

**MASS PRAYERS AND READINGS FOR THE FEAST DAY OF SAINTS FRANCISCO  
AND JACINTA MARTO**

**20<sup>TH</sup> OF FEBRUARY**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** (Mathew 18:3)

Unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

**OPENING PRAYER**

God of infinite goodness

Who loves the innocent and exalts the humble grant that, in imitation of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta, we may serve You with purity of heart and so be worthy to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**READING** 1 Samuel 3:1, 3-10

*Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening*

A reading from the First Book of Samuel.

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to Yahweh in the presence of Eli; Samuel was lying in the Sanctuary of Yahweh where the ark of God was, when Yahweh called, "Samuel! Samuel!"

He answered, "Here I am." Then he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am since you called me."

Eli said, "I did not call. Go back and lie down."

So he went and lay down.

Once again Yahweh called, "Samuel!! Samuel!"

Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, since you called me."

He replied, "I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down." Samuel as yet had no knowledge of Yahweh and the word of Yahweh had not been revealed to him.

Once again Yahweh called, the third time.

He got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, since you called me."

Eli then understood that it was Yahweh who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel,

"Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Yahweh, your servant is listening."

So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Yahweh then came and stood by, calling as He had done before, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Samuel answered, "Speak, Yahweh, Your servant is listening".

The Word of the Lord

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Luke 1:46-52)**

**R. The Lord has exalted the lowly**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord  
And my spirit exalts in God my Savior;  
Because He has looked on his lowly handmaid.  
Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed.

**R. The Lord has exalted the lowly.**

For the Almighty has done great things for me.  
Holy is His name, and His mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear Him.

**R. The Lord has exalted the lowly.**

He has shown the power of His arm.  
He has routed the proud of heart.  
He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly.

**R. The Lord has exalted the lowly.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

(Psalm 118 (119), 130)

**R. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

As Your Word unfolds, it gives light, and the simple understand.

**R. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** Matthew 18, 1-5, 10

*The one who makes himself as little as this little child.....*

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?" So He called a little child to Him and set the child in front of them. Then He said, "I tell you solemnly, unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven. And so, the one who makes himself as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. Anyone who welcomes a little child like this in My name welcomes Me. See that you never despise any of these little ones, for I tell you that their angels in Heaven are continually in the presence of My Father in Heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Humbly we beseech Thee, Lord, that You accept the homage of our prayers and sacrifices, which we offer for the forgiveness of our faults and for the conversion of sinners. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.

## **COMMUNION ANTIPHON (cf: Matthew 11:25)**

May You be blessed, Lord of Heaven and earth, because You have revealed to the little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

For the Divine Sacrament which we have received, Lord, inflame in us that wondrous love which inspired Saints Francisco and Jacinta to give themselves entirely to You and to offer themselves in love for the salvation of all men.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.