

THE LORD'S DAY AT HOME



TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
17th October 2021

If you are housebound or self-isolating at this time, please use these prayers to unite yourself with the worship of the Universal Church, and your own Parish, this Sunday. If alone, read or say these prayers quietly to yourself. If with another, or in a family, someone should read the "leader" parts, and others respond. It might be suitable to find a special, quiet place at home for your Sunday prayers.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 16: 6, 8

A: To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

Sign of the Cross

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

A: Amen.

Introduction

L: We keep the Lord's Day holy by our prayer and worship,. Let us open ourselves to the Word of Jesus, asking for mercy and praising God as we say:

Gloria

A: 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

L: Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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.

A: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Gospel Reading Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.' When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Reflection

"Today's Gospel passage (cf. Mk 10:35-45) describes Jesus who,

once again and with great patience, tries to correct his disciples, converting them from the world's mentality to that of God. The opportunity is given to him by the brothers James and John, two of the very first whom Jesus met and called to follow him. Jesus knows that James and John are inspired by great enthusiasm for him and for the cause of the Kingdom, but he also knows that their expectations and their zeal are tarnished by the spirit of the world. Jesus forewarns that they will drink his cup and receive his baptism, that is, that they too, like the other Apostles, will take part in his cross, when their time comes. The Teacher's message is clear: while the great people of the Earth build themselves 'thrones' for their own power, God chooses an uncomfortable throne, the cross, from which to reign by giving his life: "the Son of man", Jesus says, "also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (v. 45). The way of service is the most effective antidote against the disease of seeking first place; it is the medicine for status seekers, this seeking first place, which infects many human contexts, and does not even spare Christians, the People of God, nor even the ecclesiastical hierarchy."

Pope Francis, Angelus Message 21st October 2018

A Thought for our Younger Friends

Which is the best seat in your class? At the front, or right at the back? And how do you get the "best seat"? This is what James and John are doing in the Gospel today – trying to get the "best seats" in Jesus' Kingdom! But Jesus tells them this is not his way: following Jesus is not about getting the best places,

but about how we look out for others. Try to put someone else first this week – try saying “After you!”

If gathering as a family, perhaps now continue to have a discussion about what this celebration means to you. If alone, think about what key message you take from the Scriptures today.

Profession of Faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Intercessions

L: With confident faith let us call on the Savior’s mercy that we may have God’s help in every undertaking.

May human aspirations for greatness be shaped by Christ’s example, who became the servant of all, even to death on a cross. Lord, in your mercy...

A: Hear our prayer.

May persons in authority both in the church and in society exercise their roles with humility and care for the good of others. Lord, in your mercy...

A: Hear our prayer.

May parents and heads of household provide youth a witness to virtuous living, especially respect for personal integrity and spiritual values. Lord, in your mercy...

A: Hear our prayer.

May any who are plagued by self-hatred find in Christ the compassion and love of God that brings healing and peace. Lord, in your mercy...

A: Hear our prayer.

May the law of love free us from exploiting the goodwill and self-giving of others, particularly in marriage and families. Lord, in your mercy...

A: Hear our prayer.

Please add your own prayers for the needs of the Church, the world and your local community. You may wish to add particular prayers for family members, friends or neighbours in need at this time.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord’s Prayer

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

A: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

L: Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

Preparation for Spiritual Communion

L: Loving Father, you laid the foundations of the world and have arranged the changing of times and seasons; you formed man in your own image and set humanity over the whole world in all its wonder, to rule in your name over all you have made and for ever praise you in your mighty works, through Jesus your Son. The night before he died, taking bread and wine, the fruits of the earth, gave himself as a perfect offering to you, and to be with his friends always. Even though we are not in Church, and not able to receive communion today, we open our minds and hearts now to your generous love and the gift of Jesus your Son, welcoming him spiritually into our lives.

Spiritual Communion

A: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to

receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

Pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Prayer for COP26 (Bishop John)

(Please keep this prayer and use it in the coming weeks)

Loving Father, we acknowledge that, either through ignorance or greed, the Earth, our common home, is damaged. That damage is felt most by people who have done little to cause it. Industrialisation has exploited natural resources, endangering wildlife, causing climate change, and resulting in disasters and global warming. Father, forgive us, and guide us in the right way. Send your Spirit to encourage and strengthen our world leaders as they meet at COP26. Cause them to discern the way that we must now go, agreeing the changes and decisions necessary to begin to repair the damage done and to prepare a healthy and secure world for future generations. And we ask Mary, our Mother, to intercede for us, and with us, in our need. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Final Prayer and Blessing

L: Let us pray.

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

L: May the Lord ✠ bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

A: Amen.

L: Let us bless the Lord!

A: Thanks be to God!

