

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your
Church:
open our hearts to the riches of
your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of
the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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 Isaiah 55:1-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD says this: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Or Genesis 32:22-31

PSALM Psalm 145:8-9. 15-end

R You open wide your hand,
O Lord,
[and satisfy the needs of every creature].

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord is loving to everyone and his compassion is over all his works. **R**

The Lord upholds all those who fall;
he lifts up those who are bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon you,
O Lord,
and you give them their food in due season.

You open wide your hand and satisfy the needs of every living creature. **R**

The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him,
to all who call upon him faithfully. He fulfils the desire of those who fear him,
he hears their cry and helps them. **R**

The Lord preserves all those who love him,
but he destroys all the wicked. My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord;
let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I am speaking the truth in Christ. I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit. I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

GOSPEL Matthew 14:13-21

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

When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

POST COMMUNION

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.