

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Is 66: 10-11
 Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

ENTRANCE HYMN

R: *The light of Christ has come into the world,
 The light of Christ has come into the world.*

We all must be born again to see the kingdom of God; the water and the spirit bring new life in God's love. (R)

God gave up his only Son out of love for the world so that ev'ryone who believes in him will live for ever. (R)

The Light of God has come to us so that we might have salvation, from the darkness of our sins, we walk into glory with Christ Jesus.

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
 People: **Amen.**

The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And with your spirit.

**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,
Striking your breast as you 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.**

The absolution by the Priest follows:
 May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.
 Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**
 Christ have mercy. **Christ have mercy.**
 Lord have mercy. **Lord have mercy.**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



30th March 2025

COLLECT

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

SIT

FIRST READING 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua
 The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you."

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps33:2-7.R.v.9

R. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**
2. Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. **R.**
3. Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress. **R.**

SECOND READING 5:17-21

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

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on this reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you,
 Lord Jesus,
 I will leave this place
 and go to my father and say:
 "Father, I have sinned against
 heaven and against you."
 Praise and honour to you,
 Lord Jesus.

GOSPEL 15:1-3.11-32

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
 A reading from the holy
 Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.



The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. "This man," they said, "welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

"While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son". But the father said to



his servants, "Quick! Bring out the robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come," replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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 during the next 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.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Raising the host, the priest says:
 Blessed are you, Lord, God of all
 creation, for through your goodness
 we have received the bread we offer
 you: fruit of the earth and work of
 human hands,
 it will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.



The priest pours wine and a little water into the chalice, saying quietly:

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

Raising the chalice, the priest says:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Bowing the priest says quietly:

With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, O Lord.

Then the priest washes his hands, saying quietly:

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity; and cleanse me from my sin.

◆ **STAND** ◆

Facing the people the priest says:

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

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

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*PREFACE: II of Lent
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II*

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 you have given your children a

sacred time for the renewing and purifying of their hearts, that, freed from disordered affections, they may so deal with the things of this passing world as to hold rather to the things that eternally endure.

And so, with all the Angels and Saints, we praise you, as without end 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.**

◆ **KNEEL** ◆

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness.

The Priest joins his hands and, holding them extended over the offerings, says:

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body ✕ and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, 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, once more giving thanks, he gave it 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

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your death, O Lord,
until you come again.**



Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis, our Pope, N. our Bishop, his assistant Bishop(s), and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse, with the blessed Apostles and with all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

The Priest takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, elevating both, he says:

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.

COMMUNION RITE

◆ **STAND** ◆

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

Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

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 add these or similar words.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The priest places a small piece of the host in the chalice saying quietly:

May this mingling of the body and
blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
bring eternal life to us who receive it.

Meanwhile the people sing or say:

**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.**

◆ KNEEL ◆

The priest says quietly:

May the receiving of your Body and
Blood,

Lord Jesus Christ,
not bring me to judgement and
condemnation,
but through your loving mercy
be for me protection in mind and
body, and a healing remedy.

Raising the host 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.

And together with the people he says once:

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

May the Body of Christ
keep me safe for eternal life.

The Priest reverently consumes the Body of Christ.

Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:
May the Blood of Christ
keep me safe for eternal life.

The Priest raises a host slightly and shows it to each of the communicants, saying:

The Body of Christ.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Cf. Jn 9: 11, 38
**The Lord anointed my eyes: I went,
I washed, I saw and I believed in
God.**

COMMUNION HYMN

**I am the Bread of life;
You who come to me shall not hunger;
and who believe in me shall not thirst.
No-one can come to me unless the
Father draw him.**

*R: And I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up,
and I will raise you up on the last day.*

**The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
and if you eat of this bread,
you shall live forever,
you shall live forever. R.**

**I am the Resurrection, I am the Life,
If you believe in me,
even though you die,
you shall live forever. R.**

**Yes, Lord, I believe
that you are the Christ,
the Son of God
who have come into the world. R.**

PRIVATE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

My Jesus, I adore you present in my
soul.

Your being with me is the greatest
proof I have that the Father loves me.

You have come to me not to
condemn me, but to save me and
bring me to life with you.

I thank you with all my heart.

My Jesus, I believe in you: I thank
you for the gift of faith.

That I have the faith is not my own
doing, but the result of your great love
and mercy.

Glory be to the Father, and to the
Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end.

◆ STAND ◆

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who enlighten everyone who
comes into this world,
illuminate our hearts, we pray,
with the splendour of your grace,
that we may always ponder
what is worthy and pleasing to your
majesty and love you in all sincerity.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

Bow head for the blessing – short silence

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Look upon those who call to you, O
Lord, and sustain the weak;
give life by your unfailing light
to those who walk in the shadow of
death, and bring those rescued by
your mercy from every evil to reach the
highest good.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

And 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 and announce the Gospel of the
Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

**How lovely on the mountains
are the feet of him
who brings good news, good news,
announcing peace,
proclaiming news of happiness:
Our God reigns, Our God reigns.
Our God reigns, Our God reigns.
Our God reigns, Our God reigns.**

**Ends of the earth, see
the salvation of our God!
Jesus is Lord, is Lord!
Before the nations,
he has bared his holy arm.
Our God reigns, Our God reigns.
Our God reigns, Our God reigns.
Our God reigns, Our God reigns.**