

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18, 2015

Year B, Revised Common Lectionary

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"12 Years long homeless commando..." Lukaz Dunikowski.

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fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Psalm 51:1-17

- ✘ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- ✘ Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
- ✘ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- ✘ Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.
- ✘ Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- ✘ You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- ✘ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ✘ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- ✘ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
- ✘ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- ✘ Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.
- ✘ Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- ✘ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.
- ✘ Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
- ✘ Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- ✘ For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.
- ✘ The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made himself to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

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