

## Wednesday, January 27 – 9 AM Mass Reading

First Reading - Isaiah 49: 1-6

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Hear me, coastlands,  
listen, distant peoples.  
Before birth the LORD called me,  
from my mother's womb he gave me my name.<sup>[b]</sup>  
He made my mouth like a sharp-edged sword,  
concealed me, shielded by his hand.  
He made me a sharpened arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me.  
He said to me, You are my servant,  
in you, Israel,<sup>[c]</sup> I show my glory.

Though I thought I had toiled in vain,  
for nothing and for naught spent my strength,  
Yet my right is with the LORD,  
my recompense is with my God.  
For now the LORD has spoken  
who formed me as his servant from the womb,  
That Jacob may be brought back to him  
and Israel gathered to him;

I am honored in the sight of the LORD,  
and my God is now my strength!  
It is too little, he says, for you to be my servant,  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob,  
and restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will make you a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

**The Word of the Lord**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 139: 1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15

Lord, you have probed me, you know me:

**Lord, you have probed me, you know me**

You know when I sit and stand,

You understand my thoughts from afar.

My travels and my rest you mark;

with all my ways you are familiar

**Lord, you have probed me, you know me**

You formed my inmost being;

you knit me in my mother's womb.

I praise you, so wonderfully you made me;

wonderful are you works

**Lord, you have probed me, you know me**

My very self you knew;

my bones were not hidden from you.

When I was being made in secret,

fashioned as in the depths of the earth.

## **Second Reading – Ephesians 1:3-14**

A reading from the Paul's letter to the Ephesians

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we have redemption by his blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace that he lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us the mystery<sup>[e]</sup> of his will in accord with his favor that he set forth in him as a plan for the fullness of times, to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth.

In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit, which is the first installment of our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise of his glory.

**The Word of the Lord**

## **Gospel – Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time the disciples approached Jesus and said, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said, “amen I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever received one child such as this in my name receives me.

See you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.

What is your opinion? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray? And if he finds it, amen, I say to you, he rejoices more over it than the ninety-nine that did not stray. In just the same way, it is not the will of your heavenly Father that one of these little ones be lost.

The Gospel of the Lord