

FIRST READING

Wisdom 6:12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Wisdom shines brightly,
and she is easily seen by all who love her
and search for her.

Wisdom hurries to meet everyone who wants to be wise.
if you get up early and search,
you will easily find her at your front door.

Keep your mind on Wisdom,
and you will be very wise.
Keep thinking about her,
and all of your worries will soon disappear.

Wisdom goes around searching for those who deserve her.
She meets them along the road and stays in their thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 63:1, 2-3, 6-7

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

*You are my God. I worship you.
In my heart, I long for you.
In my heart, I long for you,
as I would long for a stream
in a scorching desert.*

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

*I have seen your power
and your glory
in the place of worship.
Your love means more
than life to me,
and so I praise you.*

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

*I think about you
before I go to sleep,
and my thoughts turn to you
during the night.
You have helped me,
and I sing happy songs
in the shadow of your wings.*

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

SECOND READING
1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

My friends, we want you to understand how it will be
for those followers who have already died.
Then you won't grieve over them
and be like people who don't have any hope.

We believe that Jesus died and was raised to life.
We also believe that when God brings Jesus back again,
he will bring with him all who had faith in Jesus before they died.
Our Lord Jesus told us that when he comes,
we won't go up to meet him
ahead of his followers who have already died.

with a loud command and with the shout of the chief angel
and a blast of God's trumpet,
the Lord will return from heaven.
Then those who had faith in Christ before they died
will be raised to life.
Next, all of us who are still alive
will be taken up into the clouds together with them
to meet the Lord in the sky.
From that time on we will all be with the Lord forever.

Encourage each other with these words.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL
Matthew 25:1–13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told his disciples this story about the kingdom of Heaven:

“The kingdom of heaven is like what happened one night
when ten girls took their oil lamps
and went to a wedding to meet the groom.

Five of the girls were foolish and five were wise.

The foolish ones took their lamps, but no extra oil.

The ones who were wise took along extra oil for their lamps.

“The groom was late arriving,
and the girls became drowsy and fell asleep.
Then in the middle of the night someone shouted,
‘Here’s the groom! Come to meet him!’

“When the girls got up and started getting their lamps ready,
the foolish ones said to the others,
‘Let us have some of your oil!
Our lamps are going out.’

“The girls who were wise answered,
‘There’s not enough oil for all of us!
Go and buy some for yourselves’

“While the foolish girls were on their way to get some oil,
the groom arrived.

The girls who were ready went into the wedding,
and the doors were closed.

Later the other girls returned and shouted,
‘Sir! Sir! Open the door for us!’

“But the groom replied, ‘I don’t even know you!’

GOSPEL
Matthew 25:1–13

(Continued)

“So, my disciples, always be ready!
You don’t know the day or the time
when all this will happen.”

The Gospel of the Lord.