

24 November

**All Departed Franciscans, Lesser Festival,  
Purple**

*On this day we remember with thanksgiving all departed members of the many Franciscan communities either founded by Francis of Assisi or inspired by him. We remember particularly all departed members of the three Orders of the Society of Saint Francis.*

**COLLECT**

Lord God, creator of all,  
you have made us creatures of this earth,  
but have also promised us a share in life eternal.  
According to your promises,  
may our Franciscan brothers and sisters,  
with all who have died in the peace of Christ,  
come with your saints to the joys of your kingdom,  
where there will be neither sorrow nor pain,  
but life everlasting. **Amen.**

**A Reading** from the book of Wisdom.

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,  
and no torment will ever touch them.  
In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died,  
and their departure was thought to be a disaster,  
and their going from us to be their destruction;  
but they are at peace.  
For though in the sight of others they were punished,  
their hope is full of immortality.  
Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good,  
because God tested them and found them worthy of himself;  
like gold in the furnace he tried them,  
and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them.  
In the time of their visitation they will shine forth,  
and will run like sparks through the stubble.  
They will govern nations and rule over peoples,  
and the Lord will reign over them for ever.  
Those who trust in him will understand truth,  
and the faithful will abide with him in love,  
because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones,  
and he watches over his elect.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Wisdom 3.1-9*

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**R Praised be you, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,  
from whom no one living can escape.**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
therefore can I lack nothing.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He shall refresh my soul  
and guide me in the paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake. **R**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me  
in the presence of those who trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil  
and my cup shall be full. **R**

Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R**

*Psalm 23*

**A Reading** from the First Letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

*1 John 3.1-2*

This is the word of the Lord.

Hear the **Gospel** of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

*John 6.37-40*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

## **POST COMMUNION**

God of love,  
may the death and resurrection of Christ  
which we have celebrated in this eucharist  
bring us, with all our departed brothers and sisters,  
into the peace of your eternal home.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,  
our rock and our salvation,  
to whom be glory for time and for eternity. **Amen.**