

## COLLECT

Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son was revealed to  
destroy the works of the devil  
and to make us the children of God  
and heirs of eternal life:  
grant that we, having this hope,  
may purify ourselves even as he  
is pure;  
that when he shall appear in power  
and great glory  
we may be made like him in his  
eternal and glorious kingdom;  
where he is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING Malachi 4:1-2a

*A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.*

See, the day is coming, burning like  
an oven, when all the arrogant and all  
evildoers will be stubble; the day that  
comes shall burn them up, says the  
LORD of hosts, so that it will leave  
them neither root nor branch. But for  
you who revere my name the sun of  
righteousness shall rise, with healing  
in its wings. You shall go out leaping  
like calves from the stall.

## PSALM Psalm 98

**R** *The Lord has made known his  
salvation.*

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvellous things.  
His own right hand and his holy arm  
have won for him the victory.  
The Lord has made known his  
salvation;  
his deliverance has he openly shown  
in the sight of the nations. **R**

He has remembered his mercy and  
faithfulness towards the house of  
Israel,  
and all the ends of the earth have  
seen the salvation of our God.  
Sound praises to the Lord, all the  
earth;  
break into singing and make music. **R**

Make music to the Lord with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the voice of melody.  
With trumpets and the sound of the  
horn  
sound praises before the Lord, the  
King. **R**

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,  
the world and all that dwell upon it.  
Let the rivers clap their hands  
and let the hills ring out together  
before the Lord, for he comes to  
judge the earth.  
In righteousness shall he judge the  
world  
and the peoples with equity. **R**

## SECOND READING

### 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

*A reading from the second letter of  
Paul to the Thessalonians.*

We command you, beloved, in the  
name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to  
keep away from believers who are  
living in idleness and not according  
to the tradition that they received  
from us. For you yourselves know how  
you ought to imitate us; we were not  
idle when we were with you, and we  
did not eat anyone's bread without  
paying for it; but with toil and labour  
we worked night and day, so that we  
might not burden any of you. This  
was not because we do not have  
that right, but in order to give you an  
example to imitate. For even when  
we were with you, we gave you this  
command: Anyone unwilling to work  
should not eat. For we hear that some  
of you are living in idleness, mere  
busybodies, not doing any work.  
Now such persons we command and  
exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do  
their work quietly and to earn their  
own living. Brothers and sisters, do  
not be weary in doing what is right.

## GOSPEL Luke 21:5-19

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to Luke.*

When some were speaking about  
the temple, how it was adorned with

beautiful stones and gifts dedicated  
to God, Jesus said, "As for these  
things that you see, the days will  
come when not one stone will be  
left upon another; all will be thrown  
down." They asked him, "Teacher,  
when will this be, and what will be  
the sign that this is about to take  
place?" And Jesus said, "Beware  
that you are not led astray; for many  
will come in my name and say, 'I am  
he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not  
go after them. When you hear of  
wars and insurrections, do not be  
terrified; for these things must take  
place first, but the end will not follow  
immediately." Then he said to them,  
"Nation will rise against nation, and  
kingdom against kingdom; there will  
be great earthquakes, and in various  
places famines and plagues; and  
there will be dreadful portents and  
great signs from heaven. But before  
all this occurs, they will arrest you  
and persecute you; they will hand  
you over to synagogues and prisons,  
and you will be brought before kings  
and governors because of my name.  
This will give you an opportunity to  
testify. So make up your minds not to  
prepare your defence in advance; for  
I will give you words and a wisdom  
that none of your opponents will be  
able to withstand or contradict. You  
will be betrayed even by parents and  
brothers, by relatives and friends; and  
they will put some of you to death.  
You will be hated by all because of  
my name. But not a hair of your head  
will perish. By your endurance you will  
gain your souls."

## POST COMMUNION

Gracious Lord,  
in this holy sacrament  
you give substance to our hope:  
bring us at the last  
to that fullness of life for which we  
long;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

