

Daily Reading for Sunday, February 7th, 2021

Reading 1, *Job 7:1-4, 6-7*

¹ Is not human life on earth just conscript service? Do we not live a hireling's life? ² Like a slave, sighing for the shade, or a hireling with no thought but for his wages, ³ I have months of futility assigned to me, nights of suffering to be my lot. ⁴ Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' No sooner up than, 'When will evening come?' And crazy thoughts obsess me till twilight falls.

⁶ Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. ⁷ Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6*

¹ Alleluia! Praise Yahweh -- it is good to sing psalms to our God -- how pleasant to praise him. ² Yahweh, Builder of Jerusalem! He gathers together the exiles of Israel,

³ healing the broken-hearted and binding up their wounds; ⁴ he counts out the number of the stars, and gives each one of them a name.

⁵ Our Lord is great, all-powerful, his wisdom beyond all telling. ⁶ Yahweh sustains the poor, and humbles the wicked to the ground.

Reading 2, *First Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23*

¹⁶ In fact, preaching the gospel gives me nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion and I should be in trouble if I failed to do it. ¹⁷ If I did it on my own initiative I would deserve a reward; but if I do it under compulsion I am simply accepting a task entrusted to me.

¹⁸ What reward do I have, then? That in my preaching I offer the gospel free of charge to avoid using the rights which the gospel allows me. ¹⁹ So though I was not a slave to any human being, I put myself in slavery to all people, to win as many as I could.²² To the weak, I made myself weak, to win the weak. I accommodated myself to people in all kinds of different situations, so that by all possible means I might bring some to salvation. ²³ All this I do for the sake of the gospel, that I may share its benefits with others.

Gospel, *Mark 1:29-39*

²⁹ And at once on leaving the synagogue, he went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed and feverish, and at once they told him about her. ³¹ He went in to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to serve them. ³² That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. ³³ The whole town came crowding round the door, ³⁴ and he cured many who were sick with diseases of one kind or another; he also drove out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. ³⁵ In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. ³⁶ Simon and his companions set out in search of him, ³⁷ and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' ³⁸ He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can proclaim the message there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out devils.