

MAY 9th

Saint ISAIAH, prophet and martyr

Memorial

Isaiah, son of Amos, is without doubt one of the greatest witnesses of God in Israel's history. From his vocation right up to his death, he is above all a man of faith. He lived in the 8th century in Jerusalem in the southern kingdom ruled by often mediocre kings, at the time when the separate northern kingdom was collapsing under the attacks of the Assyrians. He was haunted by the dangers that menaced his people. A prophet of God's holiness from the day of his vocation and of his great vision, he vigorously denounced the injustices that were a scandal to his faith. Nevertheless, as the prophet of the Lord's faithfulness, he also announced that a "remnant" would survive and that one day the Messiah would reign in peace and justice over a transformed Israel that would gather all nations around him.

In today's Gospel, Luke shows us Jesus entering the synagogue and confirming the truth of the message of Isaiah, that is to say, he sees his coming into the world as the advent of the era of grace proclaimed by the prophet: "The good news is preached to the lowly ...".

Let us, in our turn and challenged by the prophet's message, enter into his attitude and his testimony of faith, because the word of God is creative and brings salvation.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Isa 61: 1

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly.

COLLECT

Lord, merciful Father, through the mouth of the prophet Isaiah you have ^[SEP]announced the life, death and glory of your Son, our Saviour; grant that we ^[SEP]may continually celebrate the mystery of our salvation and attain the joys of ^[SEP]eternal life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ ...

FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 6: 1a. 3. 5-8

In the year King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne. Seraphim were stationed above. "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts!" they cried one to the other. "All the earth is filled with his glory!" Then I said, "Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphim flew to me, holding an ember which he had taken with tongs from the altar. He touched my mouth with it. "See," he said, "now that this has touched your lips, your wickedness is removed, your sin purged." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here I am," I said; "send me!"

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Isa 12: 2-3. 4bcd. 5-6 (R. 3)

R. With joy you will draw water from the spring of salvation.

1. God indeed is my saviour; I am confident and unafraid. ^[SEP]My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my saviour.

2. Give thanks to the Lord, acclaim His name, [SEP] Among the nations make known His deeds, [SEP] proclaim how exalted is His name.

3. Sing praise to the Lord for His glorious achievement; [SEP] Let this be known throughout all the earth.

4. Shout with exaltation, O city of Zion,
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Sir 44: 1. 14

R. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Now will I praise those godly men, our ancestors, each in his own time: their bodies are peacefully laid away, but their name lives on and on.

R. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to saint Luke 4: 16-21. 24-27

Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the sabbath day. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord." Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them, "Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

And he said, "Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place. Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon. Again, there were many lepers in Israel during the time of Elisha the prophet; yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian."

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Pour out on us, Lord, the sevenfold gifts of your Holy Spirit so that, filled with your grace, we may be made more worthy to celebrate, the [SEP] divine mysteries.

Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Isa 7: 14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of mercy, we have joyfully drawn water from the wellsprings of salvation. Grant that it may be an aid for our life here on earth and a pledge of eternal happiness hereafter.

Through Christ our Lord.