belong to the household of the faith it is because the Good Shepherd has brought us back to the fold. We must try to smooth away difficulties, to help on conversions, and to imitate the angels of God, who rejoice with Jesus in heaven over one repentant sinner. **INTROIT Psalms 18:8** Lex Dómini irreprehensíbilis, The law of the Lord is perfect, convértens ánimas: testimónium refreshing the soul; the decree of the Lord is trustworthy, giving wisdom to Dómini fidéle, sapiéntiam præstans párvulis. (Ps. 18: 2) Cæli enárrant the simple. (Ps. 18: 2) The heavens glóriam Dei: et ópera mánuum ejus declare the glory of God, and the annúntiat firmaméntum. Glória Patri et firmament proclaims His handiwork. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, Fílio et Spirítui Sancto, sicut erat in and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the princípio, et nunc, et semper, et in sæcula sæculórum. Amen. Lex Dómini beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. The law of irreprehensíbilis, convértens ánimas:

ever.

the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul;

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that

our fasting may be beneficial to us, so

obtain strength for our souls. Through

our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who

lives and reigns with Thee in the unity

Give unto us, we beseech thee, O Lord

our God, to reverence with unceasing

devotion the glory of Thy holy Martyrs

Perpetua and Felicity; and though it be

not ours worthily to honor their triumph,

humble tribute of our duty. Through our

Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives

and reigns with Thee in the unity of the

In those days, Rebecca said to her son

to persevere in offering them the

Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

Jacob: I heard your father tell your

brother Esau: Bring me some game;

prepare some savory food for me to

sight of the Lord before I die. Now, my

son, do what I tell you. Go to the flock

and bring me two choice kids that I may

eat, and then I will bless you in the

your father, such as he likes. Then

bring it to your father to eat, that he

may bless you before he dies. Jacob

said to his mother Rebecca: But Esau

my brother is a hairy man, while I am

seem to him that I am mocking him.

Thus I shall bring a curse on myself

replied: Let the curse fall on me, my

son! Do but listen to me; go, get them

prepared savory food such as his father

for me. He went, selected them, and

instead of a blessing. His mother

brought them to his mother, who

liked. Then Rebecca took the best

which she had in the house, and put

them on her younger son Jacob. She

put the skins of the kids on his hands

Then she gave her son Jacob the

prepared. He went to his father and

have done as you told me; sit up,

please! Eat again of my game, that

you may bless me. Isaac replied: How

did you find it so quickly, my son? He

answered: The Lord your God let me

Jacob: Come close that I may touch

you, my son, to know whether you are

really my son Esau or not. Jacob went

close to his father. Isaac touched him

Jacob, but the hands are the hands of

and said: The voice is the voice of

Esau. - He did not recognize him

those of his brother Esau; so he

because his hands were hairy like

blessed him. - Isaac said: Are you

really my son Esau? Jacob answered:

game near me, my son, that I may eat

it, and bless you. He set it before him

some wine, which he drank. Then his

father Isaac said to him: Come close

and kiss me, my son. He came close

and kissed him. When he smelled the

fragrance of his garments, he blessed

him and said: The fragrance of my son

is like the fragrance of a field which the

Lord has blessed! God give you dew

earth, abundance of grain and wine.

brothers; may your mother's sons bow

deceitfully and received your blessing.

second time? He took my birthright and

Then he said: Must he, true to his

name Jacob, supplant me now a

now he has taken my blessing. He

added: Have you not reserved a

blessing for me? Isaac answered

servants. I have enriched him with

you, my son? But Esau said to his

father: Have you only one blessing,

Esau wept aloud. His father Isaac

of the earth shall your dwelling be;

father? Bless me also, my father. And

answered him: Without the fruitfulness

without the dew of the heavens above.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to

sing praise to Thy name, Most High. To

before you. I am no longer worthy to be

your hired men. And he arose and went

called your son; make me as one of

to his father. But while he was yet a

long way off, his father saw him and

was moved with compassion, and ran

and fell upon his neck and kissed him.

