

• Behold, the virgin shall conceive. •

**A reading from
the Book of the Prophet Isaiah**

7:10-14; 8:10

THE LORD SPOKE to Ahaz, saying: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the nether world, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough for you to weary people, must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us!"
The word of the Lord.

—• PSALM 40 •—

R (8a and 9a) Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Sacrifice or oblation you wished not,
but ears open to obedience you gave me.
Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not;
then said I, "Behold I come." **R**

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me,
To do your will, O my God, is my delight,
and your law is within my heart!" **R**

I announced your justice in the vast assembly;
I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know. **R**

Your justice I kept not hid within my heart;
your faithfulness and your salvation I have spoken of;
I have made no secret of your kindness and your truth
in the vast assembly. **R**

• As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God. •

**A reading from
the Letter to the Hebrews**

10:4-10

BROTHERS AND SISTERS: It is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats takes away sins. For this reason, when Christ came into the world, he said:

"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,/ but a body you prepared for me;/ in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight./ Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll,/ behold, I come to do your will, O God.'"/ First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in." These are offered according to the law. Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will." He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the Body of Jesus Christ once for all.
The word of the Lord.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

The Word of God became flesh and made his dwelling among us;/ and we saw his glory.

• Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son. •

**A reading from
the holy Gospel according to Luke**

1:26-38

THE ANGEL GABRIEL was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full