

# Readings: Feria

First Reading: James 1:12-18

Blessed is he who perseveres in temptation,  
for when he has been proven he will receive the crown of life  
that he promised to those who love him.  
No one experiencing temptation should say,  
"I am being tempted by God";  
for God is not subject to temptation to evil,  
and he himself tempts no one.  
Rather, each person is tempted when lured and enticed by his desire.  
Then desire conceives and brings forth sin,  
and when sin reaches maturity it gives birth to death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers and sisters:  
all good giving and every perfect gift is from above,  
coming down from the Father of lights,  
with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change.  
He willed to give us birth by the word of truth

that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

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Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19

R./ Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.

Blessed the man whom you instruct, O Lord,  
whom by your law you teach,  
Giving him rest from evil days.

R./ Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.

For the Lord will not cast off his people,  
nor abandon his inheritance;  
But judgment shall again be with justice,  
and all the upright of heart shall follow it.

R./ Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.

When I say, "My foot is slipping,"  
your mercy, O Lord, sustains me;  
When cares abound within me,  
your comfort gladdens my soul.

R./ Blessed the man you instruct, O Lord.

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Gospel Introduction

The theme of yesterday is continued in today's reading. We should not ask for extraordinary signs but learn to see God's presence and saving action in the events of life. The apostles have seen the signs Jesus worked among them. We too, should open our eyes and ears to the good things God does among us.

Gospel Reading: Mark 8:14-21

The disciples had forgotten to bring bread,  
and they had only one loaf with them in the boat.  
Jesus enjoined them, "Watch out,  
guard against the leaven of the Pharisees  
and the leaven of Herod."  
They concluded among themselves that  
it was because they had no bread.  
When he became aware of this he said to them,  
"Why do you conclude that it is because you have no bread?  
Do you not yet understand or comprehend?  
Are your hearts hardened?  
Do you have eyes and not see, ears and not hear?  
And do you not remember,  
when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand,  
how many wicker baskets full of fragments you picked up?"  
They answered him, "Twelve."  
"When I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand,  
how many full baskets of fragments did you pick up?"  
They answered him, "Seven."

He said to them, "Do you still not understand?"

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