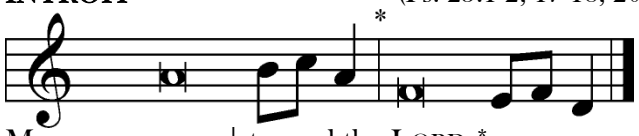
Third Sunday in Lent *Oculi*

12 March 2023 Anno Domini

INTROIT (Ps. 25:1-2, 17-18, 20; antiphon: Ps. 25:15-16)



My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.
Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,*
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;*
let not my enemies exult | over me.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL *(Ps. 9:19, 3)*

Arise, O LORD! Let not | man prevail;*
let the nations be judged be- | fore you!
When my enemies | turn back,*
they stumble and perish before your | presence.

TRACT *(Psalm 123:1–3a)*

To you I lift | up my eyes,*
O you who are enthroned in the | heaven!
Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their | master,*
so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy up- | on us.
Have mercy upon us, | O LORD,*
Have mercy up- | on us.

Old Testament: Jeremiah 26:1-15
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Epistle: Ephesians 5:1–9

1 Therefore be imitators of God,
as beloved children. 2 And walk in
love, as Christ loved us and gave
himself up for us, a fragrant
offering and sacrifice to God. 3 But
sexual immorality and all impurity
or covetousness must not even be
named among you, as is proper
among saints. 4 Let there be no
filthiness nor foolish talk nor
crude joking, which are out of
place, but instead let there be
thanksgiving. 5 For you may be
sure of this, that everyone who is
sexually immoral or impure, or
who is covetous (that is, an
idolater), has no inheritance in
the kingdom of Christ and God.
6 Let no one deceive you with
empty words, for because of these
things the wrath of God comes
upon the sons of disobedience.
7 Therefore do not associate with
them; 8 for at one time you were
darkness, but now you are light in
the Lord. Walk as children of
light 9 (for the fruit of light is found
in all that is good and right and
true).

Holy Gospel: Luke 11:14–28

14 Now [Jesus] was casting out a
demon that was mute. When the
demon had gone out, the mute
man spoke, and the people
marveled. 15 But some of them
said, "He casts out demons by
Beelzebul, the prince of
demons," 16 while others, to test
him, kept seeking from him a sign
from heaven. 17 But he, knowing
their thoughts, said to them,
"Every kingdom divided against
itself is laid waste, and a divided
household falls. 18 And if Satan also
is divided against himself, how will
his kingdom stand? For you say
that I cast out demons by
Beelzebul. 19 And if I cast out
demons by Beelzebul, by whom
do your sons cast them out?
Therefore, they will be your
judges. 20 But if it is by the finger of
God that I cast out demons, then
the kingdom of God has come
upon you. 21 When a strong man,
fully armed, guards his own
palace, his goods are safe; 22 but
when one stronger than he attacks
him and overcomes him, he takes
away his armor in which he
trusted and divides his spoil.
23 Whoever is not with me is
against me, and whoever does not
gather with me scatters. 24 "When
the unclean spirit has gone out of
a person, it passes through
waterless places seeking rest, and
finding none it says, 'I will return
to my house from which I came.'
25 And when it comes, it finds the
house swept and put in order.
26 Then it goes and brings seven
other spirits more evil than itself,
and they enter and dwell there.
And the last state of that person is
worse than the first." 27 As he said
these things, a woman in the
crowd raised her voice and said to
him, "Blessed is the womb that
bore you, and the breasts at which
you nursed!" 28 But he said,
"Blessed rather are those who
hear the word of God and keep
it!"