

Readings & Gospel for Sunday 22nd December 2024

First Reading

Hebrews 10: 5-10

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God"
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

⁸When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in
sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these
are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, 'See, I have come to
do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the
second.¹⁰And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through
the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the word of the Lord.

***All* Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Luke 1:39-45

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be^[a] a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

This is the word of the Lord.

***All* Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 1. 46-55

46 And Mary said,
‘My soul magnifies the Lord,
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
48 for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
50 His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
51 He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
53 he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
54 He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.