

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed to
destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God
and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he
is pure;
that when he shall appear in power
and great glory
we may be made like him in his
eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Malachi 4:1-2a

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

See, the day is coming, burning like
an oven, when all the arrogant and
all evildoers will be stubble; the day
that comes shall burn them up, says
the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave
them neither root nor branch. But for
you who revere my name the sun of
righteousness shall rise, with healing
in its wings. You shall go out leaping
like calves from the stall.

PSALM Psalm 98

R *The Lord has made known his salvation.*

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His own right hand and his holy arm
have won for him the victory.
The Lord has made known his
salvation;
his deliverance has he openly shown
in the sight of the nations. **R**

He has remembered his mercy and
faithfulness towards the house of
Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have
seen the salvation of our God.
Sound praises to the Lord, all the
earth;
break into singing and make music. **R**

Make music to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the voice of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the
horn
sound praises before the Lord, the
King. **R**

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,
the world and all that dwell upon it.
Let the rivers clap their hands
and let the hills ring out together
before the Lord, for he comes to
judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the
world
and the peoples with equity. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

We command you, beloved, in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to
keep away from believers who are
living in idleness and not according
to the tradition that they received
from us. For you yourselves know how
you ought to imitate us; we were not
idle when we were with you, and we
did not eat anyone's bread without
paying for it; but with toil and labour
we worked night and day, so that we
might not burden any of you. This
was not because we do not have
that right, but in order to give you an
example to imitate. For even when
we were with you, we gave you this
command: Anyone unwilling to work
should not eat. For we hear that some
of you are living in idleness, mere
busybodies, not doing any work. Now
such persons we command and exhort
in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their
work quietly and to earn their own
living. Brothers and sisters, do not be
weary in doing what is right.

GOSPEL Luke 21:5-19

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

When some were speaking about
the temple, how it was adorned with

beautiful stones and gifts dedicated
to God, Jesus said, "As for these
things that you see, the days will
come when not one stone will be
left upon another; all will be thrown
down." They asked him, "Teacher,
when will this be, and what will be
the sign that this is about to take
place?" And Jesus said, "Beware
that you are not led astray; for many
will come in my name and say, 'I
am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do
not go after them. When you hear
of wars and insurrections, do not be
terrified; for these things must take
place first, but the end will not follow
immediately." Then he said to them,
"Nation will rise against nation, and
kingdom against kingdom; there will
be great earthquakes, and in various
places famines and plagues; and
there will be dreadful portents and
great signs from heaven. But before
all this occurs, they will arrest you
and persecute you; they will hand
you over to synagogues and prisons,
and you will be brought before kings
and governors because of my name.
This will give you an opportunity to
testify. So make up your minds not to
prepare your defence in advance; for
I will give you words and a wisdom
that none of your opponents will be
able to withstand or contradict. You
will be betrayed even by parents and
brothers, by relatives and friends; and
they will put some of you to death.
You will be hated by all because of
my name. But not a hair of your head
will perish. By your endurance you will
gain your souls."

POST COMMUNION

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we
long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

