

# Readings: Feria

**First Reading:** [1 Thes 4:1-8](#)

Brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God—and as you are conducting yourselves—you do so even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

This is the will of God, your holiness; that each of you know how to acquire a wife for himself in holiness and honor, not in lustful passion as do the Gentiles who do not know God; not to take advantage of or exploit a brother or sister in this matter, for the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you before and solemnly affirmed. For God did not call us to impurity but to holiness. Therefore, whoever disregards this, disregards not a human being but God, who also gives his Holy Spirit to you.

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**Responsorial Psalm:** [Ps 97:1,2,5-6,10,11-12](#)

**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;  
let the many isles be glad.  
Justice and judgment are the foundation of his throne.  
**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,  
before the LORD of all the earth.  
The heavens proclaim his justice,  
and all peoples see his glory.  
**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

The LORD loves those who hate evil;  
he guards the lives of his faithful ones;  
from the hand of the wicked he delivers them.  
**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

Light dawns for the just;  
and gladness, for the upright of heart.  
Be glad in the LORD, you just,  
and give thanks to his holy name.

**R. Rejoice in the Lord, you just!**

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**Gospel Reading:** [Matthew 25:1-13](#)

This story throws light on what will happen in the kingdom of heaven. Ten bridesmaids went out with their lamps to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were careless while the others were sensible.

The careless bridesmaids took their lamps as they were and did not bring extra oil. But those who were sensible, brought with their lamps flasks of oil. As the bridegroom delayed, they all grew drowsy and fell asleep.

But at midnight, a cry rang out: 'The bridegroom is here, come out and meet him!' All the maidens woke up at once and trimmed their lamps. Then the careless ones said to the sensible ones: 'Give us some oil, for our lamps are going out.' The sensible ones answered: 'There may not be enough for both you and us. You had better go to those who sell and buy for yourselves.'

They were out buying oil when the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him to the wedding feast, and the doors were shut. Later the rest of the bridesmaids arrived and called out: 'Lord, Lord, open to us.' But he answered: 'Truly, I do not know you.'

So, stay awake, for you do not know the day nor the hour.

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