

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY in LENT**  
**MARCH 22, 2015**

**Introit**  *Ps. 116:1–4, 8;*  
*antiphon: Ps. 43:1*

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,\*  
from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver me!  
I love the LORD, because | he has heard\*  
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.  
Because he inclined his | ear to me,\*  
therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.  
The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;\*  
I suffered distress and | anguish.  
Then I called on the name | of the LORD:\*  
“O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!”  
For you have delivered my | soul from death,\*  
my eyes from tears, my feet from | stumbling.  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,\*  
from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver me!

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people  
that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through  
Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Gradual**

*Heb. 12:2*

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*  
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,\*  
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

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## Old Testament Reading

*Jeremiah 31:31–34*

<sup>31</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup>not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

## Epistle

*Hebrews 5:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup>He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. <sup>3</sup>Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. <sup>4</sup>And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup>So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; <sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. <sup>9</sup>And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

## Holy Gospel

*Mark 10:35–45*

<sup>35</sup>And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to [Jesus] and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.”

<sup>36</sup>And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” <sup>37</sup>And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”

<sup>38</sup>Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?”

<sup>39</sup>And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, <sup>40</sup>but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” <sup>41</sup>And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. <sup>42</sup>And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. <sup>43</sup>But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

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