Ash Wednesday

Year A

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Joel 2:13b
Mosaic of God
Jerusalem, Israel
Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people.

Joel 2:15-16a
Study for Mural -- Aaron Douglas, Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, DE
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...

Isaiah 58:6
Wretched are the Legs That Must Bear the Burden of Poverty

Adrien van de Venne
Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house?

Isaiah 58:7
Charity -- Marie-Francois Firmin-Girard, Museu Nacional de Belas Artes, Rio de Janiero, Brazil
Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Psalm 51:1
Remissionem, detail

St. Aloysius Church
Columbus, Ohio
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Psalm 51:10
Repentance Altarpiece -- Bror Hjorth, Jukkasjarvi church, Jukkasjarvi, Sweden
We are treated...as dying, and see--we are alive; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing;

2 Corinthians 5:28b, 9a, 10a
A Village Choir -- Thomas Webster, Victoria and Albert Museum, London
...as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything

2 Corinthians 5:10b
Peter and Paul
Guido Reni,
Pinacoteca di Brera
Milan, Italy
"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray... so that they may be seen by others."

Matthew 6:5a,c
"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth... but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven..."

Matthew 6:19a-20a
Detail, Altar of St. John

Rogier van der Weyden
Gemaldegalerie, Berlin
“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:21
Immigrant Family -- Tom Otterness, Toronto, Canada
Credits

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