New Year’s Day

Year B

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Psalm 8
Revelation 21:1-6a
Matthew 25:31-46
For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven ...

Ecclesiastes 3:1
The Four Seasons

Leonard French
La Trobe University
Sculpture Park
Melbourne, Australia
"It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

Revelation 21:6a
Alpha and Omega -- Metalwork, Benton Chapel, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food ...'

Matthew 25:37a
Seven Works of Mercy (with Christ as one of the recipients)

Master of Alkmaar
Rijksmuseum
Amsterdam
'... or thirsty and gave you something to drink?'

Matthew 25:37b
Soup Kitchen at the House of Mercy Church, Winter 2009 -- Tony Fischer, Newark, NJ
'And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you?'

Matthew 25:38a
Sanctuary of the Divine Works of Mercy -- Guayaquil, Ecuador
"... or naked and gave you clothing?"

Matthew 25:38b
'And when was it that we saw you sick ... and visited you?'

Matthew 25:39ac
Clara Barton (1821–1912)

Clara Barton lived a lifetime of tireless service to others. During the American Civil War, she became known as the "Angel of the Battlefield", delivering supplies and caring for the sick and wounded. After the war, Barton organized a campaign to locate missing soldiers. Her enduring legacy was the founding, in 1881, of the American Red Cross, an organization whose name became synonymous with disaster preparedness, response, and relief.

"You must never so much think as whether you like it or not, whether it is bearable or not; you must never think of anything except the need, and how to meet it."

The Extra Mile – Clara Barton, Founder of the Red Cross -- Washington, DC
'And when was it that we saw you ... in prison and visited you?'

Matthew 25:39ac
Seven Works of Mercy

Mural in Diakonie Conference Center
Neuendettelsau, Germany
'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these ..., you did it to me.'

Matthew 25:40
Credits

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