

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent  
Yr C

Reading 1

*Citation:* Isaiah, Chap. 43, Verses 16-21  
Isaiah 43: 16-21

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

Thus says the LORD,  
    who opens a way in the sea  
    and a path in the mighty waters,  
who leads out chariots and horsemen,  
    a powerful army,  
till they lie prostrate together, never to rise,  
    snuffed out and quenched like a wick.  
Remember not the events of the past,  
    the things of long ago consider not;  
see, I am doing something new!  
    Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
In the desert I make a way,  
    in the wasteland, rivers.  
Wild beasts honor me,  
    jackals and ostriches,  
for I put water in the desert  
    and rivers in the wasteland  
    for my chosen people to drink,  
the people whom I formed for myself,  
    that they might announce my praise.

**The word of the Lord.**

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Reading 2

*Citation:* Philippians, Chap. 3, Verses 8-14  
Philippians 3: 8-14

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians**

Brothers and sisters

I consider everything as a loss  
because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.  
For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things  
and I consider them so much rubbish,  
that I may gain Christ and be found in him,  
not having any righteousness of my own based on the law  
but that which comes through faith in Christ,  
the righteousness from God,  
depending on faith to know him and the power of his resurrection  
and the sharing of his sufferings by being conformed to his death,  
if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

It is not that I have already taken hold of it  
or have already attained perfect maturity,  
but I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it,  
since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ Jesus.

Brothers and sisters, I for my part  
do not consider myself to have taken possession.

Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind  
but straining forward to what lies ahead,  
I continue my pursuit toward the goal,  
the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.

**The word of the Lord.**

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Gospel

*Citation:* John, Chap. 8, Verses 1-11  
John 8: 1-11

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.  
But early in the morning he arrived again in the temple area,  
and all the people started coming to him,  
and he sat down and taught them.  
Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman  
who had been caught in adultery  
and made her stand in the middle.  
They said to him,  
"Teacher, this woman was caught  
in the very act of committing adultery.  
Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women  
So what do you say?"  
They said this to test him,  
so that they could have some charge to bring against him.  
Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger.  
But when they continued asking him,  
he straightened up and said to them,  
"Let the one among you who is without sin  
be the first to throw a stone at her."  
Again he bent down and wrote on the ground.  
And in response, they went away one by one,  
beginning with the elders.  
So he was left alone with the woman before him.  
Then Jesus straightened up and said to her,  
"Woman, where are they?  
Has no one condemned you?"  
She replied, "No one, sir."  
Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you.  
Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

**The Gospel of the Lord.**