

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.



PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you healed the sick:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you give yourself to heal us
and bring us strength:
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, by whom we are redeemed
and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved
sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Ezekiel 33: 7 - 9*

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed
to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have
appointed you as sentry to the House of
Israel. When you hear a word from my
mouth, warn them in my name. If I say
to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are
to die, and you do not speak to warn the
wicked man to renounce his ways, then
he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you
responsible for his death. If, however, you
do warn a wicked man to renounce his
ways and repent, and he does not repent,

then he shall die for his sin, but
you yourself will have saved your life.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps. 94:1-2, 6-9*

R. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **[R]**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made
us

for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **[R]**

3. O that today you would listen to his
voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw
my work.' **[R]**

LOVE YOUR
Neighbour
AS YOURSELF

SECOND READING *Romans 13: 8 - 10*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of
mutual love. If you love your fellow men
you have carried out your obligations. All
the commandments: You shall not commit
adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not
steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are
summed up in this single command: You
must love your neighbour as yourself.
Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your
neighbour; that is why it is the answer to
every one of the commandments.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 18: 15 - 20*

The Lord be with you
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother
does something wrong, go and have it out
with him alone, between your two selves.
If he listens to you, you have won back
your brother. If he does not listen, take
one or two others along with you:

the evidence of two or three witnesses is
required to sustain any charge. But if he
refuses to listen to these, report it to the
community; and if he refuses to listen to
the community, treat him like a pagan or
a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind
on earth shall be considered bound in
heaven; whatever you loose on earth
shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of
you on earth agree to ask anything at all,
it will be granted to you by my Father in
heaven. For where two or three meet in
my name, I shall be there with them.'

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.



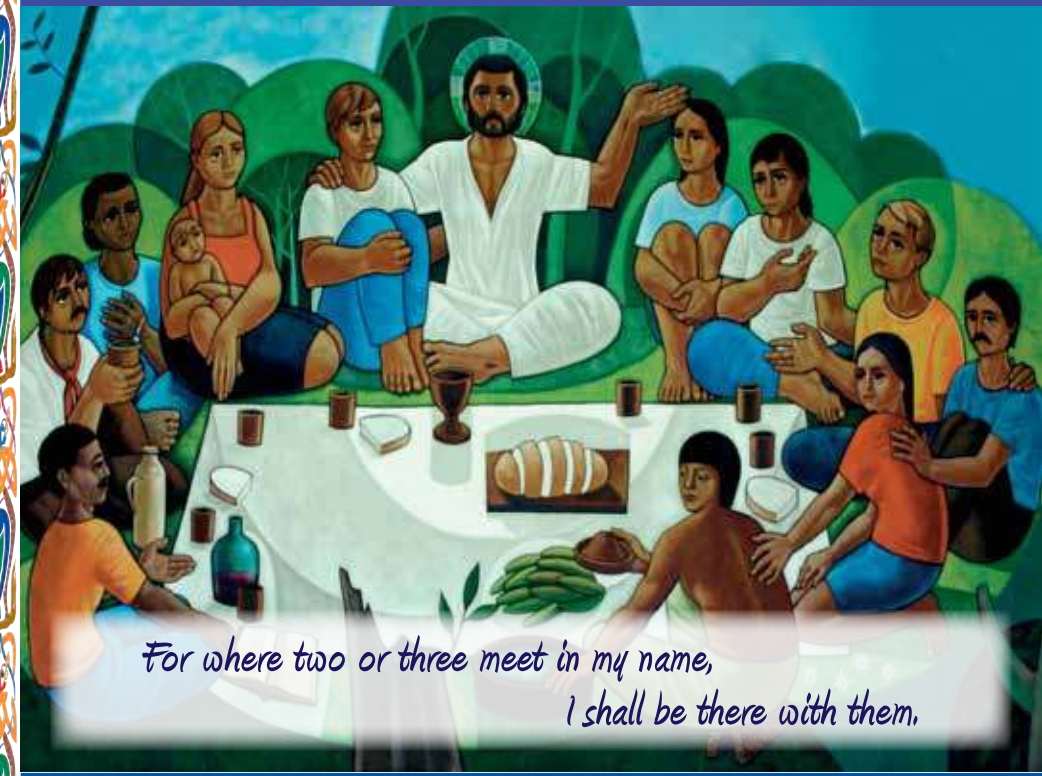
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters,

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.



The gospel message is one of joy, rooted in the love and care of Christ for everyone. Today Jesus spells out our Christian family duty - to have a responsibility towards each other: we cannot stand by idly and watch others harm themselves.



*For where two or three meet in my name,
I shall be there with them.*



Tough words today about correction. We don't like the idea of people telling us off or trying to change us. We can see it in the wide perspective of the influence of a community or group, and of the call of Jesus to help us become better disciples.

He knows it's a difficult area, so he offers different ways of keeping us all on the safe path. If you are concerned about someone talk to them directly, and then to just one or two people, and only later go to the community. This comes from the sensitivity of Jesus and from his desire to bring people to the better life through love and compassion.

A principal work of the gospel of Jesus is to encourage each other. An apostle, Barnabas, was known as the 'son of encouragement'. In trying to help each other come to closer following of Jesus, an ounce of encouragement is worth a ton of exhortation! We often find that when, for example, we are trying to help a person in drug or gambling addiction: lectures don't work.

All the commandments of Jesus and his way of dealing with us are done in the name of love. The second reading sums it up – 'Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments'.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Jesus tells us today what to do when someone hurts us very much, and we do not want to speak to that person. Then, talk to a friend first about what happened. God's Spirit is present, when we listen to other people who are fair. The Spirit of Jesus will help us to forgive, and find words of peace, like 'I know you did not mean it to hurt'. We all have faults, but God always forgives us. To say the prayer 'Our Father' slowly is healing and forgiving.