

**A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to Timothy (4:4-8)**

**Beloved:**

**I am already being poured out like a libation,  
and the time of my departure is at hand.**

**I have competed well;**

**I have finished the race;**

**I have kept the faith.**

**From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me,  
which the Lord, the just judge,**

**will award to me on that day,**

**and not only to me,**

**but to all who have longed for his appearance.**

**The word of the Lord.**