

## COLLECT: (Remain Standing)

Almighty God, who has enriched your Church with the singular learning and holiness of your servant Thomas Aquinas: Enlighten us more and more, we pray, by the disciplined thinking and teaching of Christian scholars, and deepen our devotion by the example of saintly lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading: Isaiah 48:12-21 (*Please be seated*)

Reader: A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Listen to me, O Jacob,  
and Israel, whom I called:  
I am He; I am the first,  
and I am the last.  
My hand laid the foundation of the earth,  
and my right hand spread out the heavens;  
when I summon them,  
they stand at attention.

Assemble, all of you, and hear!  
Who among them has declared these things?  
The Lord loves him;  
he shall perform his purpose on Babylon,  
and his arm shall be against the Chaldeans.  
I, even I, have spoken and called him,  
I have brought him, and he will prosper in his way.  
Draw near to me, hear this!  
From the beginning I have not spoken in secret,  
from the time it came to be I have been there.  
And now the Lord God has sent me and his spirit.

Thus says the Lord,

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:  
I am the Lord your God,  
who teaches you for your own good,  
who leads you in the way you should go.  
O that you had paid attention to my commandments!  
Then your prosperity would have been like a river,  
and your success like the waves of the sea;  
your offspring would have been like the sand,  
and your descendants like its grains;  
their name would never be cut off  
or destroyed from before me.

Go out from Babylon, flee from Chaldea,  
declare this with a shout of joy, proclaim it,  
send it forth to the end of the earth;  
say, 'The Lord has redeemed his servant Jacob!'  
They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts;  
he made water flow for them from the rock;  
he split open the rock and the water gushed out.

# Psalm 45

Reader: Let us pray together the words of **Psalm 45**.

1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;  
let me recite what I have fashioned for the  
king; \*  
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled  
writer.

2 You are the fairest of men; \*  
grace flows from your lips,  
because God has blessed you for ever.

3 Strap your sword upon your thigh, O  
mighty warrior, \*  
in your pride and in your majesty.

4 Ride out and conquer in the cause of  
truth \*  
and for the sake of justice.

5 Your right hand will show you marvelous  
things; \*  
your arrows are very sharp, O mighty  
warrior.

6 The peoples are falling at your feet, \*  
and the king's enemies are losing heart.

7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever  
and ever, \*  
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of  
your kingdom;  
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.

8 Therefore God, your God, has anointed  
you \*  
with the oil of gladness above your  
fellows.

9 All your garments are fragrant with  
myrrh, aloes, and cassia, \*  
and the music of strings from ivory palaces  
makes you glad.

10 Kings' daughters stand among the  
ladies of the court; \*  
on your right hand is the queen,  
adorned with the gold of Ophir.

11 "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen  
closely; \*  
forget your people and your father's  
house.

12 The king will have pleasure in your  
beauty; \*  
he is your master; therefore do him honor.

13 The people of Tyre are here with a gift; \*  
the rich among the people seek your  
favor."

14 All glorious is the princess as she  
enters; \*  
her gown is cloth-of-gold.

15 In embroidered apparel she is brought  
to the king; \*  
after her the bridesmaids follow in  
procession.

16 With joy and gladness they are  
brought, \*  
and enter into the palace of the king.

17 "In place of fathers, O king, you shall  
have sons; \*  
you shall make them princes over all the  
earth.

18 I will make your name to be  
remembered  
from one generation to another; \*  
therefore nations will praise you for ever  
and ever."

## **Galatians 1:18-2:10** *(Please be seated)*

Reader: A reading from the book of Galatians.

Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas and stayed with him for fifteen days; but I did not see any other apostle except James the Lord's brother. In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie! Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia, and I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea that are in Christ; they only heard it said, 'The one who formerly was persecuting us is now proclaiming the faith he once tried to destroy.' And they glorified God because of me.

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. I went up in response to a revelation. Then I laid before them (though only in a private meeting with the acknowledged leaders) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure that I was not running, or had not run, in vain. But even Titus, who was with me, was not compelled to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. But because of false believers secretly brought in, who slipped in to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might enslave us— we did not submit to them even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might always remain with you. And from those who were supposed to be acknowledged leaders (what they actually were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those leaders contributed nothing to me. On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel for the circumcised (for he who worked through Peter making him an apostle to the circumcised also worked through me in sending me to the Gentiles), and when James and Cephas and John, who were acknowledged pillars, recognized the grace that had been given to me, they gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship, agreeing that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. They asked only one thing, that we remember the poor, which was actually what I was eager to do.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Mark 6:1-13** *(Please stand as you are able)*

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

He left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Christ**