

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand? But with you
is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL RITE

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....

THE 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.

OPENING PRAYER

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,
at all times go before us and follow after
and make us always determined
to carry out good works.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, you Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and
ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Isaiah 25: 6 - 10*

A reading from the prophet of Isaiah.
On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare
for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of
fine wines, of food rich and juicy,
of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said:
See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice that he has
saved us; for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps.22*

**R. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **[R]**
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your
staff;
with these you give me comfort. **[R]**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **[R]**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **[R]**

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to
the Philippians**

I know how to be poor and I know how
to be rich too. I have been through my
initiation and now I am ready for anything
anywhere: full stomach or empty
stomach, poverty or plenty. There is
nothing I cannot master with the help of
the One who gives me strength. All the
same, it was good of you to share with
me in my hardships. In return my God will
fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as
lavishly as only God can. Glory to God,
our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The Word was made flesh and lived
among us; to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of
God. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL *Matthew 22: 1-14 (*shorter form 22:1-10)*

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew.**

**Jesus said to the chief priests and elders
of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven
may be compared to a king who gave
a feast for his son's wedding. He sent
his servants to call those who had been
invited, but they would not come. Next he
sent some more servants. "Tell those who
have been invited" he said "that I have
my banquet all prepared, my oxen and
fatted cattle have been slaughtered,
everything is ready. Come to the wedding."*

*But they were not interested: one went off
to his farm, another to his business, and
the rest seized his servants, maltreated
them and killed them. The king was
furious. He despatched his troops,
destroyed those murderers and burnt
their town. Then he said to his servants,
"The wedding is ready; but as those who
were invited proved to be unworthy, go
to the crossroads in the town and invite
everyone you can find to the wedding."*
*So these servants went out on to the
roads and collected together everyone
they could find, bad and good alike; and
the wedding hall was filled with guests.**
When the king came in to look at the
guests he noticed one man who was not
wearing a wedding garment, and said to
him, "How did you get in here, my friend,
without a wedding garment?" And the
man was silent. Then the king said to the
attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and
throw him out into the dark, where there
will be weeping and grinding of teeth."
For many are called, but few are chosen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

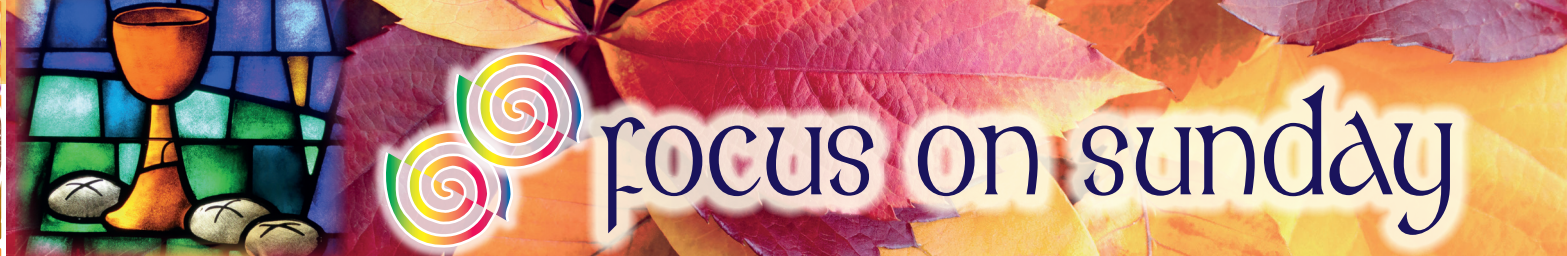
I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

All bow for following 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.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray 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, the prayers of your faithful
with the sacrificial offerings,
that, through these acts of devotedness,
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.
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.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and
profess your Resurrection until you come
again.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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

**The rich suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no
blessing.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We entreat your majesty most humbly,
O Lord, that, as you feed us with the
nourishment which comes from the most
holy Body and Blood of your Son,
so you may make us sharers of his divine
nature.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
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 in peace, glorifying the Lord
by your life. **Thanks be to God.**



**God is generous to his people; his is the gift of life and love, of
reconciliation and of justice. He expects us to be generous in
return so that others may know his generosity.**



Jesus often refers to the Kingdom of God as a feast, at which
God presides.

He always talks about the guests who will be present. In
this Gospel, Matthew had in mind the Jewish authorities who
believed that they were entitled to be at the feast, but, by rejecting Jesus, the
king's son, they were rejecting God's invitation. Jesus announces that everyone
was welcome, "good and bad alike," some with whom the Jewish leaders would
simply refuse to share a meal. And the poor man without a wedding garment? At
first sight, it seems very unjust to banish him, maybe he couldn't afford a proper
garment or didn't know he needed one. But no, Matthew was writing to a Christian
community, many of whom had converted from Judaism. They were having a
very hard time, their families often rejected them and their Jewish communities
ostracised them for abandoning the God of their ancestors. So some of them were
minded to give up the Christian commitment and return back to their Jewish faith.
The wedding garment refers to the Christian faith that they had accepted and put
on. Matthew is trying to encourage them to stay, even though life is very difficult
for them.

He is warning them, that if they renounce the Christian faith, they may be excluded
from the feast in the Kingdom. In the midst of all the difficulties in life which we
may face, Jesus asks us to continue being faithful to him.

Fr. Peter McVerry SJ

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Heaven, seeing The Face of God, Is like a happy birthday party.
Everyone is invited. Everyone is happy. St.Peter will meet us at
The Door of Heaven, and give us a big welcome. We don't need
to bring any presents to heaven.
We need only empty hands to receive all God's gifts.