

Lectionary

You are invited to follow the first two readings while seated, and as is the custom, to just listen, standing if possible, as the Holy Gospel is proclaimed.

Sunday 1st March 2026 Lent 2

The Collect

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of
your truth, that they may return to the way of right-
eousness:

grant to all those who are admitted into the fellow-
ship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those
things that are contrary to their profession, and fol-
low all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament: Genesis 12:1-4a

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country
and your kindred and your father's house to the land
that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation,
and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that
you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you,
and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all
the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot
went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when
he departed from Haran.

This is the word of the Lord,

All: Thanks be to God.

New Testament: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did
not come to Abraham or to his descendants through
the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is
the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith
is null and the promise is void. For the law brings
wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there vio-
lation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the
promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his
descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but
also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is
the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you
the father of many nations')—in the presence of the
God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead
and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord,

All: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to John.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader
of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him,
'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come
from God; for no one can do these signs that you do
apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him,
'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of
God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said
to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown
old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's
womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell
you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without
being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the
flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do
not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be
born from above." The wind blows where it chooses,
and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know
where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with
everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to
him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him,
'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not under-
stand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and
testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive
our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things
and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell
you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into
heaven except the one who descended from heaven,
the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the ser-
pent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lift-
ed up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal
life.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to
condemn the world, but in order that the world might
be saved through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,

you see that we have no power of ourselves to help
ourselves:

keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in
our souls; that we may be defended from all adversi-
ties which may happen to the body, and from all evil
thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**