Hebrews 13:7-17

⁷Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct. ⁸Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever. ⁹Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. ¹²Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. ¹³Therefore let us go forth to Him, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. ¹⁴For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. ¹⁵Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. ¹⁶But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. ¹⁷Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

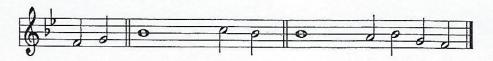
St. Matthew 24:42-47

42"Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. 43"But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 44"Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

⁴⁵"Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? ⁴⁶"Blessed *is* that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. ⁴⁷"Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods.



DECEMBER 23-St. THORLAK, BISHOP AND CONFESSOR (WHITE)



Introit.

Ant. LET THY || priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout | for | joy :

For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of | thine | a- | noint- | ed.

Psalm. || Lord, remember | Da- | vid:

and all | his | a- | fflic- | tions.

GLO-RY | be to the Father and to the | Son | -: and to | the | Ho- | ly | Ghost.

AS IT || was in the beginning, is now, and ever | shall | be: world with- | out | end. | A- | men. (Ant. Repeated.)

Collect.

Merciful God, graciously look upon Thy Church here on earth. Strengthen Thy congregation and give Thy Church comfort and peace. Teach the leaders of Thy Church to unite against all obstacles to Thy Word. Guide those who are tempted. Comfort those who suffer any want of body or soul. Prepare Thy congregation to make ready to sincerely and faithfully celebrate the holy feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. Amen.

Epistle. Hebrews 13:7-17. Gospel. Matthew 24:42-47.

Gradual.

|| I will also clothe her priests with sal- | va- | tion: and her saints shall shout | a- | loud | for | joy.

|| There will I make the horn of David | to | bud:

I have ordained a lamp for mine a noint ed.

|| Hallelujah. Hallelujah. The people will tell of their | wis- | dom: and the congregation will shew forth their praise. | Hal- | le- | lu- | jah.

Festival of St. Thorlak

69. I Know That My Redeemer



