

HOLY SATURDAY

March 31, 2018

Year B, Revised Common Lectionary

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Joseph of Arimathea Taking Jesus, ivory carving, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England, 1200-1210.

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Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24 *I am one who has seen affliction under the rod of God's wrath; he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light; against me alone he turns his hand, again and again, all day long. He has made my flesh and my skin waste away, and broken my bones; he has besieged*

and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation; he has made me sit in darkness like the dead of long ago. He has walled me about so that I cannot escape; he has put heavy chains on me; though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer; he has blocked my ways with hewn stones, he has made my paths crooked. The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16

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- ✠ You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me,
- ✠ take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.
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