Readings: Feria

First Reading Introduction

"See, God, I have come to do your will." The old Law was not capable of saving people. It could only point out where and when sin was committed, but not to forgive it. That is why its sacrifices were to be repeated. The sacrifice that forgave sin was that of Christ, because it was personal and touched the heart of God. Note, how

this year, the first reading and the Gospel have the same message

Brothers and sisters:

Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of them, it can never make perfect those who come to worship by the same sacrifices that they offer continually each year.

Otherwise, would not the sacrifices have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, once cleanaced, would no longer have had any consciousness of sins?

But in those sacrifices there is only a yearly remembrance of sins, for it is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats take away sins.

For this reason, when he came into the world, he said:

Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, As is written of me in the scroll, Behold, I come to do your will, O God.

First he says, Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in. These are offered according to the law. Then he says, Behold, I come to do your will. He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated

through the offering of the Body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11

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

I have waited, waited for the Lord, and he stooped toward me. And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God.

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

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

Your justice I kept not hid within my heart; your faithfulness and your salvation I have spoken of; I have made no secret of your kindness and your truth in the vast assembly.

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

Gospel Reading: Mark 3:31-35

The mother of Jesus and his brothers arrived at the house.

Standing outside, they sent word to Jesus and called him.
A crowd search around him told him,
are conside asking for you.

But he said to them in reply,
"Who are my mother and my brothers?"

And looking around at those seared in the circle he said,
"Here are my mother and my brothers."
For whoever does the will of God

is my brother and sister and mother."