

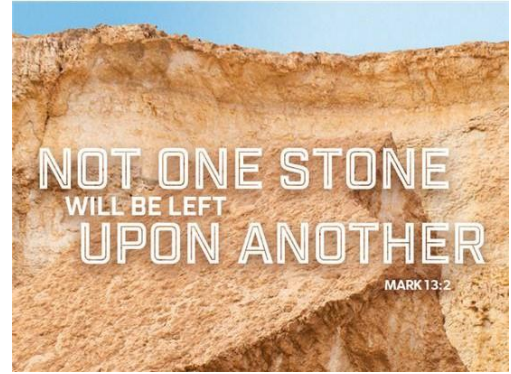
## About the Readings on November 17, 2024

\*\*\**Click on the links for the Bible Verse(s)*

**Sunday, November 13–19**

### Lectionary 33

The readings hold before us the close of the church year, the destruction of nations, the end of the earth as we know it, and thus of course our own death. A fundamental aspect of all world religions is their willingness to address the fact of death.



### [Daniel 12:1-3](#)

This passage is tied to the Markan eschatology because it exemplifies the apocalyptic tradition in which Mark 13 participates. The Daniel excerpt clearly promises that God's life is more powerful than all instances of individual and communal suffering.

### [The Psalm for the Day](#)

Having heard Daniel's vision concerning the end of all things, we join together in [Psalm 16](#). In this psalm, the worshiper is quite aware of approaching threats. Yet God is our portion, that is, the allotment that we—like the tribe of Levi—are granted, despite the fact that we inherited no land. There will be earthquakes, but we are next to God and will not be shaken. Verse 10 includes an early suggestion of the resurrection of the body. Verses 8 and 11 include the image of God's right hand.

### [Hebrews 10:11-14 \[15-18\] 19-25](#)

This final excerpt from Hebrews (the remaining chapters in Hebrews are appointed during year C) fits well with the other two readings because it anticipates the end of all things and calls the Christian community to faith in God's salvation. For Christians, the image of being sprinkled clear and washed with pure water always recalls baptism.

### [Mark 13:1-8](#)

According to Jesus, the end is neither immediately upon us nor in the far distant future: more like labor pains, agonies recur throughout time, but God promises new birth and life on the other side of sorrow. For some Christian spiritualities, a literal interpretation of such passages remains significant. For others, such passages have continuous relevance, since we all face sorrow and death perpetually.