

# Sunday

25 January 2026

Conversion of Paul

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
who caused the light of the gospel  
to shine throughout the world  
through the preaching of your servant Saint  
Paul:  
grant that we who celebrate his wonderful  
conversion  
may follow him in bearing witness to your  
truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

Either **Jeremiah 1:4-10**

*A reading from the book of the prophet  
Jeremiah.*

The word of the LORD came to me  
saying, "Before I formed you in the womb  
I knew you, and before you were born I  
consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet  
to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord  
GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for  
I am only a boy." But the LORD said to me,  
"Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall  
go to all to whom I send you, and you shall  
speak whatever I command you, Do not be  
afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver  
you, says the LORD." Then the LORD put  
out his hand and touched my mouth; and  
the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my  
words in your mouth. See, today I appoint  
you over nations and over kingdoms, to  
pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and  
to overthrow, to build and to plant."

Or **Acts 9:1-22**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*  
Saul, still breathing threats and murder  
against the disciples of the Lord, went to  
the high priest and asked him for letters to  
the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he  
found any who belonged to the Way, men  
or women, he might bring them bound

to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along  
and approaching Damascus, suddenly a  
light from heaven flashed around him. He  
fell to the ground and heard a voice saying  
to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute  
me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?"  
The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you  
are persecuting. But get up and enter the  
city, and you will be told what you are to  
do." The men who were travelling with him  
stood speechless because they heard the  
voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the  
ground, and though his eyes were open,  
he could see nothing; so they led him by  
the hand and brought him into Damascus.  
For three days he was without sight, and  
neither ate nor drank. Now there was a  
disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The  
Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He  
answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord  
said to him, "Get up and go to the street  
called Straight, and at the house of Judas  
look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At  
this moment he is praying, and he has seen  
in a vision a man named Ananias come in  
and lay his hands on him so that he might  
regain his sight." But Ananias answered,  
"Lord, I have heard from many about  
this man, how much evil he has done to  
your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has  
authority from the chief priests to bind all  
who invoke your name." But the Lord said  
to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom  
I have chosen to bring my name before  
Gentiles and kings and before the people  
of Israel; I myself will show him how much  
he must suffer for the sake of my name." So  
Ananias went and entered the house. He  
laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother  
Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you  
on your way here, has sent me so that you  
may regain your sight and be filled with the  
Holy Spirit." And immediately something  
like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight  
was restored. Then he got up and was  
baptised, and after taking some food, he

regained his strength. For several days he  
was with the disciples in Damascus, and  
immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in  
the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of  
God." All who heard him were amazed and  
said, "Is not this the man who made havoc  
in Jerusalem among those who invoked this  
name? And has he not come here for the  
purpose of bringing them bound before  
the chief priests?" Saul became increasingly  
more powerful and confounded the Jews  
who lived in Damascus by proving that  
Jesus was the Messiah.

## PSALM Psalm 67

**R** *Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.*

May God be merciful to us and bless us,  
show us the light of his countenance and  
come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations. **R**

[Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.]

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations upon earth. **R**

[Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.]

The earth has brought forth her increase;  
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.  
May God give us his blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in  
awe of him. **R**

## SECOND READING Either **Acts 9:1-22**

Or **Galatians 1:11-16a**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the  
Galatians.*

I want you to know, brothers and sisters,  
that the gospel that was proclaimed by me  
is not of human origin; for I did not receive  
it from a human source, nor was I taught

it, but I received it through a revelation of  
Jesus Christ. You have heard, no doubt, of  
my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently  
persecuting the church of God and was  
trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism  
beyond many among my people of the  
same age, for I was far more zealous for  
the traditions of my ancestors. But when  
God, who had set me apart before I was  
born and called me through his grace, was  
pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I  
might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I  
did not confer with any human being.

## GOSPEL **Matthew 19:27-end**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.*

Peter said to Jesus: "Look, we have left  
everything and followed you. What then will  
we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly  
I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when  
the Son of Man is seated on the throne  
of his glory, you who have followed me  
will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the  
twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who  
has left houses or brothers or sisters or  
father or mother or children or fields, for my  
name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and  
will inherit eternal life. But many who are  
first will be last, and the last will be first."

## POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,  
who on the day of Pentecost  
sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles  
with the wind from heaven and in tongues  
of flame,  
filling them with joy and boldness to preach  
the gospel:  
by the power of the same Spirit  
strengthen us to witness to your truth  
and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

redemptorist  
publications

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