And the son said to him: Father, I have

sinned against heaven and before you.

I am no longer worthy to be called your

son. But the father said to his servants:

Fetch quickly the best robe and put it

on him, and give him a ring for his

finger and sandals for his feet; and

bring out the fattened calf and kill it,

because this my son was dead, and

is found. And they began to make

the house, he heard music and

dancing. And calling one of the

merry. Now his elder son was in the

has come to life again; he was lost, and

field; and as he came and drew near to

servants he inquired what this meant.

And he said to him: Your brother has

come, and your father has killed the

back safe. But he was angered and

would not go in. His father, therefore,

he answered and said to his father:

serving you, and have never

that I might make merry with my

who has devoured his means with

harlots, you have killed for him the

came out and began to entreat him. But

Behold, these many years I have been

transgressed one of your commands;

and yet you have never given me a kid

friends. But when this your son comes,

fattened calf. But he said to him: Son,

you are always with me, and all that is

mine is yours; but we were bound to

make merry and rejoice, for this your

Give light to my eyes that I may not

sleep in death lest my enemy say, I

Appeased by these sacrificial gifts, O

absolution from our own sins may not

foreign to us. Through our Lord Jesus

Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns

with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

Thee, O Lord, upon the gifts laid upon

Mysteries, Thou didst raise Thy Saints

to glory everlasting, so through them

Thine altars for the feast-day of Thy

Lord, grant that we who pray for

be burdened by those which are

Favorably look down we beseech

holy Virgin-Martyrs Perpetua and

Felicity, and as by these Sacred

he was lost, and is found.

have overcome him.

God, forever and ever.

brother was dead, and has come to life;

fattened calf, because he has got him

and let us eat and make merry;

proclaim Thy kindness at dawn and

Esau: I have appointed him your lord,

and have given him all his brothers as

grain and wine; what then can I do for

from heaven, and fruitfulness of the

Let nations serve you, peoples bow

down to you. Be master of your

and he ate of it, and he brought him

Yes, I am. Isaac continued: Set your

come upon it. Then Isaac said to

said: Father! He answered: Here I am.

Who are you, my son? And Jacob said

to his father: I am Esau, your firstborn. I

savory food and bread she had

and over the smooth parts of his neck.

clothes of her elder son Esau,

smooth. If my father touches me, it will

make of them savory food for

of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and

that by chastising our flesh we may

the decree of the Lord is trustworthy,

giving wisdom to the simple.

SATURDAY AFTER THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

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As the liturgy of this day lays great stress on the contrast between the two

possible that underneath there lies an allusion to that executioner, Who expiated

We ourselves were once a long way off, llke the prodigal son, and if we now

brothers, Esau and Jacob, and between the faithful son and the prodigal, it is

testimónium Dómini fidéle, sapiéntiam præstans párvulis. COLLECT Da, quésumus, Dómine, nostris efféctum jejúniis salutárem: ut castigátio carnis assúmpta, ad nostrárum vegetatiónem tránseat animárum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum. For Sts. Perpetua & Felicity Da nobis, quéssumus, Dómine, Deus noster, sanctárum Mártyrum tuárum Perpétuæ et Felicitátis palmas incessábili devotióne venerári: ut, quas digna mente non póssumus celebráre, humílibus saltem frequentémus obséquiis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum. LESSON Genesis 27: 6-40

his crime by baptism and penitence.

