

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Ps 26:7.9)

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;
be my help.

Do not abandon or forsake me, O God,
my Saviour!

In the name of the Father, ... **Amen.**
The grace of our Lord ... **And with your spirit.**

Penitential Act

Brethren (brothers and sisters), ...

A brief pause for silence follows.

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:

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

You came to call sinners:

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

You are seated at the right hand of the Father
to intercede for us:

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

May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

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.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING (Ez 17:22-24)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,

and become a noble cedar.

Every kind of bird will live beneath it,
every winged creature rest in the shade of its
branches.

And every tree of the field will learn that I,
the Lord, am the one
who stunts tall trees and makes the low
ones grow,
who withers green trees and makes
the withered green.

I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 91:2-3.13-16)

R It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

1. 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. **R**
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **R**
3. 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. **R**

SECOND READING (2 Cor 5:6-10)

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

We are always full of confidence when we
remember that to live in the body means to be
exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and
not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and
actually want to be exiled from the body and make
our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in
the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing
him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in
the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what
he deserves for the things he did in the body, good
or bad.

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

(Mk 4:26-34)

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

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), 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

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.

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...

After the Consecration

The mystery of faith.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command ...

Our Father, who art in heaven, ...

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, ...

Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And with your spirit.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins ...

Behold the Lamb of God, ...

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

(Ps 26:4)

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek:

to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.