

First Reading  
*read by Sylvia Reed*

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*  
*25:6-9*

On this mountain,  
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples  
a banquet of rich food.

On this mountain he will remove  
the mourning veil covering all peoples,  
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,  
he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away  
the tears from every cheek;  
he will take away his people's shame  
everywhere on earth,  
for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God  
in whom we hoped for salvation;  
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.  
We exult and we rejoice  
that he has saved us.

The word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God**

Responsorial Psalm  
*read by Rachel Shaw*

The Lord is my light and my help

**All: The Lord is my light and my help**

The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
before whom shall I shrink?

**All: The Lord is my light and my help**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple.

**All: The Lord is my light and my help**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;  
have mercy and answer.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face.

**All: The Lord is my light and my help**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.

Hope in the Lord!

**All: The Lord is my light and my help**

## Second Reading

*read by Mia Goodchild*

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

8:31-35. 37-39

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation

*Jn 6:40*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!  
**It is my Father's will, says the Lord,  
that whoever believes in the Son  
shall have eternal life,  
and that I shall raise him up on the last day.**  
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Fr Paschal: The Lord be with you

**All: And with your spirit**

Fr Paschal: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

**All: Glory to you, O Lord**

Gospel

*John 14:1-6*

Jesus said to his disciples:  
'Do not let your hearts be troubled  
Trust in God still, and trust in me.  
There are many rooms in my Father's house;  
if there were not, I should have told you.  
I am going now to prepare a place for you,  
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,  
I shall return to take you with me;  
so that where I am  
you may be too.  
You know the way to the place where I am going.'  
Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can  
we know the way?' Jesus said:  
'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Homily  
*Fr Paschal*

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Prayers of Intercession  
*Read by Margaret Barlow*

For Mary, who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life,  
that she may now be admitted to the company of the saints.

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer**

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith,  
that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer**

Lord, we pray for the gift of acceptance,  
that even though we cannot fully understand  
we can be content to be in the Lord's hands.

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer**

Lord, you calmed the storm and took away the fears of the Apostles,  
take away our fears and bring peace and serenity to our lives.

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer**

## Communion Hymn

### **Close To You**

I watch the sunrise,  
lighting the sky,  
casting its shadows near.  
And on this morning  
bright though it be,  
I feel those shadows near me.

But you are always close to me  
following all my ways.  
May I be always close to you  
following all your ways, Lord.

I watch the sunlight  
shine through the clouds,  
warming the earth below.  
And at the mid-day life seems to say:  
'I feel your brightness near me.'  
For you are always ...

I watch the sunset  
fading away,  
lighting the clouds with sleep.  
And as the evening closes its eyes  
I feel your presence near me.  
For you are always ...

I watch the moonlight  
guarding the night,  
waiting till morning comes.  
The air is silent, earth is at rest -  
only your peace is near me.  
Yes, you are always ...

## **Come Back To Me**

Come back to me with all your heart.  
Don't let fear keep us apart.  
Trees do bend, though straight and tall;  
so much we to others' call.

Long have I waited  
for your coming home to me  
and living deeply our new life.

The wilderness will lead you  
to your heart, where I will speak.  
Integrity and justice  
with tenderness you shall know.

Long have I waited  
for your coming home to me  
and living deeply our new life.

You shall sleep secure with peace;  
faithfulness will be your joy.

Long have I waited  
for your coming home to me  
and living deeply our new life.

Come back to me with all your heart.  
Don't let fear keep us apart.  
Trees do bend, though straight and tall;  
so must we to others' call.

Long have I waited  
for your coming home to me  
and living deeply our new life.

Eulogy  
*Read by John Slater*

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Reflection Hymn  
**Ave Maria (Schubert)**  
*sung by Francesca Slater*

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Final Commendation