In diébus illis: Dixit Rebécca fílio suo Jacob: Audívi patrem tuum loquéntem cum Esau fratre tuo, et dicéntem ei: Affer mihi de venatióne tua, et fac cibos, ut comédam et benedícam tibi coram Dómino, ántequam móriar. Nunc ergo, fili mi, acquiésce consíliis meis: et

pergens ad gregem, affer mihi duos

hædos óptimos, ut fáciam ex eis escas

patri tuo, quibus libénter véscitur: quas

meus, homo pilósus sit, et ego lenis: si

attrectáverit me pater meus et sénserit,

cum intúleris et coméderit, benedícat

tibi, priúsquam moriátur. Cui ille

tímeo, ne putet me sibi voluísse

maledictiónem pro benedictióne. Ad

illúdere, et indúcam super me

respóndit: Nosti, quod Esau, frater

quem mater: In me sit, ait, ista male díctio, fili mi: tantum audi vocem meam, et pergens affer quæ dixi. Abiit, et áttulit, dedítque matri. Parávit illa cibos, sicut velle nóverat patrem illíus. Et véstibus Esau valde bonis, quas apud se habébat domi, índuit eum: pelliculásque hædórum circúmdedit mánibus, et colli nuda protéxit. Dedítque pulméntum, et panes, quos cóxerat, trádidit. Quibus illátis, dixit: Pater mi! At ille respóndit: Audio. Quis es tu, fili mi? Dixítque Jacob: Ego sum primogénitus tuus Esau: feci, sicut præcepísti mihi: surge, sede, et cómede de venatióne mea, ut benedícat mihi ánima tua. Rursúmque Isaac ad fílium suum: Quómodo, inquit, tam cito inveníre potuísti, fili mi? Qui respóndit: Volúntas Dei fuit, ut cito occúrreret mihi quod volébam. Dixítque Isaac: Accéde huc, ut tangam te, fili mi, et probem, utrum tu sis fílius meus Esau, an non. Accéssit ille ad patrem, et palpáto eo, dixit Isaac: Vox quidem vox Jacob est, sed manus manus sunt Esau. Et non cognóvit eum, quia pilósæ manus similitúdinem maióris exprésserant. Benedicens ergo illi, ait: Tu es fílius meus Esau? Respóndit: Ego sum. At ille: Affer mihi, inquit, cibos de venatióne tua, fili mi, ut benedícat tibi ánima mea. Quos cum oblátos comedísset, óbtulit ei étiam vinum. Quo hausto, dixit ad eum: Accéde ad me, et da mihi ósculum, fili mi. Accéssit, et osculátus est eum. Statímque ut sensit vestimentórum illíus fragrántiam, benedícens illi, ait: Ecce, odor fílii mei sicut odor agri pleni, cui benedíxit Dóminus. Det tibi Deus de rore cæli, et de pinguédine terræ abundántiam fruménti et vini. Et sérviant tibi pópuli, et ad orent te tribus: esto dóminus fratrum tuórum, et incurvéntur ante te fílii matris tuæ. Qui male díxerit tibi, sit ille maledíctus: et qui benedíxerit tibi, benedictiónibus repleátur. Vix Isaac sermónem impléverat, et egrésso Jacob foras, venit Esau, coctósque de venatióne cibos íntulit patri, dicens: Surge, pater mi, et cómede de venatióne fílii tui, ut benedícat mihi ánima tua. Dixítque illi Isaac: Quis enim es tu? Qui respóndit: Ego sum fílius tuus primogénitus Esau. Expávit Isaac stupóre veheménti, et ultra quam credi potest, admírans, ait: Quis ígitur ille est, qui dudum captam venationem áttulit mihi, et comédi ex ómnibus, priúsquam tu veníres? Benedixíque ei, et erit benedíctus. Audítis Esau sermónibus patris, irrúgiit clamóre magno, et consternátus, ait: Bénedic etiam et mihi, pater mi. Qui ait: Venit germánus tuus fraudulénter, et accépit benedictiónem tuam. At ille subiunxit: luste vocátum est nomen ejus Jacob: supplantávit enim me en áltera vice: primogénita mea ante tulit, et nunc secúndo surrípuit benedictiónem meam. Rursúmque ad patrem: Numquid non reservásti, ait, et mihi benedictiónem? Respóndit Isaac: Dóminum tuum illum constítui, et omnes fratres ejus servitúti illíus subiugávi: fruménto et vino stabilívi eum, et tibi post hæc, fili mi, ultra quid fáciam? Cui Esau: Num unam, inquit, tantum benedictiónem habes, pater? mihi quoque óbsecro ut benedícas. Cumque ejulátu magno fleret, motus Isaac, dixit ad eum: In pinguédine terræ, et in rore cæli désuper erit benedíctio tua. **GRADUAL Psalms 91: 2-3** Bonum est confitéri Dómino: et psállere nómini tuo, Altíssime. Ad annuntiándum mane misericórdiam tuam, et veritátem tuam per noctem. **GOSPEL Luke 15: 11-32** In illo témpore: Dixit Jesus pharisæis et scribis parábolam istam: Homo quidam hábuit duos fílios, et dixit adolescéntior ex illis patri: Pater, da mihi portiónem substántiæ, quæ me cóntingit. Et divísit illis substántiam. Et non post multos dies, congregátis ómnibus, adolescéntior fílius péregre proféctus est in regiónem longínquam, et ibi dissipávit substántiam suam vivéndo luxurióse. Et postquam ómnia consummásset, facta est fames válida in regióne illa, et ipse cœpit egére. Et ábiit, et adhaesit uni cívium regiónis illíus. Et misit illum in villam suam, ut pásceret porcos. Et cupiébat implére ventrem suum de síliquis, quas porci

