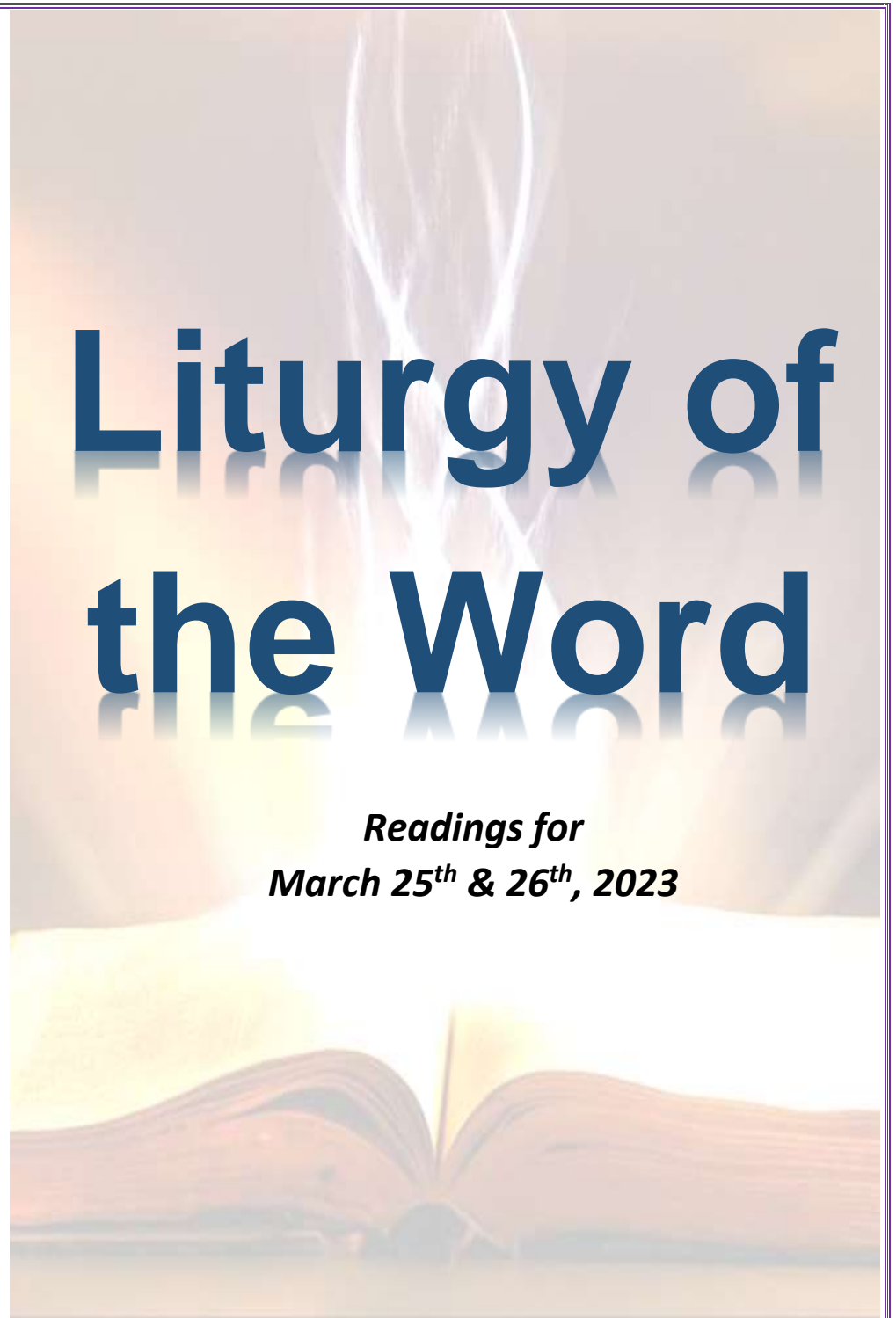


Liturgy of the Word

*Readings for
March 25th & 26th, 2023*



First Reading

I will infuse you with my spirit and you will live.

Reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel 37:12-14

This is what the Lord God says: "My people, I will open their graves myself, I will bring them out of them, and I will lead them back to the land of Israel. When I open their graves and take them out of them, my people, you will say that I am the Lord. Then I will infuse my spirit to you and you will live, I will establish you in your land and you will know that I, the Lord, said it and fulfilled it."

Word of God. *We praise you, Lord.*

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 129

R. Forgive us, Lord, and we will live

* From the abyss of my sins I cry out to you; Lord, hear my cry; Let your ears be attentive to my pleading voice. **R.**

* If you kept the memory of guilt, who would, Lord, be saved? But forgiveness proceeds from you, so with love we venerate you. **R.**

* I trust in the Lord, my soul waits and trusts in his word; my soul awaits the Lord, much more than the dawn the sentinel. **R**

* As the sentinel waits for dawn, Israel awaits the Lord, for from the Lord comes the mercy and abundance of redemption, and he will redeem his people from all their iniquities. **R**

Second Reading

The Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.

Reading from the Letter of the Apostle Paul to the Romans (8:8-11)

Brothers and sisters, those who live in a disorderly and selfish way cannot please God. But you do not lead that kind of life, but a life according to the Spirit, since the Spirit of God truly dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ is not of Christ. Instead, if Christ lives in you, even though his body remains subject to death because of sin, his spirit lives because of God's saving activity. If the Spirit of the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead, dwells in you, then the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead, will also give life to your mortal bodies through the work of his Spirit who dwells in you. **Word of God. *We praise you, Lord.***

Holy Gospel

I am the resurrection and the life.

Reading of the Holy Gospel according to Saint John (11, 1-45)

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) So, the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you,

and yet you are going back?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light." After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." Jesus Comforts the Sisters of Lazarus - On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that



even now God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who

had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Dead - Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" So, they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go." The Plot to Kill Jesus - Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Word of God. *Glory to you Lord Jesus.*