

12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C

Reading 1

**Citation: Zechariah, Chap. 12, Verses 10-11 & Chap. 13, Verse 1
Zechariah 12: 10-11; 13: 1**

A prophecy about the significance of Jesus' death for the people of Israel. God is providing the means of purification before Him, through Jesus, for the "inhabitants of Jerusalem" but also for the entire "house of David!"

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Zechariah

Thus says the LORD:

I will pour out on the house of David
and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem

(compassion; kind -- this section)

a spirit of grace and petition;

and they shall look on him whom they have pierced,

(some sadness)

and they shall mourn for him

as one mourns for an only son,

(parenthetical)

and they shall grieve over him

as one grieves over a firstborn.

(parenthetical) (short pause)

On that day the mourning in Jerusalem shall be as great
as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

(very short pause)

On that day there shall be open to the house of David
and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem,

a fountain

(almost parenthetical)

to purify from sin and uncleanness.

(almost an announcement!)

The word of the Lord.

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Reading 2

Citation: Galatians, Chap. 3, Verses 26-29
Galatians 3: 26-29

One of the "arguments" Paul uses to bolster his conviction about Jesus' message to the Gentiles as well as their eligibility to be "children of God." Be impassioned, here.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

Brothers and sisters:

Through faith
you are all children of God
in Christ Jesus. (almost parenthetical) (very short pause)

For all of you who were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ. (very short pause)

There is neither Jew nor Greek, (a LIST!) (raise voice volume very slightly each line?)
there is neither slave nor free person,
there is not male and female;
for you are all one
in Christ Jesus. (NOT parenthetical) (very short pause)

And if you belong to Christ,
then you are Abraham's descendant, (affirmation!)
heirs (very short pause)
according to the promise. (almost parenthetical)

The word of the Lord.

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GOSPEL

Citation: Luke, Chap. 9, Verses 18-24

Luke 9: 18-24

The disciples are unclear about Jesus' future so He helps them get a idea of His coming suffering and that "suffering" (self-denial) is necessary to conform to the Will of God (following Jesus' example). He is gently but firmly encouraging them and increasingly confident that they are getting His message! See yourself in Jesus' place and act accordingly.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Once when Jesus was praying in solitude,
and the disciples were with him,
he asked them,

(parenthetical)

"Who do the crowds say that I am?"

(very short pause)

They said in reply,

"John the Baptist;

(they respond matter-of-factly)

others,

Elijah;

still others,

'One of the ancient prophets has arisen.'"

(very short pause)

Then he said to them,

"But who do you say that I am?"

(very short pause)

Peter said in reply,

"The Christ of God."

(raise volume a bit)

He rebuked them

(gentle tone)

and directed them not to tell this to anyone.

He said,

"The Son of Man must suffer greatly

and be rejected

by the elders,

the chief priests,

and the scribes,

and be killed

and on the third day be raised."

(2 stresses) (very short pause)

Then he said to all,

"If anyone wishes to come after me,

he must deny himself

and take up his cross daily and follow me.

(very short pause)

For whoever wishes to save his life

(be increasingly confident!)

will lose it,

Proclaim the Word!

Proclamation Format

but whoever loses his life
for my sake
will save it."

(be increasingly confident!)

"

The Gospel of the Lord.