

# focus on sunday

We come in thanks to God for his presence and care in our lives. The gospel is an invitation from Jesus to give thanks. If we think over all we can be thankful for, we often find more than we realised.



Nine were cured, and one was cured and healed! Something about Jesus brought these sick people to him. They had heard of him and hoped for a cure. He gave more than a cure; he offered an interior healing.

Jesus healed just by being who he was. His power to heal met the faith of the man or woman who came to him. He saw people as needing healing, without asking why. Pope Francis thinks of the church first as a sort of field hospital, being present for people ready to lend a helping hand or a listening ear.

One of the greatest needs today is to be heard. Often all we really need is to be heard. Even when someone drives you mad, maybe then they need to be heard. Listening can be healing – both for the speaker and the listener. The lepers in the Gospel today were outcasts – they cried out from a distance. They needed Jesus to hear them and take pity on them.

There is another part to this Gospel – the act of giving thanks. Only one among them remembers to give thanks. Pope Francis in his homily for this day in 2019 reminds us that being thankful is an expression of our faith: "A grateful heart is one that remains young. To say "Thank you, Lord" when we wake up, throughout the day and before going to bed: that is the best way to keep our hearts young..."

Jesus embraced the people whom nobody wanted. He cured with compassion. Our challenge is to be compassionate when helping others. Like Jesus, we try to look others in the eye with love and care before asking anything of them, to bring mercy, healing and a listening ear to the cares of people and of the world. This is sharing in the saving mission of Jesus.

As you heal and strengthen me, o Lord, may I do the same for others.  
*Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger.*



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**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful with the sacrificial offerings, that, through these acts of devotedness, we may pass over to the glory of heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

*The mystery of faith.*  
 We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord, that, as you feed us with the nourishment which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son, so you may make us sharers of his divine nature. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **[R]**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **[R]**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **[R]**

**SECOND READING 2 Timothy 2:8 -13**

*A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to Timothy*  
 Remember the Good News that I carry. 'Jesus Christ risen from the dead, sprung from the race of David'; it is on account of this that I have my own hardships to bear, even to being chained like a criminal - but they cannot chain up God's news. So I bear it all for the sake of those who are chosen, so that in the end they may have the salvation that is in Christ Jesus and the eternal glory that comes with it.

Here is a saying that you can rely on: If we have died with him, then we shall live with him. If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him. If we disown him, then he will disown us. We may be unfaithful, but he is always faithful, for he cannot disown his own self.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia! For all things give thanks, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Luke 17: 11 - 19**

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

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus travelled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered one of the villages, ten lepers came to meet him. They stood some way off and called to him, 'Jesus! Master! Take pity on us.' When he saw them he said, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' Now as they were going away they were cleansed. Finding himself cured, one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice and threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. The man was a Samaritan. This made Jesus say, 'Were not all ten made clean? The other nine, where are they? It seems that no one has come back to give praise to God, except this foreigner.' And he said to the man, 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.'

*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.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.**

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

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....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**

May your grace, O Lord, we pray, at all times go before us and follow after and make us always determined to carry out good works. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, .....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING 2 Kings 5: 14 - 17**

*A reading from the second Book of Kings.*

Naaman the leper went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, as Elisha had told him to do. And his flesh became clean once more like the flesh of a little child.

Returning to Elisha with his whole escort, he went in and stood before him. 'Now I know' he said 'that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now, please, accept a present from your servant.' But Elisha replied, 'As the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will accept nothing. ' Naaman pressed him to accept, but he refused. Then Naaman said, 'Since your answer is "No", allow your servant to be given as much earth as two mules may carry, because your servant will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any god except the Lord.'

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 97: 1 - 4**

**R. The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.**