

October 12, 2008

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Callistus I St. Teresa of Jesus St. Hedwig

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque St. Ignatius of Antioch St. Luke

Columbus Day

e10-12w1

THE HEAVENLY BANQUET

The mountain of the Lord described in today's first reading is a place where there is no more hunger, no more weeping, and no more division of any kind. We need to pause and ponder these images every now and then, especially given the fact that we live in such a fractured world. The responsorial psalm continues to paint a picture of a place where only goodness and kindness flourish. These readings describe the heavenly banquet, to which God calls each of us through baptism and continues to call us throughout our lives. Let us "RSVP" to God's invitation and live our lives consistent with gospel values so that one day we will be welcomed to the table of the kingdom.

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e10-12w2

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — On this mountain the LORD will make for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines (Isaiah 25:6-10a).

Psalm — I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — God will supply whatever you need (Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20).

Gospel — I have prepared my banquet, and everything is ready. Come to the feast! (Matthew 22:1-14 [1-10]).

e10-12w3

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31 — 5:1; Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6; Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25; Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Eph 1:1-10; Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Eph 1:11-14; Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Lk 10:1-9

Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96; 1 Thes 1:1-5b;
Mt 22:15-21

e10-12w4

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Columbus Day;
Sukkot (Jewish harvest festival) begins
at sunset

Tuesday: St. Callistus I

Wednesday: St. Teresa of Jesus

Thursday: St. Hedwig; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

Friday: St. Ignatius of Antioch

Saturday: St. Luke

e10-12w5

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In 1971, the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship completed a survey of the presidents of the national liturgical commissions around the world. How were children doing in the liturgical reform? Probably to their surprise, the cardinals learned of special weekday Masses for children designed to teach them how to participate on Sunday, Masses with separate components for children. The decision was made quickly to develop adaptations for Masses where children were a majority of the assembly. Changes would include a simpler structure, understandable texts, a simplified Lectionary, more active participation, and most surprisingly, new Eucharistic Prayers. By 1973 the work was done, and with very specific advice from Pope Paul VI, including the need for two new Eucharistic Prayers, the *Directory for Masses with Children* was published on December 20, a timely Christmas gift for the children of the world.

The prayers are the first to be written fresh in a modern language — not Latin, but French and German — then translated into English, Italian, and Spanish. With a sense of caution, these new prayers were approved for three years, until 1977, but it soon became apparent that they had truly been embraced.

—Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

e10-12w6

ACTION

What I began by reading I must finish by acting.

—Henry David Thoreau

e10-12w7

REPENTANCE

Of all human acts, repentance is most divine.

—Thomas Carlyle