

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,  
that your prophets be found true.  
Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

**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... **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**

Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things,  
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,  
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING** *Isaiah 50:5-9*

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

The Lord has opened my ear.  
For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.  
The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.  
My vindicator is here at hand.  
Does anyone start proceedings against me?  
Then let us go to court together.  
Who thinks he has a case against me?  
Let him approach me.  
The Lord is coming to my help,  
who dare condemn me?

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *Ps. 114:1-6, 8-9*

**R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in  
the land of the living. or Alleluia!**

1. I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him. **[R]**
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with the anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord my God, deliver me! **[R]**
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me. **[R]**
4. He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living. **[R]**

**SECOND READING** *James 2:14-18*  
**A reading from the letter of St. James**

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead. This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds - now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;  
no one can come to the Father except  
through me. Alleluia!**

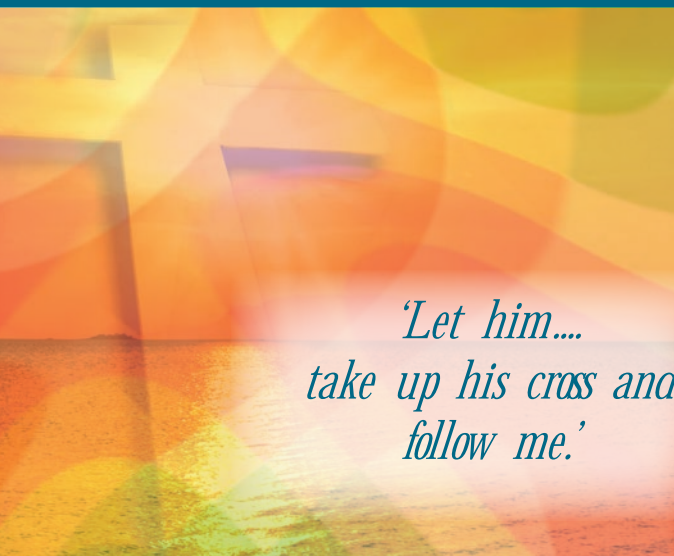
**GOSPEL** *Mark 8:27-35*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**  
Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.'  
'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'



**focus on sunday**

**Suffering was the way for Christ to enter his glory. It was the way for him to show his love for God's people. His risen life is our hope in face of sorrow, death and suffering.**



*'Let him...  
take up his cross and  
follow me.'*

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'  
**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.*  
**We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and  
profess your Resurrection until you  
come again**



A good work today involves the world we live in! St James in the reading links faith and action. A good act involves many contexts. In his words on faith in action Pope Francis refers often to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

We are people with a love of creation. This week – try this, take a walk and try to experience the world as if you have never seen it before. Look at a forest, first see how green it is and then take time to enjoy all the different shades of green. A walk in a local park or even your garden will be the same. We must build our love of creation to keep us strong in our care for creation. We care for what we love.

Fisher folk will tell you about finding fish full of bits of plastic, plastic that can end up in us when we eat the fish! Huge islands of plastic on the surface of the ocean. The mess after gigs, concerts or even a few hours in the park. The earth cries to us for care. Maybe our storms and change of weather can serve as a reminder of our duty of care.

Maybe we can use fresh eyes when we look at our care of the poor, the marginalised and those least able to help themselves. Do our attitudes and actions reflect our Christian values? Most of the negatives of climate change effect the very poor with drought and storms and flooding. A water shortage in a poor country can have catastrophic effects.

What can I do? Individually we can only do a little but, together, a little means a lot. Recycling? Use of plastic? Waste of food? Some help each week for the poor here or abroad. It is care for creation and the poor – both are a very Christian thing to do.

Donal Neary S.J. (Editor Sacred Heart Messenger)

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: †Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: †Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal: © 2010, International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Denton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballybogdan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).