

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

FIRST READING 6:12-16 Page 518

A reading from the 2nd book of Wisdom.

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her.

Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even though she is understanding fully grown; be on alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

✠ **The word of the Lord.** ✠

Responsorial Psalm

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.



SECOND READING

A reading from the 2nd letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians. 4:13-18 P 519

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

* We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him *

We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching; that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

† **The word of the Lord.** †



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Page 520 25:1-13

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

★ Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible; the foolish ones did take the lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry. "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him."

At this, all bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed, the other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour."★

◆ **The Gospel of the Lord.** ◆

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord, we give you thanks and beseech your mercy that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit, the grace of integrity may endure in those your heavenly power has entered.

◆ **Through Christ our Lord.** ◆

