

Psalms, readings and collect

Date: 20th March – Lent IV Friday

Psalm:

(102) HEAR my prayer, O Lord : and let my crying come unto thee.
2 Hide not thy face from me in the time of my trouble : incline thine ear unto me when I call; O hear me, and that right soon.
3 For my days are consumed away like smoke : and my bones are burnt up as it were a fire-brand.
4 My heart is smitten down, and withered like grass : so that I forget to eat my bread.
5 For the voice of my groaning : my bones will scarce cleave to my flesh.
6 I am become like a pelican in the wilderness : and like an owl that is in the desert.
7 I have watched, and am even as it were a sparrow : that sitteth alone upon the house-top.
8 Mine enemies revile me all the day long : and they that are mad upon me are sworn together against me.
9 For I have eaten ashes as it were bread : and mingled my drink with weeping;
10 And that because of thine indignation and wrath : for thou hast taken me up, and cast me down.
11 My days are gone like a shadow : and I am withered like grass.
12 But thou, O Lord, shalt endure for ever : and thy remembrance throughout all generations.
13 Thou shalt arise, and have mercy upon Sion : for it is time that thou have mercy upon her, yea, the time is come.
14 And why? thy servants think upon her stones: and it pitieth them to see her in the dust.
15 The heathen shall fear thy Name, O Lord : and all the kings of the earth thy majesty;
16 When the Lord shall build up Sion : and when his glory shall appear;
17 When he turneth him unto the prayer of the poor destitute : and despiseth not their desire.
18 This shall be written for those that come after: and the people which shall be born shall praise the Lord.
19 For he hath looked down from his sanctuary : out of the heaven did the Lord behold the earth;
20 That he might hear the mournings of such as are in captivity : and deliver the children appointed unto death;
21 That they may declare the Name of the Lord in Sion : and his worship at Jerusalem;
22 When the people are gathered together : and the kingdoms also, to serve the Lord.
23 He brought down my strength in my journey: and shortened my days.
24 But I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of mine age : as for thy years, they endure throughout all generations.
25 Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth : and the heavens are the work of thy hands.
26 They shall perish, but thou shalt endure : they all shall wax old as doth a garment;
27 And as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed : but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.
28 The children of thy servants shall continue : and their seed shall stand fast in thy sight.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Reading:

A reading from the Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus went about in Galilee; he would not go about in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill him. Now the Jews' feast of Tabernacles was at hand. But after his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly but in private. Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the man whom they seek to kill? And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ? Yet we know where this man comes from; and when the Christ appears, no one will know where he comes from." So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I come from? But I have not come of my own accord; he who sent me is true, and him you do not know. I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me." So they sought to arrest him; but no one laid hands on him, because his hour had not yet come.

Collect of the day:

Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of Thy Grace may mercifully be relieved; in and through Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord; Who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages world without end. Amen.