

## Monday-Saturday, 17th-22nd Jan 2022

### First Week in Ordinary Time - Year 2

#### MONDAY

*Memorial of St Anthony*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The just will flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a Lebanon cedar, planted in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God.**

READING: *1 Samuel 15:16-23*

*A reading from the first book of Samuel.*

Samuel said to Saul, 'Stop! Let me tell you what the Lord said to me last night.' Saul said, 'Tell me.' Samuel continued, 'Small as you may be in your own eyes, are you not head of the tribes of Israel? The Lord has anointed you king over Israel. The Lord sent you on a mission and said to you, "Go, put these sinners, the Amalekites, under the ban and make war on them until they are exterminated." Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord? Why did you fall on the booty and do what is displeasing to the Lord?' Saul replied to Samuel, 'But I did obey the voice of the Lord. I went on the mission which the Lord gave me; I brought back Agag king of the Amalekites; I put the Amalekites under the ban. From the booty the people took the best sheep and oxen of what was under the ban to sacrifice them to the Lord your God in Gilgal.' But Samuel replied:

'Is the pleasure of the Lord in holocausts and sacrifices

or in obedience to the voice of the Lord?

Yes, obedience is better than sacrifice, submissiveness better than the fat of rams.

Rebellion is a sin of sorcery, presumption a crime of teraphim.

'Since you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.'

**PSALM: To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Mark 2:18-22*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

One day when John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting, some people came and said to Jesus, 'Why is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not?' Jesus replied, 'Surely the bridegroom's attendants

would never think of fasting while the bridegroom is still with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they could not think of fasting. But the time will come for the bridegroom to be taken away from them, and then, on that day, they will fast. No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; if he does, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and the tear gets worse. And nobody puts new wine into old wineskins; if he does, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost and the skins too. No! New wine, fresh skins!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: If you would be perfect, go, sell what you have, give to the poor, and follow me, says the Lord.**

#### TUESDAY

*Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!**

READING: *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

*A reading from the first book of Samuel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you go on mourning over Saul when I have rejected him as king of Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' Samuel replied, 'How can I go? When Saul hears of it he will kill me.' Then the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and then I myself will tell you what you must do; you must anoint to me the one I point out to you.'

Samuel did what the Lord ordered and went to Bethlehem. The elders of the town came trembling to meet him and asked, 'Seer, have you come with good intentions towards us?' 'Yes,' he replied 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Purify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' He purified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no

notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse then called Abinadab and presented him to Samuel, who said, 'The Lord has not chosen this one either.' Jesse then presented Shammah, but Samuel said, 'The Lord has not chosen this one either.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes,' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on. As for Samuel, he rose and went to Ramah.

**PSALM: I have found David, my servant.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: Mark 2:23-28**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

One sabbath day Jesus happened to be taking a walk through the cornfields, and his disciples began to pick ears of corn as they went along. And the Pharisees said to him, 'Look, why are they doing something on the sabbath day that is forbidden?' And he replied, 'Did you never read what David did in his time of need when he and his followers were hungry – how he went into the house of God when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the loaves of offering which only the priests are allowed to eat, and how he also gave some to the men with him?'

And he said to them, 'The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is master even of the sabbath.'

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.**

**WEDNESDAY**

*Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!**

**FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 17:32-33. 37. 40-51**  
*A reading from the first book of Samuel*

David said to Saul, 'Let no one lose heart on his account; your servant will go and fight this Philistine.' But Saul answered David, 'You cannot go and fight the Philistine; you are only a boy and he has been a warrior from his youth.' 'The Lord who rescued me from the claws of lion and bear,' David said, 'will rescue me from the power of this Philistine.' Then Saul said to David, 'Go, and the Lord be with you!'

