earth.
 Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
 whose hope is the LORD.
 He is like a tree planted beside the waters
 that stretches out its roots to the stream:
 it fears not the heat when it comes;
 its leaves stay green;
 in the year of drought it shows no distress,
 but still bears fruit.

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Jesus came down with the twelve
 and stood on a stretch of level ground

with a great crowd of his disciples
 and a large number of the people
 from all Judea and Jerusalem
 and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon.
 And raising his eyes toward his disciples he said:
 “Blessed are you who are poor,
 for the kingdom of God is yours.
 Blessed are you who are now hungry,
 for you will be satisfied.
 Blessed are you who are now weeping,
 for you will laugh.
 Blessed are you when people hate you,
 and when they exclude and insult you,
 and denounce your name as evil
 on account of the Son of Man.
 Rejoice and leap for joy on that day!
 Behold, your reward will be great in heaven.
 For their ancestors treated the prophets in the same way.
 But woe to you who are rich,
 for you have received your consolation.
 Woe to you who are filled now,
 for you will be hungry.
 Woe to you who laugh now,
 for you will grieve and weep.
 Woe to you when all speak well of you,
 for their ancestors treated the false
 prophets in this way.”

February 24th 7th Ordinary

Gospel Reading: Luke 6: 27-38

Jesus said to his disciples:
 “To you who hear I say,
 love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
 To the person who strikes you on one cheek,
 offer the other one as well,
 and from the person who takes your cloak,
 do not withhold even your tunic.
 Give to everyone who asks of you,
 and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back.
 Do to others as you would have them do to you.
 For if you love those who love you,
 what credit is that to you?
 Even sinners love those who love them.
 And if you do good to those who do good to you,

what credit is that to you?
Even sinners do the same.
If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment,
what credit is that to you?
Even sinners lend to sinners,
and get back the same amount.
But rather, love your enemies and do good to them,
and lend expecting nothing back;
then your reward will be great
and you will be children of the Most High,
for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.
Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Stop judging and you will not be judged.
Stop condemning and you will not be condemned.
Forgive and you will be forgiven.
Give, and gifts will be given to you;
a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing,
will be poured into your lap.
For the measure with which you measure
will in return be measured out to you.”