

## Daily Readings

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Week in Lent

11 March 2026

**First reading**

**Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9**

**‘Give us water to drink.’**

**‘Keep the statutes and do them.’**

Moses spoke to the people: ‘And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you.

‘See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

‘Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children.’

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 147: 12-13. 15-16. 19-20. R12a**

**O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!**

O Sion, praise your God!  
He has strengthened the bars of your gates;  
he has blessed your children within you.

**O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!**

He sends out his word to the earth,  
and swiftly runs his command.  
He showers down snow like wool;  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

**O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!**

He reveals his word to Jacob;  
to Israel, his decrees and judgements.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his judgements.

***O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!***

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Cf. John 6:63c, 68c**

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life;  
you have the words of eternal life.

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

**Gospel**

**Matthew 5:17-19**

**‘Whoever does them and teaches them will be called great.’**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.’

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## Daily Readings

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> week in Lent

12 March 2026

First reading

Jeremiah 7:23-28

**‘This is the nation that did not obey the voice of the Lord their God.’**

Thus says the LORD: ‘This command I gave them: “Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people. And walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.” But they did not obey or incline their ear, but walked in their own counsels and the stubbornness of their evil hearts, and went backwards and not forwards. From the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt to this day, I have persistently sent all my servants the prophets to them, day after day. Yet they did not listen to me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers.

‘So you shall speak all these words to them, but they will not listen to you. You shall call to them, but they will not answer you. And you shall say to them, “This is the nation that did not obey the voice of the LORD their God, and did not accept discipline; truth has perished; it is cut off from their lips.” ’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a

***O that today you would listen to his voice!  
‘Harden not your hearts.’***

Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;  
let us hail him with a song of praise.

***O that today you would listen to his voice!  
‘Harden not your hearts.’***

O come; let us bow and bend low.  
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,  
for he is our God, and we the people,  
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

***O that today you would listen to his voice!  
‘Harden not your hearts.’***

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your forebears put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

***O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts.'***

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Joel 2:12-13**

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Even now, says the LORD,  
return to me with all your heart,  
for I am gracious and merciful.

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

**Gospel**

**Luke 11:14-23**

**'Whoever is not with me is against me.'**

At that time: Jesus was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the crowd marvelled. But some of them said, 'He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons', while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, 'Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armour in which he trusted and divides his spoil. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.'

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## Daily Readings

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> week in Lent**  
**13 March 2026**

**First reading**  
**Hosea 14:1-9**

**‘We will say no more, “Our God,” to the work of our hands.’**

Thus says the Lord: Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take with you words and return to the Lord; say to him, ‘Take away all iniquity; accept what is good, and we will pay the fruit of our lips. Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride on horses; and we will say no more, “Our God”, to the work of our hands. In you the orphan finds mercy.’

I will heal their apostasy; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily; he shall take root like the trees of Lebanon; his shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive, and his fragrance like Lebanon. They shall return and dwell beneath my shadow; they shall flourish like the corn; they shall blossom like the vine; their fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like an evergreen cypress; from me comes your fruit.

Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them; for the ways of the Lord are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 81(80): 6c-8a. 8b-9. 10-11b. 14, 17. R cf. 11a, 9a**

***I am the Lord your God; listen to my voice.***

A voice I did not know said to me:  
‘I freed your shoulder from the burden;  
your hands were freed from the builder’s basket.  
You called in distress and I delivered you.’

***I am the Lord your God; listen to my voice.***

‘I answered, concealed in the thunder;  
at the waters of Meribah I tested you.  
Listen, my people, as I warn you.  
O Israel, if only you would heed!’

***I am the Lord your God; listen to my voice.***

'Let there be no strange god among you,  
nor shall you worship a foreign god.  
I am the Lord your God,  
who brought you up from the land of Egypt.'

***I am the Lord your God; listen to my voice.***

'O that my people would heed me,  
that Israel would walk in my ways!  
But Israel I would feed with finest wheat,  
and satisfy with honey from the rock.'

***I am the Lord your God; listen to my voice.***

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Matthew 4:17**

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Repent, says the Lord,  
for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

**Gospel**

**Mark 12:28b-34**

**'You shall love the Lord your God. You shall love your neighbour.'**

At that time: One of the scribes came up to Jesus and asked him, 'Which commandment is the most important of all?' Jesus answered, 'The most important is, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.' And the scribe said to him, 'You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbour as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.' And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

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