



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

Daily Devotion at Zion + February 2024 AD + "Telos"

“Telos”

Different things come to an end in different ways.

When a song stops playing on the radio, it has *ended*: it no longer plays. But when we say that a song “has a spectacular end,” we mean that it builds up to a finale that amazes us. “

“End” can mean *stop* (*no more!*), or it can mean *finale* (*fulfillment!*).

Telos is the Greek word frequently used for “end” in Holy Scripture. Jesus is the *end* of the law (Romans 10:4). He both fulfills the law of God (*the finale!*), satisfying all of its just requirements, and He ends (*stops!*) the law’s condemnation of the sinner.

Here in February, the Church starts a path that ends in March, arcing from Ash Wednesday to Easter. It’s a journey *to* and *through* the Cross, which is the *telos* of every human being. Yes, in the cross we see the end of life; at the same time, we see the fulfillment of God’s will for us, as through the cross we are born to a new life in Christ.

Devotion holds that *telos* at the center of our lives. It directs us to the cross, and in fact, lays the cross upon us, as the Word and Holy Spirit of God work in us create and preserve faith. By that faith, we reach our end in both ways, as the old sinner in us is crucified with Christ and God plants a new saint in us to rise up and enjoy the fulfillment of His salvation.

About the Cover Art

This photo captures the time after Maundy Thursday service, when the congregation has gone home and the altar is stripped and the cross veiled for Good Friday. All is empty, solemn, and directed towards the remembrance of Christ’s death. The looming arches of Zion’s nave direct attention towards that cross and altar, which work together to proclaim the end and fulfillment of the whole human race.

Daily Readings for the Week of Sexagesima (February 4)

S Genesis 24:50-67
2 Timothy 2:14-21
Mark 10:13-22

M Genesis 25:19-34
Hebrews 13:1-16
John 7:37-52

T Genesis 26:1-6, 12-33
Hebrews 13:17-25
John 7:53—8:11

W Genesis 27:1-29
Romans 12:1-8
John 8:12-20

Th Genesis 27:30-45
Romans 12:9-21
John 8:21-32

F Genesis 27:46—28:4,
10-22
Romans 13:1-14
John 8:33-47

Sa Genesis 29:1-20
Romans 14:1-23
John 8:47-59

These readings correspond to pages 368—403 in Volume III of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Quinquagesima (February 11)

S (*Vol. III pp. 403-407*)
Genesis 29:20-35
1 Timothy 3:14—4:10
Mark 10:23-31

M (*Vol. III pp. 510-513*)
Proverbs 27:1-6, 10-12
Philippians 2:1-13
John 18:15-18, 25-27

T (*Vol. III pp. 513-517*)
Proverbs 30:1-4, 24-33
Philippians 3:1-11
John 18:28-38

W Amos 5:6-15
Hebrews 12:1-14
Luke 18:9-14

Th Habakkuk 3:1-18
Philippians 3:12-21
John 17:1-8

F Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Philippians 4:1-9
John 17:9-19

Sa Ezekiel 39:21-29
Philippians 4:10-20
John 17:20-26

These readings (after Tuesday) correspond to pages 815—833 in Volume III of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Lent 1 (February 18)

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| S Daniel 9:3-10
Hebrews 2:10-18
John 12:44-50 | Th Genesis 39:1-23
1 Corinthians 2:14—
3:15
Mark 2:1-12 |
| M Genesis 37:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-19
Mark 1:1-13 | F Genesis 40:1-23
1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Mark 2:13-22 |
| T Genesis 37:12-24
1 Corinthians 1:20-31
Mark 1:14-28 | Sa Genesis 41:1-13
1 Corinthians 4:1-7
Mark 2:23—3:6 |
| W Genesis 37:25-36
1 Corinthians 2:1-13
Mark 1:29-45 | |

These readings correspond to pages 833—863 in Volume III of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Lent 2 (February 25)

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| S Genesis 41:14-45
Romans 6:3-14
John 5:19-24 | Th Genesis 42:29-38
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Mark 4:21-34 |
| M Genesis 41:46-57
1 Corinthians 4:8-21
Mark 3:7-19a | F Genesis 43:1-15
1 Corinthians 7:1-9
Mark 4:35-41 |
| T Genesis 42:1-17
1 Corinthians 5:1-8
Mark 3:19b-35 | Sa Genesis 43:16-34
1 Corinthians 7:10-24
Mark 5:1-20 |
| W Genesis 42:18-28
1 Corinthians 5:9—6:11
Mark 4:1-20 | |

These readings correspond to pages 864—894 in Volume III of For All the Saints.