

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

GREETING

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL ACT

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, 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.

May almighty God have mercy on us.... Amen.

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

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

Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. Who lives and reigns....

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 4: 8 - 12

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
 Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you

the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29

R. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. or Alleluia!

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. **(R)**
2. I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **(R)**
3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. **(R)**

SECOND READING 1 John 3: 1-2

A reading from the first letter of St. John
 Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd,
says the Lord;
I know my own sheep
and my own know me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 10: 11 - 18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said:
 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd;



I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

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

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries, so that the renewal constantly at work within us may be the cause of our unending joy.
 Through Christ our Lord.



focus on sunday



Today is a day of prayer to deepen our own sense of vocation, and to pray to the Lord to call men and women into a life of ministry and service within religious life.



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. 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.
 Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

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 Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd, and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures the sheep you have redeemed by the Precious Blood of your Son. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
 Keep your family, we pray, O Lord, in your constant care, so that, under your protection, they may be free from all troubles and by good works show dedication to your name.
 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 in peace.
Thanks be to God.



The gospel today is a sort of a summary of the life of Jesus. He is the one who will lay down his life, the one who will protect the sheep, who knows them well, and he knows where he comes from. He cares for people outside his own group or flock. He knows that humankind, his beloved people, is one, and there will be one flock and one Shepherd. When he gathers people, it is that we listen to him, in his word. All that he does in his life is to fulfill what his Father, God, wants of him.

That is the way he deals with all of us. Jesus is the caring friend, the caring brother, the one whose heart reaches out to us, especially when we are in trouble.

The mystery of Easter reminds us that this is true forever. Jesus is now raised from death and this risen life is for now and will welcome us into eternity. The good shepherd can be called the good protector, the good guide, the good carer. Maybe as we see in Jesus the full time carer, we make a prayer today for all carers, especially those who care for the sick at home.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger.

Jesus' Story *Fr. Liam Hickey*

Bernadette was a little girl from Lourdes. She minded sheep. Our Lady from Heaven brought her messages about helping sick people. Bernadette was a "good shepherd." She did her work well. The Lady asked her to find special water to bless sick and worried people. The water flows today from a big rock, called The Grotto, where people bless, pray and light candles. Lourdes, is a place where smiles are brighter, and hugs are tighter.

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