

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you healed the sick:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you give yourself to heal us
and bring us strength:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
May almighty God have mercy on us, **Amen.**



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 have prepared for those who love you
good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we
pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you
in all things and above all things, we may attain your
promises, which surpass every human desire.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as his ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 39:2-4.18

R. Lord, come to my aid!

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.

[R]

2. He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm.

[R]

3. He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord.

[R]

4. As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay.

[R]



SECOND READING Hebrews 12:1-4

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne.

Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 12:49 - 53

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive our oblation, O Lord, by which is brought about a glorious exchange, that, by offering what you have given, we may merit to receive your very self. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments, we humbly implore your mercy, Lord, that, conformed to his image on earth, we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

focus on sunday

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 14th August 2022

The word of Christ will often make demands of honesty and truth; our stand for him will sometimes bring us into opposition with others.

"This is the call and the joy of the follower of Jesus. Knowing that we are forgiven for all by an understanding God."



The gospel today presents Jesus as a troublemaker. The fire of his message and love will divide people. Even in families, as the early community well knew. Maybe it was like the civil war in any country which pits brothers against brothers, and family members against each other.

RELIGION CAN DIVIDE.

Religion, even the following of Jesus, has divided people. In our own Ireland, wars raged for many years. No doubt there was a mixture of politics, greed and religion involved, but our religious sense was not strong enough to make peace for many years.

There is opposition to the values of Jesus in situations like abortion, euthanasia, sexuality, family, migration and asylum seekers, and others. People have put themselves in danger in many countries for these, and for the right to religious freedom. There have been more martyrs for Christian faith in the last 100 years than in the history of the church. Jesus causes trouble, not because he wants to, but because his message threatens their safety and security.

WEALTH, HONOUR AND PRIDE

Jesus causes division too within us. There are the desires in us for all the good ideas and values of Jesus, and desires that are opposite. St Ignatius highlights that wealth, honour and pride often deflect us off the path of Jesus. Don't we know this well?

Jesus knew the joy of following through on what is right and loving, even to death. This is the call and the joy of the follower of Jesus. Knowing that we are forgiven for all by an understanding God.

Give me the strength of your good Spirit O Lord, to live according to your gospel.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger.