### A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew:

When He saw the crowds, Jesus went up to the mountain, and after He had sat down, His disciples came to Him. He began to teach them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit,

for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,

For they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,

For they shall inherit the land.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,

For they shall be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart,

For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,

For they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness.

For theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in Heaven."

Jesus said to His disciples:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going, you know the way."

Thomas said to Him: "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?"

Jesus said to him: "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

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Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in Heaven."

Jesus said to the crowd:

"All that the Father gives me shall come to me; no one who comes will I ever reject, because it is not to do my own will that I have come down from Heaven, but to do the will of Him who sent me; that I should lose nothing of what He has given me; rather, that I should raise it up on the last day. Indeed, this is the will of my Father, That everyone who looks upon the Son And believes in Him Shall have eternal life. Him I shall raise up on the last day."

When Jesus arrived in Bethany he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

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#### JESUS THE WAY TO THE FATHER

Gospel from John 14

"Do not let your hearts be troubled." Jesus told them. "Believe in God and believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that where I am, you also may be. You know the way that leads to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to Jesus, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; so how can we know the way to get there?"

Jesus answered him. "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one goes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father."

People were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the Kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.