dixit illi: Frater tuus venit, et occídit pater tuus vítulum saginátum, quia salvum illum recépit. Indignátus est autem, et nolébat introíre. Pater ergo illíus egréssus, cœpit rogáre illum. At ille respóndens, dixit patri suo: Ecce, tot annis sérvio tibi, et numquam mandátum tuum præterívi, et numquam dedísti mihi hædum, ut cum amícis meis epulárer: sed postquam fílius tuus hic, qui devorávit substántiam suam cum meretrícibus, venit, occidísti illi vítulum saginátum. At ipse dixit illi: Fili, tu semper mecum es, et ómnia mea tua sunt: epulári autem et gaudére

autem revérsus, dixit: Quanti

mercennárii in domo patris mei

péreo? Surgam, et ibo ad patrem

cælum et coram te: iam non sum

meum, et dicam ei: Pater, peccávi in

dignus vocari fílius tuus: fac me sicut

venit ad patrem suum. Cum autem

adhuc longe esset, vidit illum pater

ipsíus, et misericórdia motus est, et

osculátus est eum. Dixítque ei fílius:

Pater, peccávi in cælum et coram te,

iam non sum dignus vocari fílius tuus.

Dixit autem pater ad servos suos: Cito

et date ánulum in manum ejus, et

vítulum saginátum et occídite, et

manducémus et epulémur, quia hic

fílius meus mórtuus erat, et revíxit:

et vocávit unum de servis, et

períerat, et invéntus est. Et cœpérunt

epulári. Erat autem fílius ejus senior in

agro: et cum veníret, et appropinquáret

dómui, audívit symphóniam et chorum:

interrogávit, quid hæc essent. Isque

proférte stolam primam, et indúite illum,

calceaménta in pedes ejus: et addúcite

accúrrens cécidit super collum eius, et

unum de mercennáriis tuis. Et surgens

abúndant pánibus, ego autem hic fame

unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum. PREFACE OF LENT Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutáre, nos tibi semper et ubíque grátias ágere: Dómine sancte, Pater omnípotens, ætérne Deus: Qui

eum.

SECRET

ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

For Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

tuárum Perpétuæ et Felicitatis

Inténde, quéssumus, Dómine, múnera

altáribus tuis pro sanctárum Mártyrum

festivitáte propósita: ut, sicut per hæc

beáta mystéria illis glóriam contulísti;

ita nobis indulgéntiam largiáris. Per

Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum,

POSTCOMMUNION Sacraménti tui, Dómine, divína libátio, penetrália nostri cordis infúndat: et sui nos partícipes poténter efficiat. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum,

invéntus est.

