

**October 4**

**OUR HOLY FATHER FRANCIS, deacon**

**Founder of the three Orders**

**Solemnity**

**READING I**

**Sirach 50:1,3-4,6-7**

**A reading from the book of Sirach**

Francis, resplendent like the sun, shines forth in the temple of God

Behold him in whose time the house of God was renovated, in whose days the temple was reinforced. In his time the reservoir was dug, the pool with a vastness like the sea's. He protected his people against brigands and strengthened his city against the enemy. Like a star shining among the clouds, like the full moon at the holyday season; Like the sun shining upon the temple, like the rainbow appearing in the cloudy sky.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 16, 1-2. 5. 7-8/ 11**

**R: You, Lord are my allotted portion.**

Keep me, O God, for in you I take refuge;

I say to the Lord, "My Lord are you."

O lord, my allotted portion and my cup, you it is who hold fast my lot.

**R: You, Lord are my allotted portion.**

I bless the Lord who counsels me;

Even in the night my heart exhorts me.

I set the Lord ever before me;

With him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**R: You, Lord are my allotted portion.**

You will show me the path to life,

Fullness of joys in your presence,

The delights at your right hand forever.

**R: You, Lord are my allotted portion.**

**READING II****Galatians 6:14-18****A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians**

The world is crucified to me and I to the world.

Brothers may I never boast except in the *cross of our Lord Jesus Christ*, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither does circumcision mean anything, nor does uncircumcision, but only a new creation. Peace and mercy be to all who follow this rule and to the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make troubles for me; for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

**SEQUENCE**

The Sequence is optional. It may be said entirely, or in part beginning with the words: "We pray you, by the cross's sign marked on your flesh."

**(Omit in votive Masses)**

Lo, new signs of sanctity,  
Deserving praise in high degree,  
Wonderful and fair to see,  
In Francis now behold?

To the newly gathered band  
Francis gives the King's command,  
And guided by his right hand,  
The New Law does unfold.

Before the world's astonished view  
Arise the life and Order new  
Whose holy rules again renew  
The evangelic state.

Francis to Christ's law conforms,  
The life monastic he reforms  
And all the apostolic norms  
He keeps inviolate.

Scant the measure of his food;  
Scant his raiment, course and rude;  
A cord his girdle plain and rude;  
He goes with feet unshod.

**GOSPEL**  
**Alleluia**

**Mt. 11, 25-30**

**R. Alleluia.** Francis poor and lowly enters heaven rich in virtue, greeted with celestial hymn.

**R. Alleluia.**

**A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew**

You have hidden from the learned what you have revealed to the merest children.

**Matthew 11:25-30**

At that time Jesus said in reply, "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

**This is the gospel of the Lord.**