

FIRST READING
Hebrews 11:1–2, 8–12

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Brothers and sisters:

Faith makes us sure of what we hope for
and gives us proof of what we cannot see.
It was their faith that made our ancestors pleasing to God.

Abraham had faith and obeyed God.
He was told to go to the land that God had said would be his,
and he left for a country he had never seen.

Because Abraham had faith,
he lives as a stranger in the promised land.
He lives there in a tent,
and so did Isaac and Jacob,
who were later given the same promise.

Abraham did this,
because he was waiting for the eternal city
that God had planned and built.

Even when Sarah was too old to have children,
she had faith that God would do what he had promised,
and she had a son.
Her husband Abraham was almost dead,
but he became the ancestor of many people.
In fact, there are as many of them as there are stars in the sky
or grains of sand along the beach.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Psalm 143:1, 8, 10

All: *O Lord, hear my prayer.*

*Listen, LORD, as I pray!
You are faithful and honest,
and will answer my prayer.*

All: *O Lord, hear my prayer.*

*Each morning let me learn
more about your love
because I trust you.
I come to you in prayer,
asking for your guidance.*

All: *O Lord, hear my prayer.*

*You are my God.
Show me what you want me to do,
and let your gentle Spirit
lead me in the right path.*

All: *O Lord, hear my prayer.*

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GOSPEL
Luke 12:35–40

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Be ready and keep your lamps burning
just like those servants who wait up
for their masters to return from a wedding feast.

As soon as he comes and knocks,
they open the door for him.

“Servants are fortunate
if their master finds them awake and ready when he comes!
I promise you that he will get ready
and have his servants sit down so he can serve them.

Those servants are really fortunate if their master finds them ready,
even though he comes late at night or early in the morning.

“You would surely not let a thief break into your home,
if you knew when the thief was coming.

So always be ready!

You don’t know when the Son of Man will come.”

The Gospel of the Lord.