

**First Reading: Sirach 14:20-27**

<sup>20</sup>Happy is the woman or man who meditates on Wisdom and who in understanding enters discussions.

<sup>21</sup>The one who reflects on her ways in their heart will also ponder her mysteries.

<sup>22</sup>Pursue her like a hunter, and in her paths, wait.

<sup>23</sup>The one who peers through her windows will also listen at her doors.

<sup>24</sup>The one who encamps near her house will also secure a tent-peg to her walls.

<sup>25</sup>The one who pitches his tent at her hand, will lodge in a good-lodging place.

<sup>26</sup>They will place their children under her shelter, and under her boughs will encamp.

<sup>27</sup>They will be sheltered by her from heat, and in her glory will reside.

**Psalm: Psalm 19:7-10**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the HOLY ONE OF OLD is perfect, restoring the soul; the decrees of the FOUNT OF WISDOM are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

<sup>8</sup>The precepts of the ALL-KNOWING GOD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the FIRE OF SINAI is clear, enlightening the eyes.

<sup>9</sup>The reverence of the MOST HIGH is pure, standing forever; the judgments of the JUST ONE are true and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup>They are more desired than gold, than much fine gold; sweeter than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

## **Second Reading: Philippians 3:7-11**

<sup>7</sup>Whatever gains are mine, these things, because of Christ, I regard as loss.

<sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the excellency of knowing Christ Jesus my Savior, for his sake I have suffered loss of all things, and regard them as trash, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having my own righteousness that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, righteousness from God built on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of Christ's resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings, shaped by his death, <sup>11</sup>that I might in some way attain the resurrection from the dead.

## **Gospel: Matthew 27:45-54**

<sup>45</sup>From the sixth hour [of the day, or noon], darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour [of the day, about three in the afternoon]. <sup>46</sup>And about the ninth hour [three o'clock] Jesus cried with a loud voice, "*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*" that is, "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*" <sup>47</sup>When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah."

<sup>48</sup>And immediately one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with vinegary wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. <sup>49</sup>But the others said, "Hold back, let us see if Elijah will come to save him." <sup>50</sup>Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and relinquished his spirit. <sup>51</sup>Then, look! The curtain of the temple was torn from top to bottom in two. And the earth was shaken, and the rocks were split. And the tombs were opened, <sup>52</sup>and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. <sup>53</sup>Then after his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. <sup>54</sup>Now when the centurion and those with him, who were standing guard over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"