He took his staff in his hand, picked five smooth stones from the river bed, put them in his shepherd's bag, in his pouch, and with his sling in his hand he went to meet the Philistine. The Philistine, his shield-bearer in front of him, came nearer and nearer to David; and the Philistine looked at David, and what he saw filled him with scorn, because David was only a youth, a boy of fresh complexion and pleasant bearing. The Philistine said to him, 'Am I a dog for you to come against me with sticks?' And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine said to David, 'Come over here and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field.' But David answered the Philistine, 'You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel that you have dared to insult. Today the Lord will deliver you into my hand and I shall kill you; I will cut off your head, and this very day I will give your dead body and the bodies of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that it is not by sword or by spear that the Lord gives the victory, for he is lord of the battle and he will deliver you into our power.'

No sooner had the Philistine started forward to confront David than David left the line of battle and ran to meet the Philistine. Putting his hand in his bag, he took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead; the stone penetrated his forehead and he fell on his face to the ground. Thus David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone and struck the Philistine down and killed him. David had no sword in his hand. Then David ran and, standing over the Philistine, seized his sword and drew it from the scabbard, and with this he killed him, cutting off his head. The Philistines saw that their champion was dead and took to flight.

**PSALM: Blessed be the Lord, my Rock!**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Mark 3:1-6*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

Jesus went into a synagogue, and there was a man there who had a withered hand. And they were watching him to see if he would cure him on the sabbath day, hoping for something to use against him. He said to the man with the withered hand, 'Stand up out in the middle!' Then he said to them, 'Is it against the law on the sabbath day to do good or to do evil; to save life, or to kill?' But they said nothing. Then, grieved to find them so obstinate, he looked angrily round at them, and said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand.' He stretched it out and his hand was better. The Pharisees went out and at once began to plot with the Herodians against him, discussing how to destroy him.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.**

## THURSDAY

*Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!**

READING: *1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7*

*A reading from the first book of Samuel.*

On their way back, as David was returning after killing the Philistine, the women came out to meet King Saul from all the towns of Israel, singing and dancing to the sound of tambourine and lyre and cries of joy; and as they danced the women sang;

'Saul has killed his thousands,  
and David his tens of thousands.'

Saul was very angry; the incident was not to his liking. 'They have given David the tens of thousands,' he said, 'but me only the thousands; he has all but the kingship now.' And Saul turned a jealous eye on David from that day forward.

Saul told Jonathan his son and all his servants of his intention to kill David. Now Jonathan, Saul's son, held David in great affection; and so Jonathan warned David; 'My father Saul is looking for a way to kill you,' he said, 'so be on your guard tomorrow morning; hide away in some secret place. Then I will go and keep my father company in the fields where you are hiding, and will talk to my father about you; I will find out what the situation is and let you know.'

So Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father; he said, 'Let not the king sin against his servant David, for he has not sinned against you, and what he has done has been greatly to your advantage. He took his life in his hands when he killed the Philistine, and the Lord brought about a great victory for all Israel. You saw it yourself and rejoiced; why then sin against innocent blood in killing David without cause?' Saul was impressed by Jonathan's words and took an oath, 'As the Lord

lives, I will not kill him.' Jonathan called David and told him all these things. Then Jonathan brought him to Saul, and David attended on him as before.

**PSALM: In God I trust; I shall not fear.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: *Mark 3:7-12*

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the lakeside, and great crowds from Galilee followed him. From Judaea, Jerusalem, Idumaea, Transjordan and the region of Tyre and Sidon, great numbers who had heard of all he was doing came to him. And he asked his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, to keep him from being crushed. For he had cured so many that all who were afflicted in any way were crowding forward to touch him. And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw him, would fall down before him and shout, 'You are the Son of God!' But he warned them strongly not to make him known.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.**

## FRIDAY

*Memorial of St Agnes*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Behold, now she follows the Lamb who was crucified for us, powerful in virginity, modesty her offering, a sacrifice on the altar of chastity.**

READING: *1 Samuel 24:3-21*

*A reading from the first book of Samuel.*

Saul took three thousand men chosen from the whole of Israel and went in search of David and his men east of the Rocks of the Wild Goats. He came to the sheep-folds along the route where there was a cave, and went in to cover his feet. Now David and his men were sitting in the recesses of the cave; David's men said to him, 'Today is the day of which the Lord said to you, "I will deliver your enemy into your power, do what you like with him."' David stood up and, unobserved, cut off the border of Saul's cloak. Afterwards David reproached himself for having cut off the border of Saul's cloak. He said to his men, 'The Lord preserve me from doing such a thing to my lord and raising my hand against him, for he is the anointed of the Lord.' David gave his men strict instructions, forbidding them to attack Saul.

