

## READINGS

**The First Reading** - 2 Samuel 7: 4-16

**The Psalm** - Psalm 89: 26-36

**The Second Reading** - Romans 4: 13-18

**The Gospel Reading** - Matthew 1: 18-25

[http://bible.oremus.org/?](http://bible.oremus.org/?show_adj=no&passages=%0A2%20Samuel%207:%204-16%0Acw%20Psalm%2089:%2026-36%0ARomans%204:%2013-18%0AMatthew%201:%2018-25)

[show\\_adj=no&passages=%0A2%20Samuel%207:%204-16%0Acw%20Psalm%2089:%2026-36%0ARomans%204:%2013-18%0AMatthew%201:%2018-25](http://bible.oremus.org/?show_adj=no&passages=%0A2%20Samuel%207:%204-16%0Acw%20Psalm%2089:%2026-36%0ARomans%204:%2013-18%0AMatthew%201:%2018-25)

## COLLECTS

### Collect one

We beseech thee, Almighty God,  
look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants,  
and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty,  
to be our defence against all our enemies;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O God,  
who from the family of thy servant David  
didst raise up Joseph to be the guardian of thine incarnate Son  
and spouse of his virgin mother;  
Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life  
and his obedience to thy commands:  
through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Collect two

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
Grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross,  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God our Father,  
who from the family of your servant David  
raised up Joseph the carpenter  
to be the guardian of your incarnate Son

and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary:  
Give us grace to follow his example  
of faithful obedience to your commands;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Lent Collect**

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
Grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross,  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God our Father,  
who from the family of your servant David  
raised up Joseph the carpenter  
to be the guardian of your incarnate Son  
and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary:  
Give us grace to follow his example  
of faithful obedience to your commands;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you hate nothing that you have made  
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:  
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts  
that we, worthily lamenting our sins  
and acknowledging our wretchedness,  
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,  
perfect remission and forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **POST COMMUNION**

God of hope,  
in this eucharist we have tasted  
the promise of your heavenly banquet  
and the richness of eternal life.  
May we who bear witness to the death of your Son,

also proclaim the glory of his resurrection,  
for he is Lord for ever and ever.

Heavenly Father,  
whose Son grew in wisdom and stature  
in the home of Joseph the carpenter of Nazareth,  
and on the wood of the cross perfected  
the work of the world's salvation.  
Help us, strengthened by this sacrament of his passion,  
to count the wisdom of the world as foolishness,  
and to walk with him in simplicity and trust;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **St Joseph - A man of dreams, a man of action**

Nowhere in the Gospels do we ever hear anything Joseph says. He never says anything. But he's a man of action: he does what the angel tells him; he takes Mary as his wife; he goes to Bethlehem; he finds a place to stay for the night; he takes his family to Egypt... He's a man of action – not a man of words.

<http://saltandlighttv.org/blogfeed/getpost.php?id=21151>

### **Five lessons from St Joseph**

He was obedient, he was selfless, he led by example, he was a worker and he was a leader.

<http://www.integratedcatholiclife.org/2013/06/randy-hain-five-important-lessons-from-saint-joseph/>

## **HYMN SUGGESTIONS**

### **1st Reading 2 Samuel 7: 4–16**

342 Sweet is the solemn voice that calls  
73\* The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended  
343\* We love the place, O God

### **Psalm 89: 26–36**

670\* Come, worship God who is worthy of honour  
2 Faithful one, so unchanging  
668\* God is our fortress and our rock  
557\* Rock of ages, cleft for me

### **2nd Reading Romans 4: 13–18**

418\* Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face

[www.churchnewsireland.org](http://www.churchnewsireland.org)

545\* Sing of Eve and sing of Adam

**The Gospel Matthew 1: 18–25**

250\* All hail the power of Jesu's name  
148\* [As Joseph was a-walking]  
152\* Come and join the celebration  
119\* Come, thou long-expected Jesus  
460 For all your saints in glory, for all your saints at rest  
(vv.1, verse printed below, v.3)  
462 For Mary, mother of our Lord  
159\* [Good Christians all, rejoice]  
160\* [Hark! the herald-angels sing]  
92\* How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
94\* In the name of Jesus  
99\* Jesus, the name high over all  
133\* Long ago, prophets knew  
168\* Lord, you were rich beyond all splendour  
102\* Name of all majesty  
135\* [O come, O come, Emmanuel ]  
174\* [O little town of Bethlehem]  
175 [Of the Father's heart begotten]  
472 Sing we of the blessed mother  
139 [The angel Gabriel from heaven came]  
117\* To the name of our salvation  
186 What Adam's disobedience cost

When 'For all your saints in glory, for all your saints at rest' (no. 460) is used in relation to the above reading from Matthew 1: 18–25, the following verse from the 'Companion to Church Hymnal' (p.619) should be used as the second verse:

We praise you, Christ, for Joseph, a carpenter by fame,  
who, as your earthly father, enriched your holy name.  
He taught you faith and wisdom, and nurtured you in mind,  
till you became his Master, the Saviour of mankind.

**POST COMMUNION**

Heavenly Father,  
whose Son grew in wisdom and stature  
in the home of Joseph the carpenter of Nazareth,  
and on the wood of the cross perfected  
the work of the world's salvation.  
Help us, strengthened by this sacrament of his passion,  
to count the wisdom of the world as foolishness,

and to walk with him in simplicity and trust;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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