

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and prince of peace: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:

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

God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. Through our Lord Jesus Christ...

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Ecclesiasticus 3.17-20.28-29

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 67:4-7.10-11

R. In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.



1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy. O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. **[R]**
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place.

God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. **[R]**

3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life.

It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. **[R]**

SECOND READING Hebrews 12:18-19. 22-24.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'firstborn son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 14:1.7-14.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.' Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

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,

focus on sunday

The love of the gospel is for everyone; Christ's call is that his followers be open hearted to as many as possible, especially the poor.

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
May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. Through Christ our Lord.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION
The mystery of faith.
When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table, we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.



Love for everyone



Jesus would have been amused at the story of the man who was awarded a gold medal for his humility. Unhappily it had to be taken away from him, for he had taken to wearing it proudly. Humility is being honest with ourselves; the humble person is grounded in what's real and lasting, not in things that pass quickly. Humble people are not unduly upset when their plans fall apart or if they are ignored and overlooked. Humility has the smell of the earth, of authenticity, and carries an attractive whiff.

The gospels were written to help us on the journey to the kingdom of God - to help us to be transformed into the image and likeness of the humble Christ. The humble person looks not to always do the menial task or to be a door-mat, but to have the mind of Christ. The culture tells us that life is about ME. Jesus tells us that our lives are not meant to be self-indulgent but lived in the awareness of being loved by God, and helping others experience God's love.

Jesus was at a meal and noted how some guests sought places of honour. "Are there places reserved for the poor and crippled?" he must have wondered. When we read about the top million richest people, do we ask ourselves "Why are there so many living below the poverty line?" That's the Christ-like question, the honest question, the subversive question, the one Pope Francis might ask. The humble person is aware of the bigger picture, and may not like it.

Fr. Joe Walsh