

FEBRUARY 3
BLESSED JOACHIM of SIENA
FRIAR SERVANT OF MARY

Memorial

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 15 (16), 5-6

OLord, 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.

or

Matthew 25, 34. 36. 40

Come, you have my Father's blessing! I was ill and you comforted me.
I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers or sisters, you did it for me.

Prayer of the Assembly

Lord God,
you made Blessed Joachim,
a faithful follower of your Son
and a servant of his Mother.
You taught him to care for the needs of others
and even to take on the burden of their infirmities.
From his example,
may we learn to acknowledge our own weaknesses
and to be compassionate and understanding
of the weakness of others.
(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

Galatians 6: 2-3, 7-10

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians

Bear one another's burdens

Brothers and sisters, bear one another's burdens,
and so you will fulfill the law of Christ.
For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing,
he is deluding himself.
Make no mistake:
God is not mocked,
for a person will reap only what he sows,
because the one who sows for his flesh
will reap corruption from the flesh,
but the one who sows for the spirit
will reap eternal life from the spirit.
Let us not grow tired of doing good,
for in due time we shall reap our harvest,
if we do not give up.
So then, while we have the opportunity,

let us do good to all, but especially to those
who belong to the family of the faith.

This is the Word of the Lord

or Alternative First Reading

Sirach 2, 1-13

A reading from the Book of Sirach

Undisturbed in time of adversity

My son, when you come to serve the Lord,
prepare yourself for trials.
Be sincere of heart and steadfast,
undisturbed in time of adversity.
Cling to him, forsake him not;
thus will your future be great.
Accept whatever befalls you,
in crushing misfortune be patient;
For in fire gold is tested,
and worthy men in the crucible of humiliation.
Trust God and he will help you;
make straight your ways and hope in him.
You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy,
turn not away lest you fall.
You who fear the Lord, trust him,
and your reward will not be lost.
You who fear the Lord, hope for good things,
for lasting joy and mercy.
Study the generations long past and understand;
has anyone hoped in the Lord and been disappointed?
Has anyone persevered in his fear and been forsaken?
Has anyone called upon him and been rebuffed?
Compassionate and merciful is the Lord;
he forgives sins, he saves in time of trouble.
Woe to craven hearts and drooping hands,
to the sinner who treads a double path!
Woe to the faint of heart who trust not,
who therefore will have no shelter!

This is the Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 34, 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 10-11, 20-21

R/. Happy are those who hope in the Lord

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

R/. Happy are those who hope in the Lord

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free.

R/. Happy are those who hope in the Lord

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called, the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress.

R/. Happy are those who hope in the Lord

Revere the Lord, you his saints.
They lack nothing, those who revere him.
Strong lions suffer want and go hungry
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

R/. Happy are those who hope in the Lord

Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken.

R/. Happy are those who hope in the Lord

Gospel Acclamation I John 3, 18

Alleluia! Alleluia! Children, let us love not in word or speech
but in deed and truth. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25, 31-40

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

I was ill and you cared for me

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Son of Man comes
in his glory, and all the angels with him,
he will sit upon his glorious throne,
and all the nations will be assembled before him.
And he will separate them one from another,
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.
He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.
Then the king will say to those on his right,
'Come, you who are blessed by my Father.
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you
from the foundation of the world.

For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
a stranger and you welcomed me,
naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me,
in prison and you visited me.’
Then the righteous will answer him and say,
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,
or thirsty and give you drink?
When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,
or naked and clothe you?
When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’
And the king will say to them in reply,
‘Amen, I say to you,
whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine,
you did for me.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

May our prayers and the gifts we offer rise up to you, O Lord.
In your mercy, grant that we may follow
Blessed Joachim’s example of commitment
to a life of prayer and concern
for the needs of others.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Preface (from All Saints of the Order)

One in mind and heart with eyes fixed on the Virgin Mary

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
as we remember today your servant Blessed Joachim.
United in holy community,
with eyes fixed on the Virgin Mary,
he served you, O Lord, and all people,
in humility and charity.
Therefore, Father, we praise you for the wonders
you have worked in him,
and we strive to follow his example of communal life.
With the help of his intercession
we hope to reach the eternal city.
And therefore through your Son Jesus Christ,
with Blessed Joachim and all the angels,
we praise you for ever as we say: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

John 15, 13

There is no greater love than this: to lay down one’s life for a friend.

or

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.

or

John 13, 35

“This is how all will know you are my disciples: your love for one another,” says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

Lord, in this heavenly banquet we have received Christ,
who carried out your will
and died on the cross to save us.
May our participation in this holy meal teach us,
like Blessed Joachim,
to carry our cross each day.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

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