

# Reflecting On Sunday's Readings

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — February 9, 2020

## First Reading — Isaiah 58:7-10

<sup>7</sup>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 him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? <sup>8</sup>Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, "Here I am." If you take away from the midst of you the yoke, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, <sup>10</sup>if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.

## Responsorial Psalm PS 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. (4a) **The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

Light shines through the darkness for the upright; he is gracious and merciful and just.

Well for the man who is gracious and lends, who conducts his affairs with justice.

R. **The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

He shall never be moved; the just one shall be in everlasting remembrance.

An evil report he shall not fear; his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.

R. **The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

His heart is steadfast; he shall not fear.

Lavishly he gives to the poor; His justice shall endure forever; his horn shall be exalted in glory.

R. **The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.**

or:

**Alleluia.**

## Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brethren, I did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I was with you in weakness and in much fear and trembling; <sup>4</sup>and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

## Gospel Reading — Matthew 5:13-16

<sup>13</sup>"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men. <sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

## Our Lady of Perpetual Help

### INVITATION TO PRAY

Pause for a few moments of silence and enter more deeply into the presence of God...

### Proclaim the Scriptures out loud

As you listen to the scriptures be attentive to a word, a phrase, a question, an image, or a feeling that emerges. Reflect on this quietly or share it aloud.

### INVITATION TO REFLECT

### INVITATION TO GROUP SHARING

#### First Reading — Isaiah 58:7-10

1. How has darkness been manifest in your environment and in your world?
2. In what way(s) have you seen the Lord show himself as light in the midst of this darkness?

#### Second Reading — 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

3. What does it mean to be with someone in weakness, fear and trembling?
4. How could we “demonstrate” through our message of hope, the presence of the Holy Spirit and power?

#### Gospel Reading — Matthew 5:13-16

5. Why do you think Jesus used salt and light to illustrate the characteristics of a fruitful Christian life?
6. What are some of the “bushels” under which we obscure Christ’s light in us?
7. Practically how can we put our light on a stand so that everyone can see it, yet do it without seeming prideful?

### INVITATION TO ACT

*Determine a specific action (individual or group) that flows from your sharing. When choosing an individual action, determine what you will do and share it with the group. When choosing a group action, determine who will take responsibility for different aspects of the action. These should be your primary considerations.*

### CLOSING INVITATION TO PRAY

*Give thanks to God (aloud or silently) for new insights, for desires awakened, for directions clarified, for the gift of one another’s openness and sensitivity. Conclude with a final prayer.*