

THE LORD'S DAY AT HOME

TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
12th September 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. Sir 36: 18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Sign of the Cross

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

A: Amen.

Introduction

L: Once more we make the Lord's Day holy by our prayers, asking for mercy and healing 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.

Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our 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 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.' The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Reflection

"Today's Gospel passage (cf. Mk 8:27-35) turns to the question that permeates the whole Gospel of Mark: *who is Jesus?* But this time Jesus himself poses it to his disciples, helping them to

gradually address the question of his identity. Before asking them, the Twelve, directly, Jesus wants to hear from them what the people think about him, and he is well aware that the disciples are very sensitive to the Teacher's renown! Therefore, he asks: "Who do men say that I am?" (v. 27). It comes to light that Jesus is considered by the people as a great prophet. But, in reality, he is not interested in the opinions and gossip of the people. He also does not agree that his disciples should answer the questions with pre-packaged formulas, quoting well-known individuals from Sacred Scripture, because a faith that is reduced to formulas is a short-sighted faith. The Lord wants his disciples of yesterday and today to establish a personal relationship with him, and thus to embrace him at the centre of their life. For this reason he spurs them to face themselves honestly, and he asks: "But who do you say that I am?" (v. 29). Today, Jesus addresses this very direct and confidential question to each of us: "You, who do you say that I am? All of you, who do you say that I am? Who am I for you?". Each person is called to respond, in his or her heart, allowing each one to be illuminated by the light that the Father gives us in order to know his Son Jesus."

Pope Francis, Angelus Message, 16th September 2018

A Thought for our Younger Friends

When Jesus asks who people say he is, he's not bothered about being famous: he just wants people to know he comes from God the Father, and will give everything for us. Think this week about who Jesus is FOR 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.

THE COMMUNION RITE

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: Jesus had to teach Saint Peter that the path to glory leads through cross: let us pray for all who live the cross of Jesus today, that they too may find glory.

We pray for the poor: may the gift of faith enliven the church's commitment to justice. Lord, in your mercy ...

A: Hear our prayer.

On this Education Sunday we pray for all teachers, pupils and education staff: that Christ the teacher may always guide them all. Lord, in your mercy ...

A: Hear our prayer.

We pray for Christians in government and public service; may they be forerunners in fostering public policies that serve the most needy. Lord, in your mercy ...

A: Hear our prayer.

We pray for persons and communities rebuilding their lives from tragedies and disasters: that the kindness of neighbours and strangers be a sign of God's consoling love. 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 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: Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord, and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings, that what each has offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

Preparation for Spiritual Communion

L: Loving Father, you so loved the world that in your mercy you sent us the Redeemer, to live like us in all things but sin, so that you might love in us what you loved in your Son, by whose obedience we have been restored to those gifts of yours that, by sinning, we had lost in disobedience. The night before he died, taking bread and wine, the fruits of the earth, he 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.

Thanksgiving Psalm Ps 114(116):1-6,8-9

L: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

A: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

L: I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him.

A: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

L: They surrounded me, the snares of death, with the anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress.

I called on the Lord's name. O Lord, my God, deliver me!

A: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

L: How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts;

I was helpless so he saved me.

A: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

L: He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

A: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

Final Prayer and Blessing

L: Let us pray.

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray, take possession of our minds and bodies, so that its effects, and not our own desires, may always prevail in us. 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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