

IV. FOR VARIOUS NEEDS

27A. FOR CHASTITY

952A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

First Option

Those who fear the LORD prepare their hearts.

A reading from the Book of Sirach

2:15-18

Those who fear the LORD disobey not his words;
those who love him keep his ways.
Those who fear the LORD seek to please him,
those who love him are filled with his law.
Those who fear the LORD prepare their hearts
and humble themselves before him.
Let us fall into the hands of the LORD
and not into the hands of men,
For equal to his majesty
is the mercy that he shows.

The word of the Lord.

Second Option

I will give you a new heart and a new spirit.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

36:24-29a

Thus says the Lord GOD:

I will take you away from among the nations,
gather you from all the foreign lands,
and bring you back to your own land.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you
to cleanse you from all your impurities,
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,
taking from your bodies your stony hearts
and giving you natural hearts.

I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes,
careful to observe my decrees.

You shall live in the land I gave your fathers;
you shall be my people and I will be your God.

I will deliver you from all your impurities.

The word of the Lord.

952B READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

First Option

Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.

Long Form

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

12:1-2, 9-18

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.
Do not conform yourselves to this age
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,
that you may discern what is the will of God,
what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Let love be sincere;
hate what is evil,
hold on to what is good;
love one another with mutual affection;
anticipate one another in showing honor.

Do not grow slack in zeal,
be fervent in spirit,
serve the Lord.

Rejoice in hope,
endure in affliction,
persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the holy ones,
exercise hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you,
bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice,
weep with those who weep.

Have the same regard for one another;
do not be haughty but associate with the lowly;
do not be wise in your own estimation.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil;
be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all.

If possible, on your part, live at peace with all.

The word of the Lord.

Or:
Short Form

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

12:1-2, 9-13

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.

Do not conform yourselves to this age
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,
that you may discern what is the will of God,
what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Let love be sincere;
hate what is evil,
hold on to what is good;
love one another with mutual affection;
anticipate one another in showing honor.

Do not grow slack in zeal,
be fervent in spirit,
serve the Lord.

Rejoice in hope,
endure in affliction,
persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the holy ones,
exercise hospitality.

The word of the Lord.

Second Option

Glorify God in your body.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

6:12-15a, 17-20

Brothers and sisters:

“Everything is lawful for me,”

but not everything is beneficial.

“Everything is lawful for me,”

but I will not let myself be dominated by anything.

“Food for the stomach and the stomach for food,”

but God will do away with both the one and the other.

The body, however, is not for immorality, but for the Lord,
and the Lord is for the body;

God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?

Whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

Avoid immorality.

Every other sin a person commits is outside the body,

but the immoral person sins against his own body.

Do you not know that your body

is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you,

whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

For you have been purchased at a price.

Therefore, glorify God in your body.

The word of the Lord.

Third Option

If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

5:16-25

Brothers and sisters:

Live by the Spirit

and you will certainly not gratify the desire of the flesh.

For the flesh has desires against the Spirit,

and the Spirit against the flesh;

these are opposed to each other,

so that you may not do what you want.

But if you are guided by the Spirit,

you are not under the law.

Now the works of the flesh are obvious:

immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry,

sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy,

outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness,

dissensions, factions, occasions of envy,

drinking bouts, orgies, and the like.

I warn you, as I warned you before,

that those who do such things will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,

patience, kindness, generosity,

faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Against such there is no law.

Now those who belong to Christ Jesus

have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

952C RESPONSORIAL PSALM

First Option

Psalm 86 (85):1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 11, 12-13

R. (12a) I will give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with all my heart.

Incline your ear, O LORD; answer me,
for I am afflicted and poor.
Keep my life, for I am devoted to you;
save your servant who trusts in you. **R.**

You are my God; have pity on me, O Lord,
for to you I call all the day.
Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. **R.**

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in kindness to all who call upon you.
Hearken, O LORD, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my pleading. **R.**

Teach me, O Lord, your way
that I may walk in your truth;
direct my heart that it may fear your name. **R.**

I will give thanks to you, O Lord my God,
with all my heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.
Great has been your kindness toward me;
you have rescued me from the depths of the nether world. **R.**

Second Option

Psalm 112 (111):1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9

R. (cf. 1) Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.

Happy the man who fears the LORD,
who greatly delights in his commands.
His posterity shall be mighty upon the earth;
the upright generation shall be blessed. **R.**

Wealth and riches shall be in his house;
his generosity shall endure forever.
He dawns through the darkness, a light for the upright;
he is gracious and merciful and just. **R.**

Well for the man who is gracious and lends,
who conducts his affairs with justice;
He shall never be moved;
the just man shall be in everlasting remembrance. **R.**

An evil report he shall not fear;
his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.
His heart is steadfast; he shall not fear
till he looks down upon his foes. **R.**

Lavishly he gives to the poor;
his generosity shall endure forever;
his horn shall be exalted in glory. **R.**

952D ALLELUIA VERSE AND VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

1. John 13:34

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

952E GOSPEL

First Option

You are the light of the world.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples:

“You are the salt of the earth.

But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?

It is no longer good for anything

but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket;

it is set on a lamp stand,

where it gives light to all in the house.

Just so, your light must shine before others,

that they may see your good deeds

and glorify your heavenly Father.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Second Option

I appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain.

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

15:12-17

Jesus said to his disciples:

“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this,

to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves,

because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

I have called you friends,

because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you

and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain,

so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.

This I command you: love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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