

# focus on sunday



God is generous to his people; his is the gift of life and love, of reconciliation and of justice. He expects us to be generous in return so that others may know his generosity.

“Many are called, but few are chosen”



The tenants in the gospel today were given a lot. The gifts of God to God's creation are many. God's gifts are given to us to be used in the service of God's people. The tenants kept the fruits of the vineyard for themselves: living by greed and contempt for the common good.

Jesus expects that we bear fruit: this fruit comes from knowing and enjoying that we are loved – love one another...that my joy may be in you...and you will bear fruit', as in the gospel of John.

In his championing of the poor and his comments on finding a vaccine for Covid-19,, Pope Francis says, ‘ ‘How sad it would be if, for the Covid-19 vaccine, priority were to be given to the richest.” He spoke of the “scandal” of directing economic assistance during the pandemic primarily to “industries that do not contribute to the inclusion of the excluded, the promotion of the least, the common good, or the care of creation” - which he proposed as four criteria for determining which industries should be helped (August 19th, 2020).

This is the call to the church – to care for those on the margins and peripheries of society and to be a healing presence in bad times.

The Pope again: “Starting from this love of God for each, anchored in hope and founded in faith, a healthier world will be possible.”

Donal Neary SJ Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger.

## Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Heaven, seeing The Face of God, Is like a happy birthday party. Everyone is invited. Everyone is happy. St.Peter will meet us at The Door of Heaven, and give us a big welcome. We don't need to bring any presents to heaven. We need only empty hands to receive all God's gifts.

### 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.

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

### SANCTUS

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.

### AFTER THE CONSECRATION

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

### INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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

### 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.

### CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. 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 in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. Thanks be to God.



We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain. **Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 22

R. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

- 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

Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

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 Matthew 22: 1-14 (shorter form 22:1-10)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

\*Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding."

But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt them to the town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.\* When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

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.

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### 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.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, your wrath would be kindled against you, O Lord, who would stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

GREETING The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

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....

### 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

Opening prayer. 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, you Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING Isaiah 25: 6 - 10

A reading from the prophet of Isaiah. On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

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