

**DECEMBER 15**  
**BLESSED BONAVENTURE of PISTOIA**  
*FRIAR SERVANT OF MARY – PRIEST*

*Optional Memorial*

**Entrance Antiphon**

Psalm 15 (16), 5-6

O Lord, my allotted portion and my cup. It is you who hold fast my lot.  
For me the measuring lines have fallen on pleasant sites.  
Fair to me indeed is my inheritance.

**Prayer of the Assembly**

Almighty God,  
grace our hearts  
with the gift of wise counsel,  
so manifest in the life of Blessed Bonaventure,  
who was a spiritual guide  
for your dedicated Servants.  
(We ask this) through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

**First Reading**

Sirach 15, 1-6

A reading from the Book of Sirach  
*She will nourish him with the bread of understanding*  
He who fears the Lord will do this;  
he who is practiced in the law will come to wisdom.  
Motherlike she will meet him,  
like a young bride she will embrace him,  
Nourish him with the bread of understanding,  
and give him the water of learning to drink.  
He will lean upon her and not fall,  
he will trust in her and not be put to shame.  
She will exalt him above his fellows;  
in the assembly she will make him eloquent.  
Joy and gladness he will find,  
an everlasting name inherit.

**This is the Word of the Lord**

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 36 (37), 3-4, 5-6, 30-31

**R/. The mouth of the just proclaims forth wisdom**

If you trust in the Lord and do good,  
then you will live in the land and be secure.  
If you find your delight in the Lord,  
he will grant your heart's desire.

**R/. The mouth of the just proclaims forth wisdom**

Commit your life to the Lord,

trust in him and he will act,  
so that your justice breaks forth like the light,  
your cause like the noon-day sun.

**R/. The mouth of the just proclaims forth wisdom**

The just man's mouth utters wisdom  
and his lips speak what is right;  
the law of his God is in his heart,  
his steps shall be saved from stumbling.

**R/. The mouth of the just proclaims forth wisdom**

**Gospel Acclamation**

John 8, 12

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,  
whoever follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

**Gospel Reading**

Luke 9, 57-62

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*“I will follow you wherever you go.”*

Jesus and his disciples were proceeding on their journey  
and someone said to him,  
“I will follow you wherever you go.”  
Jesus answered him,  
“Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests,  
but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head.”  
And to another he said, “Follow me.”  
But he replied,  
“Lord, let me go first and bury my father.”  
But he answered him,  
“Let the dead bury their dead.  
But you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”  
And another said,  
“I will follow you, Lord,  
but first let me say farewell to my family at home.”  
To him, Jesus said,  
“No one who sets a hand to the plow  
and looks to what was left behind  
is fit for the kingdom of God.”

**This is the Gospel of the Lord**

**Prayer over the Offerings**

May the humble prayer of Blessed Bonaventure  
accompany our sacrificial gifts, O Lord.  
By offering these gifts of our sincere devotion,  
may we learn to offer our very selves to you as well.  
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

## **Preface for Holy Men and Women**

*The glory of the saints*

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.  
You are glorified in your saints,  
for their glory is the crowning of your gifts.  
In their lives on earth,  
you give us an example.  
In our communion with them,  
you give us their friendship.  
In their prayer for the Church,  
you give us strength and protection.  
This great company of witnesses spurs us on to victory,  
to share their prize of everlasting glory  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
With angels and archangels  
and the whole company of saints,  
we sing our unending hymn of praise: Holy, Holy...

### **Communion Antiphon**

Matthew 19, 27-29

I give you my solemn word, that you who have left all things  
and have followed me, shall receive a hundred-fold  
and shall inherit everlasting life.

### **Prayer after Communion**

Grant we beseech you, Lord our God,  
through this sacrament of your wisdom,  
that with the aid of Blessed Bonaventure,  
we may live our lives  
in harmony and moderation.  
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

**Note:** Some biblical texts are taken from: The New American Bible <http://www.vatican.va/archives/>