

Thoughts on the Readings of November 29, 2020

The Common Thread We are restored and saved in a most important way. God has come down in his Christ and saved us. This is that awesome deed that we could never have expected of him. But he does not stop there; he enriches us with good gifts to be used to bear fruit for his kingdom until he returns. He sustains us until that Day when he comes in the clouds with great power and glory to gather us with all the elect. This is his word to us, so we must be on guard, watching for his return.

First Reading - [Isaiah 64:1-9](#) We have been in our sins for a long time. Then, when least expected—nor could we have expected it—God did something awesome. He acted for those who wait for him in hope of forgiveness. No one has ever imagined a God who meets with his people, though they are sinners ([Matt 9:10](#); [Rom 5:8](#)).

Psalm - [Psalm 80:1-7](#) God does not remain angry with his people forever. He will yet smile upon us and restore us. On that day, he will save us from ourselves—from our sin—and the laughter of our enemies will cease.

Second Reading - [1 Corinthians 1:3-9](#) As we await the coming of the Lord, he has equipped us with every gift needed to sustain us in our faithful expectancy. God is so faithful in this regard, that he will keep us guiltless on the great day of his appearing. We are made holy through Christ's holiness. Therefore, we are kept guiltless by this free gift of grace that God provides.

Gospel - [Mark 13:24-37](#) No one knows the day of Christ's returning. Jesus said that even he did not know when he would return. So, we should not be concerned with times and dates. Instead, our interest should be the same as Jesus' business ([Luke 2:49](#)). Until he does return, we should be alert and wakeful, doing the work of the gospel.