

# Readings: Feria

First Reading: [Jdgs 11:29-39a](#)

The Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah. He passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and through Mizpah-Gilead as well, and from there he went on to the Ammonites. Jephthah made a vow to the LORD. "If you deliver the Ammonites into my power," he said, "whoever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me when I return in triumph from the Ammonites shall belong to the LORD. I shall offer him up as a burnt offering."

Jephthah then went on to the Ammonites to fight against them, and the LORD delivered them into his power, so that he inflicted a severe defeat on them, from Aroer to the approach of Minnith (twenty cities in all) and as far as Abel-keramim. Thus were the Ammonites brought into subjection by the children of Israel. When Jephthah returned to his house in Mizpah, it was his daughter who came forth, playing the tambourines and dancing. She was an only child: he had neither son nor daughter besides her. When he saw her, he rent his garments and said, "Alas, daughter, you have struck me down and brought calamity upon me. For I have made a vow to the LORD and I cannot retract." She replied, "Father, you have made a vow to the LORD. Do with me as you have vowed, because the LORD has wrought vengeance for you on your enemies the Ammonites."

Then she said to her father, "Let me have this favor. Spare me for two months, that I may go off down the mountains to mourn my virginity with my companions."

"Go," he replied, and sent her away for two months. So she departed with her companions and mourned her virginity on the mountains. At the end of the two months she returned to her father, who did to her as he had vowed.

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## Responsorial Psalm: Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10

R (8a and 9a) Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Blessed the man who makes the LORD his trust;  
who turns not to idolatry  
or to those who stray after falsehood.  
**R Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

Sacrifice or oblation you wished not,  
but ears open to obedience you gave me.  
Burnt offerings or sin-offerings you sought not;  
then said I, "Behold I come."  
**R Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me.  
To do your will, O my God, is my delight,  
and your law is within my heart!"  
**R Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

I announced your justice in the vast assembly;  
I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know.

**R Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

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Gospel Reading: [Mt 22:1-14](#)

Jesus began to address the chief priests and elders of the people, once more using parables:

"This story throws light on the kingdom of heaven. A king celebrated the wedding of his son. He sent his servants to call the invited guests to the wedding feast, but the guests refused to come.

"Again he sent other servants ordering them to say to the invited guests: 'I have prepared a banquet, slaughtered my fattened calves and other animals, and now everything is ready; come then, to the wedding feast.' But they paid no attention and went away, some to their fields, and others to their work. While the rest seized the servants of the king, insulted them and killed them.

"The king became angry. He sent his troops to destroy those murderers and burn their city. Then he said to his servants: 'The wedding banquet is prepared, but the invited guests were not worthy. Go, then, to the crossroads and invite everyone you find to the wedding feast.'

"The servants went out at once into the streets and gathered everyone they found, good and bad alike, so that the hall was filled with guests.

"The king came in to see those who were at table, and he noticed a man not wearing the festal garment. So he said to him: 'Friend, how did you get in without the wedding garment?' But the man remained silent. So the king said to his servants: 'Bind his hands and feet and throw him into the dark where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

"Know that many are called, but few are chosen."

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