

## **MASS IN TIME OF PANDEMIC**

*Readings from the Lectionary for Mass "In any kind of need" may be used, or:*

### **First Option**

#### **FIRST READING**

**A reading from the Book of Lamentations 3:17-26**

**My soul is shut out from peace; I have forgotten happiness.**

**And now I say, "My strength is gone,  
that hope which came from the Lord."**

**Brooding on my anguish and affliction  
is gall and wormwood.**

**My spirit ponders it continually and sinks within me.**

**This is what I shall tell my heart, and so recover hope:  
the favours of the Lord are not all past,**

**God's kindnesses are not exhausted;**

**every morning they are renewed;**

**great is his faithfulness.**

**"My portion is the Lord" says my soul**

**"and so I will hope in him."**

**The Lord is good to those who trust him,**

**to the soul that searches for him.**

**It is good to wait in silence for the Lord to save.**

**The word of the Lord.**

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 5-7 R. (4b)

**R:** God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

**1:** O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help.     **R.**

**2:** Lord God of hosts, how long  
will you frown on your people's plea?  
You have fed them with tears for their bread,  
and abundance of tears for their drink.     **R.**

or: Second Option

## FIRST READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:31b-39

Brothers and sisters: With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give.

Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen?

When God acquits, could anyone condemn?

Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us

- he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked.

As scripture promised:

*For your sake we are being massacred daily and reckoned as sheep for the slaughter.*

These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Psalm 123:1-2ab, 2cdef R. (3a)**

**R:** Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

**1:** To you have I lifted up my eyes,  
you who dwell in the heavens;  
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves  
on the hand of their lords.     **R.**

**2:** Like the eyes of a servant  
on the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes are on the Lord our God  
till he show us his mercy.     **R.**

**Gospel Acclamation:** *2 Corinthians 1:3b-4a*

[R. Alleluia, alleluia.]

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
a gentle Father and the God of all consolation,  
who comforts us in all our sorrows.

[R. Alleluia, alleluia.]

## **GOSPEL**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 4:35-41

With the coming of evening that same day,

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Let us cross over to the other side."

And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was,  
in the boat; and there were other boats with him.

Then it began to blow a gale  
and the waves were breaking into the boat  
so that it was almost swamped.

But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep.

They woke him and said to him,

"Master, do you not care? We are going down!"

And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea,

"Quiet now! Be calm!"

And the wind dropped, and all was calm again.

Then he said to them, "Why are you so frightened?

How is it that you have no faith?"

They were filled with awe and said to one another,

"Who can this be?

Even the wind and the sea obey him."

The Gospel of the Lord.