

Daily Reading for Sunday, August 22nd, 2021

Reading 1, *Joshua 24:1-2,*

¹ Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; he then summoned all the elders of Israel, its leaders, judges and officials, and they presented themselves in God's presence. ² Joshua then said to all the people: 'Yahweh, the God of Israel, says this, "From time immemorial, your ancestors, Terah, father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the River, and served other gods.

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23*

² I will praise Yahweh from my heart; let the humble hear and rejoice. ³ Proclaim with me the greatness of Yahweh, let us acclaim his name together.

¹⁶ But Yahweh's face is set against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. ¹⁷ They cry in anguish and Yahweh hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.

¹⁸ Yahweh is near to the broken-hearted, he helps those whose spirit is crushed. ¹⁹ Though hardships without number beset the upright, Yahweh brings rescue from them all.

²⁰ Yahweh takes care of all their bones, not one of them will be broken. ²¹ But to the wicked evil brings death, those who hate the upright will pay the penalty.

²² Yahweh ransoms the lives of those who serve him, and there will be no penalty for those who take refuge in him.

Reading 2, *Ephesians 5:21-32*

²¹ Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²² Wives should be subject to their husbands as to the Lord,

²³ since, as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; ²⁴ and as the

Church is subject to Christ, so should wives be to their

husbands, in everything. ²⁵ Husbands should love their wives,

just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her

²⁶ to make her holy by washing her in cleansing water with

a form of words, ²⁷ so that when he took the Church to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like

that, but holy and faultless. ²⁸ In the same way, husbands must

love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love

his wife is for him to love himself. ²⁹ A man never hates his own

body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the

way Christ treats the Church, ³⁰ because we are parts of his

Body. ³¹ This is why a man leaves his father and mother and

becomes attached to his wife, and the two become one flesh.

³² This mystery has great significance, but I am applying it to Christ and the Church.

Gospel, *John 6:60-69*

⁶⁰ After hearing it, many of his followers said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?'

⁶¹ Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this disturb you? ⁶² What if you should see the Son of man ascend to where he was before? ⁶³ 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. ⁶⁴ 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset who did not believe and who was to betray him. ⁶⁵ He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me except by the gift of the Father.' ⁶⁶ After this, many of his disciples went away and accompanied him no more. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life, ⁶⁹ and we believe; we have come to know that you are the Holy One of God.'