

# The Eucharist

4 October 2020



27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A



**W**hen our Jewish ancestors remembered at the Passover what God had done on their account, that particular event was made present to them. They spoke of it in the present tense. Similarly our recalling of the events that took place in the upper room, through the power of the Holy Spirit, makes those events present to us here and now.



*'There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard. ... He leased it to tenants and went abroad.'*

## FIRST READING

*(Isaiah 5:1-7)*

Two contrasting images are put before us today: the well-cared for vineyard, cleared of stones and the overgrown one, which was unpruned and undug. They symbolise the deeper contrasts at the heart of the people of Israel, the contrast between what was possible and what was a sad reality, the contrast between justice and bloodshed.

## SECOND READING

*(Philippians 4:6-9)*

The tone of the second reading is one of serene confidence in God and in God's providential care for humanity. The distance between God and human beings is emphasised in order to highlight how far beyond our expectations is the peace which comes from allowing God to share our journey.

## GOSPEL

*(Matthew 21:33-43)*

Today's reading contains a parable, which Matthew has placed on the lips of Jesus, together with an interpretation of that parable. The hearer's attention is captured by the blatant injustice committed by the tenants in killing the landowner's son. Then there is a line from Psalm 117 to the effect that what has been rejected in the sight of human beings has been of crucial importance in God's design. A further point is then made: there is no automatic entry into the kingdom of God. It is by God's choice.

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

*(Cf. Est 4:17)*

**Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.**

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

**Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And with your spirit.**

### Penitential Act

Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

*A brief pause for silence follows.*

**I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,**

*And, striking their breast, they say:*

**through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

### 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.**

**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in the abundance of your kindness  
surpass the merits and the desires of those  
who entreat you,  
pour out your mercy upon us  
to pardon what conscience dreads  
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING**

*(Is 5:1-7)*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.  
Let me sing to my friend  
the song of his love for his vineyard.  
My friend had a vineyard  
on a fertile hillside.  
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,  
and planted choice vines in it.  
In the middle he built a tower,  
he dug a press there too.  
He expected it to yield grapes,  
but sour grapes were all that it gave.  
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and men of Judah,  
I ask you to judge  
between my vineyard and me.  
What could I have done for my vineyard  
that I have not done?  
I expected it to yield grapes.  
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?  
Very well, I will tell you  
what I am going to do to my vineyard:  
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,  
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.  
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;  
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.  
I will command the clouds  
to rain no rain on it.  
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts  
is the House of Israel,  
and the men of Judah  
that chosen plant.  
He expected justice, but found bloodshed,  
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*(Ps 79:9.12-16.19-20)*

**℟ The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.**

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;  
to plant it you drove out the nations.  
It stretched out its branches to the sea,  
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **℟**

2. Then why have you broken down its walls?  
It is plucked by all who pass by,  
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,  
devoured by the beasts of the field. **℟**
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted. **℟**
4. And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon your name.  
God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **℟**

**SECOND READING**

*(Phil 4:6-9)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.  
There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need,  
pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving,  
and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we  
can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in  
Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything  
that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is  
good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and  
everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise.  
Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have  
been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then  
the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(Jn 15:15)*

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
I call you friends, says the Lord,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**

*(Mt 21:33-43)*

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 the chief priests and the elders of the people,  
'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner,  
who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress  
in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went  
abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants  
to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized  
his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a  
third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger  
number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally  
he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said.  
But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other,  
"This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his  
inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the  
vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard  
comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered,  
'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease  
the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to  
him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you  
never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders  
that became the keystone.  
This was the Lord's doing  
and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **Profession of Faith**

*(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,**

*At the words that follow, up to and including  
and became man, all bow.*

**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.**

*The priest introduces the Prayer of the Faithful.*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Pray, brethren (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.**

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, we pray,  
the sacrifices instituted by your commands  
and, through the sacred mysteries,  
which we celebrate with dutiful service,  
graciously complete the sanctifying work  
by which you are pleased to redeem us.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER III**

*(Preface III of the Sundays in Ordinary Time)*

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.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For we know it belongs to your boundless glory,  
that you came to the aid of mortal beings with your divinity  
and even fashioned for us a remedy out of mortality itself,  
that the cause of our downfall  
might become the means of our salvation,  
through Christ our Lord.

Through him the host of Angels adores your majesty  
and rejoices in your presence for ever.

May our voices, we pray, join with theirs  
in one chorus of exultant praise, as we acclaim:

**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.**

You are indeed Holy, O Lord,

and all you have created

rightly gives you praise,

for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

by the power and working of the Holy Spirit,

you give life to all things and make them holy,

and you never cease to gather a people to yourself,

so that from the rising of the sun to its setting  
a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you:

by the same Spirit graciously make holy

these gifts we have brought to you for consecration,

that they may become the Body and  $\times$  Blood

of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,

at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

For on the night he was betrayed

he himself took bread,

and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing,

broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,**

**FOR THIS IS MY BODY,**

**WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

In a similar way, when supper was ended,

he took the chalice,

and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing,

and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,**

**FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,**

**THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,**

**WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY**

**FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

**DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

The mystery of faith.

**Save us, Saviour of the world,**

**for by your Cross and Resurrection**

**you have set us free.**

Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial  
of the saving Passion of your Son,

his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, and as we look forward to his second coming, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church and, recognising the sacrificial Victim by whose death you willed to reconcile us to yourself, grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son and filled with his Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

May he make of us an eternal offering to you, so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect, especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,

with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs (with Saint N.: the Saint of the day or Patron Saint) and with all the Saints, on whose constant intercession in your presence we rely for unailing help.

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord, advance the peace and salvation of all the world. Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant N. our Pope and N. our Bishop, the Order of Bishops, all the clergy, and the entire people you have gained for your own.

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family, whom you have summoned before you: in your compassion, O merciful Father, gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world.

To our departed brothers and sisters and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life, give kind admittance to your kingdom. There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory through Christ our Lord, through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

Amen.

## THE COMMUNION RITE

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

**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.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ...

**For the kingdom,  
the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And with your spirit.**

*The priest may invite the people to exchange a sign of peace and Christian fellowship. As the priest breaks the consecrated Host the following is sung or said:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*Showing the Host to the people, the priest says:*

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**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**

(Lam 3:25)

**The Lord is good to those who hope in him,  
to the soul that seeks him.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you,

the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Personal Prayer**

Lord our God, you are continually calling us to decide, to choose life at every opportunity.

You did not shrink from decision when you sent your only Son to suffer and to die for us.

Make us people of decisive faith who will translate into action what we accept in our hearts so that your kingdom will be continually brought about by the men and women and children of our own age.

Amen.