

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
 Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
 You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:
 Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
 You bring light to those in darkness:
 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 in the abasement of your Son have raised up a fallen world, fill your faithful with holy joy, for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin you bestow eternal gladness. Through our Lord Jesus Christ,.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Ezekiel 2: 2 - 5

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel
 The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this."

Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 122

R. Our eyes are on the Lord till he show us his mercy.

1. To you have I lifted up my eyes,
 you who dwell in the heavens:
 my eyes, like the eyes of slaves
 on the hand of their lords. **(R)**

2. Like the eyes of a servant
 on the hand of her mistress,
 so our eyes are on the Lord our God
 till he show us his mercy. **(R)**

3. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
 We are filled with contempt.
 Indeed all too full is our soul
 with the scorn of the rich,
 with the proud man's disdain. **(R)**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 12 :7 - 10

A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness'. So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
 The Word was made flesh and lived among us;
 to all who did accept him he gave power to
 become children of God. Alleluia!**

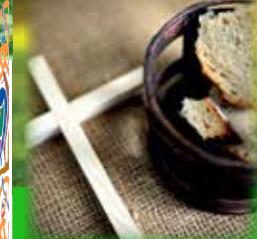
GOSPEL Mark 6. 1 - 6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
 Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

**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;**



focus on sunday

Jesus comes among us as one like us - his own people were surprised at his goodness and his powers. He comes among us today in the ordinariness of his people, in their needs and in their love.

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

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

May this oblation dedicated to your name purify us, O Lord, and day by day bring our conduct closer to the life 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

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that, having been replenished by such great gifts, we may gain the prize of salvation and never cease to praise you. Through Christ our Lord.



Jesus is having a bit of trouble as he continues his ministry. He has had public praise for his healings and indeed his teaching, even in places he was well known. Now the opposition is beginning, and it would continue for the next months until his death in Jerusalem. His own people were gradually turning against him.

He was so ordinary. They knew he 'was one of their own'. A sure way of putting someone down! They could not imagine where he got the wisdom and could do the miracles that nobody else could do. They knew his family and they too were very ordinary.

It then went further. They could not accept him. Whatever happened Jesus felt despised. It is hard to be despised in your own hometown or school or family. In today's world many people are despised and abused because they are followers of Jesus. He still wanted to help them be compassionate to them, so 'he cured few people', maybe the few who did accept him.

His mission was to heal and teach, and their non-acceptance would not stop him. He would move on to other towns and villages, often to be despised in them also. Our own acceptance and welcome of his message and love in our lives will lead to great meaning and joy.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger.

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