

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**All peoples, clap your hands.  
Cry to God with shouts of joy!**

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
You came to call sinners:  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**  
You are seated at the right hand of the  
Father to intercede for us:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
May almighty God have mercy on us....



**THE GLORIA**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father,  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**



**OPENING PRAYER**

O God, who through the grace of adoption chose us  
to be children of light, grant, we pray, that we may  
not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always  
be seen to stand in the bright light of truth.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:16. 19 - 21**

**A reading from the first book of Kings.**

The Lord said to Elijah: 'Go, you are to anoint Elisha son of Shaphat, of Abel Meholah, as prophet to succeed you.'

Leaving there, Elijah came on Elisha son of Shaphat as he was ploughing behind twelve yoke of oxen, he himself being with the twelfth. Elijah passed near to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah. 'Let me kiss my father and mother, then I will follow you' he said. Elijah answered, 'Go, go back; for have I done anything to you?' Elisha turned away, took the pair of oxen and slaughtered them. He used the plough for cooking the oxen, then gave to his men, who ate. He then rose, and followed Elijah and became his servant.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 15:1-2.5.7-11**

**R. O Lord, it is you who are my portion.**

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.  
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.'  
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;  
it is you yourself who are my prize. **(R)**
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,  
who even at night directs my heart.  
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:  
since he is at my right hand,  
I shall stand firm. **(R)**
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;  
even my body shall rest in safety.  
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,  
nor let your beloved know decay. **(R)**
4. You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence,  
at your right hand happiness for ever. **(R)**

**SECOND READING Galatians 5:1. 13 - 18**

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Galatians.**  
When Christ freed us, he meant us to remain free.  
Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the  
yoke of slavery.

My brothers, you were called, as you know, to liberty;  
but be careful, or this liberty will provide an opening for  
self-indulgence. Serve one another, rather, in works  
of love, since the whole of the Law is summarised in  
a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself.  
If you go snapping at each other and tearing each  
other to pieces, you had better watch or you will  
destroy the whole community.

Let me put it like this: if you are guided by the Spirit  
you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence,  
since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the  
Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely  
because the two are so opposed that you do not  
always carry out your good intentions.  
If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Luke 9:51 - 62**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.**

As the time drew near for him to be taken up to  
heaven, Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem  
and sent messengers ahead of him. These set out,  
and they went into a Samaritan village to make  
preparations for him, but the people would not receive  
him because he was making for Jerusalem. Seeing  
this, the disciples James and John said, 'Lord, do  
you want us to call down fire from heaven to burn  
them up?' But he turned and rebuked them, and they  
went off to another village.

As they travelled along they met a man on the road  
who said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.'  
Jesus answered, 'Foxes have holes and the birds of  
the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere  
to lay his head.'  
Another to whom he said, 'Follow me,' replied,



**Following Christ is a whole hearted service, a call to leave many  
of the things we hold dear. He is the center; all else is secondary.**

*You will show me the  
path of life.*



In today's gospel we are told that Jesus "resolutely  
took the road to Jerusalem." It took real courage to  
go and face what he knew awaited him in Jerusalem.  
Luke had earlier in the gospel shown us Jesus  
struggling with his demons in the desert. Christianity today is no  
longer something we absorb from society around us. It is a personal  
choice, a resolute decision: do I believe in God, in Jesus, in the  
Gospel? Faith doesn't come with a silver spoon. For some people,  
faith is the outcome of a moment of truth when they can no longer live  
without moral convictions.

On his way to Jerusalem a would-be disciple expresses a desire to  
follow Jesus. One wonders about such people in our society today.  
Some are curious to know more about Jesus and the gospel he  
preached, but seem to lack the self-confidence to talk to someone in  
the know or respond to the invitation to a parish information evening.  
"I'd like to follow you, but....." Jesus makes it clear that the kingdom  
of God marches to a drumbeat that's not recognised by this world.  
Personal conversion to Jesus opens one's eyes to a different world  
and doesn't easily allow one return to what was before. "Once the  
hand is laid on the plough, no one who looks back is fit for the  
kingdom." Sounds harsh, doesn't it. But who can serve two masters?

In yesterday's church, the church of the fifties and sixties, many  
were drawn to serve God as priests and consecrated religious. That  
vocation has fallen on hard times today. But Jesus still attracts people,  
and there are still those who toy with the prospect of conversion to  
Christ. We need to give them our time and patience as well as our  
understanding of life and the Gospel. The three who encountered  
Jesus in the gospel challenge us to listen to where our own lives are  
going.

*Fr. Joe Walsh*

'Let me go and bury my father first.'  
But he answered, 'Leave the dead  
to bury their dead; your duty is to go  
and spread the news of the kingdom  
of God.'  
Another said, 'I will follow you, sir,  
but first let me go and say good-bye  
to my people at home.' Jesus said to  
him, 'Once the hand is laid on the  
plough, no one who looks back is fit  
for the kingdom of God.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**NICENE CREED**

**I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
All bow for following three lines:  
and by the Holy Spirit  
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and  
was buried, and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated  
at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from  
the Father and the Son, who with the Father  
and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy,  
catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins and I look forward to the resurrection  
of the dead and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

**The mystery of faith.  
Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**