

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. (5:1-12)

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up to the hill. There he sat down, and was joined by the disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: How happy are the poor in spirit; Theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: They shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: They shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: They shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: They shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: They shall seek God. Happy the peacemakers: They shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: Theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

This is the Gospel of the Lord