

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Psalms 138

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters,
on the basis of God's mercy, to present your
bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable
to God, which is your reasonable act of wor-
ship. ²Do not be conformed to this age, but be

transformed by the renewing of the mind, so
that you may discern what is the will of God—
what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to every-
one among you not to think of yourself more
highly than you ought to think but to think
with sober judgment, each according to the
measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For
as in one body we have many members and
not all the members have the same function,
⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,
and individually we are members one of an-
other. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to
the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion
to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher,
in teaching; ⁸the encourager, in encourage-
ment; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in dili-
gence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of
Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples,
"Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"
¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but
others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one
of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who
do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered,
"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living
God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are
you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood
has not revealed this to you but my Father in
heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on
this rock I will build my church, and the gates
of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give
you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and
whatever you bind on earth will be bound in
heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will
be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly or-
dered the disciples not to tell anyone that he
was the Messiah.

Next Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28.

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