Saul then left the cave and went on his way. After this, David too left the cave and called after Saul, 'My lord king!' Saul looked behind him and David bowed to the ground and did homage. Then David said to Saul, 'Why do you listen to the men who say to you,

“David means to harm you”? Why, your own eyes have seen today how the Lord put you in my power in the cave and how I refused to kill you, but spared you. “I will not raise my hand against my Lord,” I said, “for he is the anointed of the Lord.” O my father, see, look at the border of your cloak in my hand. Since I cut off the border of your cloak, yet did not kill you, you must acknowledge frankly that there is neither malice nor treason in my mind. I have not offended against you, yet you hunt me down to take my life. May the Lord be judge between me and you, and may the Lord avenge me on you; but my hand shall not be laid on you. (As the old proverb says: Wickedness goes out from the wicked, and my hand will not be laid on you.) On whose trail has the king of Israel set out? On whose trail are you in hot pursuit? On the trail of a dead dog! On the trail of a single flea! May the Lord be the judge and decide between me and you; may he take up my cause and defend it and give judgement for me, freeing me from your power.’

When David had finished saying these words to Saul, Saul said, ‘Is that your voice, my son David?’ And Saul wept aloud. ‘You are a more upright man than I,’ he said to David, ‘for you have repaid me with good while I have repaid you with evil. Today you have crowned your goodness towards me since the Lord had put me in your power yet you did not kill me. When a man comes on his enemy, does he let him go unmolested? May the Lord reward you for the goodness you have shown me today. Now I know you will indeed reign and that the sovereignty in Israel will be secure in your hands.’

**PSALM: Have mercy on me, God, have mercy.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: Mark 3:13-19**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus went up into the hills and summoned those he wanted. So they came to him and he appointed twelve; they were to be his companions and to be sent out to preach, with power to cast out devils. And so he appointed the Twelve: Simon to whom he gave the name Peter, James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, to whom he gave the name Boanerges or ‘Sons of Thunder’; then Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the man who was to betray him.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lamb who is at the centre of the throne will lead them to the springs of the waters of life.**

## **SATURDAY**

*Mass of the Day*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!**

**READING: 2 Samuel 1:1-4. 11-12, 17. 19. 23-27**  
*A reading from the second book of Samuel.*

David returned from his rout of the Amalekites and spent two days in Ziklag. On the third day a man came from the camp where Saul had been, his garments torn and earth on his head. When he came to David, he fell to the ground and did homage. ‘Where do you come from?’ David asked him. ‘I have escaped from the Israelite camp,’ he said. David said to him, ‘What happened? Tell me.’ He replied ‘The people have fled from the battlefield and many of them have fallen. Saul and his son Jonathan are dead too.’

Then David took hold of his garments and tore them, and all the men did the same. They mourned and wept and fasted until the evening for Saul and his son Jonathan, for the people of the Lord and for the House of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

Then David made this lament over Saul and his son Jonathan:

Alas, the glory of Israel has been slain on your heights!

How did the heroes fall?

Saul and Jonathan, loved and lovely, neither in life, nor in death, were divided.

Swifter than eagles were they, stronger were they than lions.

O daughters of Israel, weep for Saul

who clothed you in scarlet and fine linen, who set brooches of gold

on your garments.

How did the heroes fall in the thick of the battle?

O Jonathan, in your death I am stricken, I am desolate for you, Jonathan my brother.

Very dear to me you were, your love to more wonderful than the love of a woman.

How did the heroes fall and the battle armour fail?

**PSALM: Let us see your face, Lord, and we shall be saved.**

**ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-21**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.*

Jesus went home, and such a crowd collected that they could not even have a meal. When his relatives heard of this, they set out to take charge of him, convinced he was out of his mind.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON: You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.**