COMMUNION Luke 15: 32

dicéntes:

For Sts. Perpetua & Felicity Mýsticis, Dómine, repléti sumus votis et gáudiis: præsta, quæsumus; ut intercessiónibus sanctárum Mártyrum

ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

tuárum Perpétuæ et Felicitátis, quæ

temporáliter ágimus, spirituáliter

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

Humiliáte cápita vestra Deo. Famíliam tuam, quæsumus, Dómine, contínua pietáte custódi: ut, quæ in sola spe grátiæ cæléstis innítitur, cælésti étiam protectione muniátur. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sæcula sæculórum.

manducábant: et nemo illi dabat. In se

oportébat, quia frater tuus hic mórtuus erat, et revíxit: períerat, et invéntus est. **OFFERTORY Psalms 12: 4-5** Illúmina óculos meos, ne umquam obdórmiam in morte: ne quando dicat inimícus meus: Præválui advérsus His sacrifíciis, Dómine, concéde placátus: ut, qui própriis orámus absólvi delíctis, non gravémur extérnis. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum, Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per

Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in vouchsafe to us Thy forgiveness. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. It is truly fitting and just, proper and beneficial, that we should always and everywhere, give thanks unto Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God. Who by this bodily fast, dost curb corporáli jejúnio vítia cómprimis, our vices, dost lift up our minds and mentem élevas, virtútem largíris et præmia: per Christum Dóminum bestow on us strength and rewards; nostrum. Per quem majestátem tuam through Christ our Lord. Through laudant Ángeli, adórant Dominatiónes, Whom the Angels praise Thy majesty, the Dominations adore, the Powers tremunt Potestátes. Cæli cælorúmque Virtútes ac beáta Séraphim sócia tremble: the heavens and the hosts of exsultatione concélebrant. Cum quibus heaven, and the blessed Seraphim, together celebrate in exultation. With et nostras voces ut admítti júbeas, deprecámur, súpplici confessióne whom, we pray Thee, command that our voices of supplication also be Opórtet te, fili, gaudére, quia frater tuus mórtuus fúerat, et revíxit: períerat, et he was lost, and is found. Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per

consequámur. Per Dóminum nostrum ever. and ever.

strength. Through our Lord Jesus God, forever and ever. Thou hast filled us, O Lord, with mystic

down to you. Cursed be those who curse you, blessed be those who bless you. Isaac had pronounced the blessing and Jacob had just left his father's presence, when his brother Esau returned from hunting. He also prepared savory food and brought it to his father, saying: Sit up, father, and eat of your son's game, that you may bless me. His father Isaac said to him: Who are you? He answered: I am Esau, your firstborn son. Isaac was greatly disturbed, and asked: Who was it, then, that hunted game and brought it to me? Before you came I ate heartily and then blessed him; and he shall be blessed. On hearing his father's words, Esau uttered a very loud and bitter cry, and said to him: Father, bless me too. But he answered: Your brother came

Thy faithfulness throughout the night. At that time, Jesus spoke to the Pharisees and Scribes this parable: A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father: Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me. And he divided his means between them. And not many days later, the younger son gathered up all his wealth, and took his journey into a far country; and there he squandered his fortune in loose living. And after he had spent all, there came a grievous famine over that country, and he began himself to suffer want. And he went and joined one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his farm to feed swine. And he longed to fill himself with the pods that the swine were eating, but no one offered to give them to him. But when he came to himself, he said: How many hired men in my father's house have bread in abundance, while I am perishing here with hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and

admitted in confessing Thee saying: You ought to rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead, and has come to life; May the sacrament of which we have partaken, O Lord, penetrate the depths of our hearts and make us share in its Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

graces and joys: grant, we beseech Thee, that through the prayers of Thy holy Martyrs, Perpetua and Felicity, we may profit eternally from having in this our time ministered to Thee. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity

of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and Bow your heads to God. Guard Thy household, we beseech Thee, O Lord, with lasting kindness, so that those who rely entirely upon the hope of heavenly grace may indeed be supported by heavenly protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever