

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
Sunday, March 7, 2021

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

A reading from the Book of Exodus

In those days, God delivered all these commandments:

“I, the Lord am your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery.
You shall not have other gods besides me.

“You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.
For the Lord will not leave unpunished
the one who takes his name in vain.

“Remember to keep holy the sabbath day.

Honor your father and your mother,
that you may have a long life in the land
which the Lord, your God, is giving you.
You shall not kill.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.
You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife,
nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass,
nor anything else that belongs to him.”

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect,
refreshing the soul;
The decree of the Lord is trustworthy,
giving wisdom to the simple.

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the command of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eye.

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true,
all of them just.

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

They are more precious than gold,
than a heap of purest gold;
sweeter also than syrup
or honey from the comb.

***Refrain:* Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

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

Brothers and sisters:

Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom,
but we proclaim Christ crucified,
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
but to those who are called, Jews and Greeks alike,
Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel: John 2:13-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Since the Passover of the Jews was near,
Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves,
as well as the money changers seated there.
He made a whip out of cords
and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen,
and spilled the coins of the money changers
and overturned their tables,
and to those who sold doves he said,
“Take these out of here,
and stop making my Father’s house a marketplace.”
His disciples recalled the words of Scripture,
Zeal for your house will consume me.
At this the Jews answered and said to him,
“What sign can you show us for doing this?”
Jesus answered and said to them,
“Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.”
The Jews said,
“This temple has been under construction for forty-six years,
and you will raise it up in three days?”
But he was speaking about the temple of his body.
Therefore, when he was raised from the dead,
his disciples remembered that he had said this,
and they came to believe the Scripture
and the word Jesus had spoken.

While he was in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover,
many began to believe in his name
when they saw the signs he was doing.
But Jesus would not trust himself to them because he knew them all,
and did not need anyone to testify about human nature.
He himself understood it well.

The Gospel of the Lord.