

Allow us to live together to a happy old age.

A reading from the Book of Tobit

8:4b-8

**O**n their wedding night Tobiah arose from bed and said to his wife,  
 “Sister, get up. Let us pray and beg our Lord  
 to have mercy on us and to grant us deliverance.”

Sarah got up, and they started to pray  
 and beg that deliverance might be theirs.

They began with these words:

“Blessed are you, O God of our fathers;  
 praised be your name forever and ever.

Let the heavens and all your creation  
 praise you forever.

You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve  
 to be his help and support;  
 and from these two the human race descended.

You said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone;  
 let us make him a partner like himself.’

Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine  
 not because of lust,  
 but for a noble purpose.

Call down your mercy on me and on her,  
 and allow us to live together to a happy old age.”

They said together, “Amen, amen.”

The word of the Lord.

The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

**W**hen one finds a worthy wife,  
 her value is far beyond pearls.  
 He husband, entrusting his heart to her,  
 has an unailing prize.

She brings him good, and not evil,  
 all the days of her life.

She obtains wool and flax  
 and makes cloth with skillful hands.