



# THE LORD'S DAY AT HOME

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

“Climate Sunday”

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June 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 Maundy Thursday. 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 prayers.

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

**Entrance Antiphon** Cf. Ps 26: 7, 9

**A: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!**

**Sign of the Cross**

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

**A: Amen.**

**Introduction**

L: This Sunday has been appointed by our Bishop as “Climate Sunday”, a day when we pray for the care of Creation. Jesus frequently used images from nature, as we hear in the Gospel today: his parables use the mysterious power of natural growth as an image for the Church. We are responsible for the world entrusted to us, and must consider not just how we use the world, but how we protect it, and allow it to work in the mysterious way Jesus describes in the Gospel. We praise the God of all Creation this Sunday 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.

God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of

your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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 4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds: ‘This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come.’ He also said, ‘What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.’ Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**A: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Reflection**

*From the Pastoral Letter of the Bishops of England and Wales for Pentecost 2021*

“Our world, God’s creation, is a precious gift to us. It is our common home entrusted to each generation.” They go on to say: “We all have a part to play, each and every one of us, in the routines, choices and decisions of our everyday lives and our aspirations for the future. The actions of parishes,

families, schools, and individuals will have a significant impact on our efforts to restore our common home. There are now many resources, freely available, to advise us on our choice of food, saving of water and electricity, suggestions about travel, waste, and re-use. These are measures that everyone can employ, in some degree, with minimal inconvenience and change. They are effective ways in which we can each reaffirm our personal vocation to be stewards of creation.”

**For our Younger Friends**

Pope Francis wrote a letter addressed to every person on this planet, asking us all to protect our common home... The Earth. “The earth is God’s gift to us, full of beauty and wonder. And it belongs to everyone. But what we see today is that our common home has never been so hurt and mistreated. We have developed at a greater speed than we could have ever imagined, and have treated the earth like it has an unlimited supply of resources. We have taken more than our fair share from most people on the planet, as well as future generations. We have cut down the earth’s natural forests, polluted the earth’s waters, its land and its air. The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth. We are using more and more polluting fossil fuels which is contributing to climate change. Climate change one of the biggest challenges we face today. Climate change will affect us all, but it will be the poorest communities who will suffer the most. And despite these problems, we are not slowing down on how much we consume and throw away; leaving a trail of waste and

destruction. We can not continue like this. We can change, and we can make a new start. The whole human family needs to work together to care for our planet earth, so that we sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Let's put love for the world and love for our neighbours, into action, by living together in harmony, and caring for nature. Will you play your part to look after our common home? Can you take simple everyday eco-actions to care for the earth, like turning off lights, reducing water waste and recycling? And will you live more simply, reducing the amount of things we buy and throw away, so that we don't take more than our fair share? The world can't wait! So let's make that start today. Play your part to protect our common home."

*CAFOD Children's Summary of Pope Francis' "Laudato Si"*

### **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 Saint Francis of Assisi, patron of ecologists, let us bring before the Lord our requests for all of us gathered here, for the Church and for the whole world:

We pray for the Church: that she may be a beacon of hope throughout the world, reminding us all of our responsibility to care for and protect God's precious gift of creation. Lord, in your mercy...

**A: Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world, our common home: that through God's grace we may hear its cry for the damage done and be moved to protect it for future generations to enjoy. Lord, in your mercy...

**A: Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those people who are already facing droughts, floods and storms: that God may grant them strength and hope for the future as they work to adapt to the changing climate. Lord, in your mercy...

**A: Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our parish and our local community: that through the grace of God we may hear the urgent cry of the earth and of the poor and be inspired to respond at this crucial time. 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: O God, who provide for the twofold needs of human nature, nourishing us with food and renewing us with your Sacrament, grant, we pray, that the sustenance they provide may not fail us in body or in spirit. Through Christ our Lord.

**A: Amen.**

### **Preparation for Spiritual Communion**

L: Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, you laid the foundations of the world and have arranged the changing of times and seasons; you formed man and woman 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, Jesus your Son, taking bread and wine, the fruits of the earth, at the Last Supper, 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.

*Pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.*

### **Spiritual Communion**

**A: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

### **Thanksgiving Psalm**

L: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

**A: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.**

L: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night.

**A: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.**

L: The just will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

**A: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.**

L: Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

**A: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITE

### **Final Prayer and Blessing**

L: Let us pray.

As this spiritual reception of your Holy Communion, O Lord, foreshadows the union of the faithful in you, so may it bring about unity in your Church. 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!**

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