



# FOR THE BURIAL OF CHILDREN

A Burial of Baptized Children

FIRST READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Outside the Easter Season

1

A reading from the prophet Isaiah: 25:6. 7-9

*The Lord will destroy Death for ever.*

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 22:1 B v.1**

**R> The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me to revive my drooping spirit.
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

A reading from the book of Lamentations 3:22-26

**It is good to wait in silence for the Lord to save.**

The favours of the Lord are not all past, his kindnesses are not exhausted; every morning they are renewed; great is his faithfulness. My portion is the Lord', says my soul, 'and so I will hope in him.' The Lord is good to those who trust him, to the soul that searches for him. It is good to wait in silence for the Lord to save.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 24:4-7, 20-21. R> v.1**

**R> To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour.
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.
3. Preserve my life and rescue me. Do not disappoint me, you are my refuge. May innocence and uprightness protect me: for my hope is in you, O Lord.

### **FIRST READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT**

**In the Easter Season**

**1**

**A reading from the book of the Apocalypse**

**7:9-10. 15-17**

**God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.**

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb! They now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 148:1-2. 11-14. R v.13**

**R> Praise the name of the Lord.**

**or**

**Alleluia!**

1. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights. Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his host.
2. All earth's kings and peoples, earth's princes and rulers; young men and maidens, old men together with children.
3. Let them praise the name of the Lord for he alone is exalted. The splendour of his name reaches beyond heaven and earth.

4. He exalts the strength of his people. He is the praise of all his saints, of the sons of Israel, of the people to whom he comes close.

2

**A reading from the book of the Apocalypse**

**21:1. 3-5**

*There will be no more death.*

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.' Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new'.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 41:2-3. 5. 42:3-5. B Ps 41:3**

**R> My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life.**

1. Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God.
2. My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life; when can I enter and see the face of God?
3. These things will I remember as I pour out my soul: how I would lead the rejoicing crowd into the house of God, amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving, the throng wild with joy.
4. O send forth your light and your truth; let these be my guide. Let them bring me to your holy mountain to the place where you dwell.
5. And I will come to the altar of God, the God of my joy. My redeemer, I will thank you on the harp, O God, my God.
6. Why are you cast down, my soul, why groan within me? Hope in God; I will praise him still, my saviour and my God.

## **SECOND READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT**

1

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

**6:3-4. 8-9**

*We believe that we shall return to life with Christ.*

You have been taught that when we were baptized in Christ Jesus we were baptized in his death; in other words, when we were baptized we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

We believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him anymore.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

2

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

**14:7-9**

*Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.*

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

3

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

**15:20-23**

*All men will be brought to life in Christ.*

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order; Christ as the first-fruits and after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

4

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Ephesians**

**1:3-5**

*Before the world was made God chose us in Christ.*

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

5

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**

**4:13-14. 18**

*We shall stay with the Lord forever.*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

**This is the word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL

1

cf. Mt 11:25

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to children. Alleluia!*

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

11:25-30

*You have hidden these things from the clever, and have revealed them to mere children.*

Jesus exclaimed, I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

2

### Gospel Acclamation

Jn 6:39

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The will of my Father, says the Lord, is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise it up on the last day. Alleluia!*

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

6:37-40

*It is my Father's will that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me.*

Jesus said to the crowd: 'All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I shall not turn him away; because I have come from heaven, not to do my own will, but to do the will of the one who sent me. Now the will of him who sent me is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise it up on the last day. Yes, it is my Father's will that whoever sees the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and that I shall raise him up on the last day?'

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL

### Shorter form

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**6:37-39**

*It is my Father's will that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me.*

Jesus said to the crowd: 'All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I shall not turn him away; because I have come from heaven not to do my own will, but to do the will of the one who sent me. Now the will of him who sent me is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise it up on the last day?'

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

### 3

*For a child who has received the Eucharist*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn 6:39**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

*The will of my Father, says the Lord, is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise it up on the last day. Alleluia!*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**6:51-58**

**Anyone who eats this bread has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day.**

Jesus said to the crowd: I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.' Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

2 Cor 1:3-4

### 4

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed be God, a gentle Father and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows.  
Alleluia!

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**11:32-38. 40**

*If you believe, you will see the glory of God.*

Mary, the sister of Lazarus, went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died'. At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see' \* Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him! But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?'

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

5

Gospel Acclamation

2 Cor 1:3-4

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Blessed be God, a gentle Father and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows.*

*Alleluia!*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**19:25-30**

**This is your mother.**

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman, this is your son. Then to the disciple he said, 'This is your mother'. And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home. After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfil the scripture perfectly he said: 'I am thirsty?' A jar full of vinegar stood there, so putting a sponge soaked in vinegar on a hyssop stick they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, 'It is accomplished'; and bowing his head he gave up his spirit.

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.**