

Readings for the Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord

Prophecy

Isaiah 62:1-4a

Thus says the Lord God: For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace,

And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
And her salvation as a lamp that burns.
The Gentiles shall see your righteousness,
And all kings your glory.
You shall be called by a new name,
Which the mouth of the Lord will name.
You shall also be a crown of glory
In the hand of the Lord,
And a royal diadem
In the hand of your God.
You shall no longer be termed Forsaken,
Nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate;
But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah;
For the Lord delights in you.

✠ The Word of the Lord.

✠ Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 1:1-6

Brethren: Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ our Lord.

✠ The Word of the Lord.

✠ Thanks be to God.

✠ The Lord be with you.

✠ And with thy spirit.

✠ The continuation of the ✠ Holy Gospel ✠ according to ✠ Saint Matthew.

✠ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time: After Mary the mother of Jesus was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

✠ The Gospel of the Lord.

✠ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.