

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Is 66: 10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

ENTRANCE HYMN

*Lay your hands gently upon us,
let their touch render your peace,
let them bring your forgiveness and
healing,
lay your hands, gently lay your hands.*

**You were sent to free the
broken-hearted.
You were sent to give sight to the
blind.
You desire to heal all our illness.
Lay your hands,
gently lay your hands.**

**Lord we come to you through
one another,
Lord, we come to you in all our need.
Lord, we come to you
seeking wholeness.
Lay your hands,
gently lay your hands**

Priest: In the name of the Father and
of the Son, and of the Holy
Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

Grace to you and peace from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And with your spirit.

**I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I
have failed to do,**

Striking your breast as you say:
**through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary
ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

The absolution by the Priest follows:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins
and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**
Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**
Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



19th March 2023

COLLECT

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

— SIT —

FIRST READING 16:1.6-7.10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, "Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons. "When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him," but the Lord said to Samuel, "Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart." Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen these." He then

asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" He answered, "There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep." Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes." Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, "Come, anoint him, for this is the one." At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps22.R.v.1

**R. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of
darkness, no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and
your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**



3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me, all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

STAND

ACCLAMATION

Jn 8:12

Glory to you, O Christ,
you are the Word of God!
I am the light of the world,
says the Lord;
anyone who follows me will have
the light of life.
Glory to you, O Christ,
you are the Word of God!

GOSPEL

9:1. 6-9 13-17 34-38

Shorter form

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.



As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam" (a name that means "sent"). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "Yes, it is the same one." Others said, "No, he only looks like him." The man himself said, "I am the man."

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, "He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see." Then some of the Pharisees said, "This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath." Others said, "How could a sinner produce signs like this?" And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, "What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?" "He is a prophet" replied the man.

"Are you trying to teach us," they replied "and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!" And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Sir," the man replied "tell me who he is so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You are looking at him; he is speaking to you." The man said, "Lord, I believe," and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

STAND

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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 during the next 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.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

SIT

Raising the host, the priest says:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all
creation, for through your goodness
we have received the bread we offer
you: fruit of the earth and work of
human hands,
it will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.



The priest pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Raising the chalice, the priest says:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Bowing the priest says quietly:

With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, O Lord.

Then the priest washes his hands, saying quietly:

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity; and cleanse me from my sin.

◆ **STAND** ◆

Facing the people the priest says:

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all
his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*PREFACE: The Man Born Blind.
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II*

The Lord be with you.

And with your Spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

By the mystery of the Incarnation, he has led the human race that walked in darkness into the radiance of the faith and has brought those born in slavery to ancient sin through the waters of regeneration to make them your adopted children. Therefore, all creatures of heaven and earth sing a new song in adoration, and we, with all the host of Angels, cry out, and without end acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

◆ **KNEEL** ◆

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.

The Priest joins his hands and, holding them extended over the offerings, says:

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

The mystery of faith

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis, our Pope, **N.** our Bishop, his assistant Bishop(s), and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles and with all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

The Priest takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, elevating both, he says:

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

◆ **STAND** ◆

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours, now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and
unity in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.
Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you
always.

And with your Spirit.

The priest may add these or similar words.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*The priest places a small piece of the host in
the chalice saying quietly:*

May this mingling of the body and
blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
bring eternal life to us who receive it.

Meanwhile the people sing or say:

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world
grant us peace.**

—KNEEL—

The priest says quietly:

May the receiving of your Body and
Blood,
Lord Jesus Christ,
not bring me to judgement and
condemnation,
but through your loving mercy
be for me protection in mind and
body, and a healing remedy.

Raising the host the priest says:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of
the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper
of the Lamb.

And together with the people he says once:

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

May the Body of Christ
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest reverently consumes the Body of
Christ.*

Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:
May the Blood of Christ
keep me safe for eternal life.

*The Priest raises a host slightly and shows it
to each of the communicants, saying:*

The Body of Christ.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Lk 15:32

**The Lord anointed my eyes: I went,
I washed, I saw and I believed in
God.**

COMMUNION HYMN

**I am the Bread of life;
You who come to me shall not hunger;
and who believe in me shall not thirst.
No-one can come to me unless the
Father draw him.**

*R: And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.*

**The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and if you eat of this bread,
you shall live forever,
you shall live forever. R.**

**I am the Resurrection, I am the Life,
If you believe in me,
even though you die,
you shall live forever. R.**

**Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God
who have come into the world. R.**

PRIVATE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
open my eyes that I too may see the
Son of Man and believe in him.
Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.
Lord Jesus, I give you my hands to do
your work; I give you my feet to go
your way; I give you my eyes to see
as you do; I give you my tongue to
speak your words;
I give you my mind that you may think
in me; I give you my spirit that you
may pray in me; above all, I give you
my heart so that in me you may love
your Father and all mankind.
Thank you, Lord, thank you.
Thank you for all the gifts you have
given me today. Thank you for all I
have seen, heard, received.

—STAND—

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who enlighten everyone who
comes into this world, illuminate our
hearts, we pray, with the splendour of
your grace, that we may always
ponder what is worthy and pleasing to
your majesty and love you in all
sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

—STAND—

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Look upon those who call to you,
O Lord, and sustain the weak;
give life by your unfailing light
to those who walk in the shadow of
death, and bring those rescued by
your mercy from every evil to reach the
highest good. Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Bow head for the blessing – short silence

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the
Holy Spirit, come down on you and
remain with you for ever.

Amen.

Go and announce the Gospel of
the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

**God's Spirit is in my heart.
He has called me and set me apart.
This is what I have to do,
what I have to do.**

*He sent me to give
the Good News to the poor,
tell pris'ners that
they are pris'ners no more,
tell blind people that they can see,
and set the downtrodden free,
and go tell ev'ryone
the news that
the kingdom of God has come,
and go tell ev'ryone
the news that God's kingdom has come.*

**Just as the Father sent me,
so I'm sending you out to be
my witnesses throughout the world,
the whole of the world.**