

SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Sunday 04 Oct 2020
For Families and Households during Social Isolation

The Introductory Rites

A Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

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

Leader: Blessed be Jesus who makes us one, and strengthens us
by the power of his Spirit.
All: **Blessed be God forever.**

Leader

(in these or similar words): Friends in Christ, although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day, we gather in God's name for when two or more come together God is always with us. We worship in union with the whole Church keeping this day of the Lord holy.

Leader: Before listening to the Word of God let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.
A brief period of silence follows.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you are the stone rejected by the builders: Lord, have mercy.
All: **Lord, have mercy.**

All: Christ Jesus, your Kingdom is charged to those who bear fruit: Christ, have mercy.
All: **Christ, have mercy.**

All: Lord Jesus, you call us to be faithful to your word: Lord, have mercy.
All: **Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.
All: **Amen.**

Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray.
All pause for silent prayer.

O God,
Jesus redeemed the world
and became the cornerstone of the Church.
Help us to listen to what Jesus asks of us.
May our words and deeds bear fruit
and build your holy Church on earth.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
with the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Is 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall

for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7

(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R.)**
2. Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
4. And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Phil 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Mt 21:33-43

Reader: From the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders

that became the keystone.
This was the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

All: The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Profession of Faith

Leader: In union with the whole Church let us profess our faith.

All: **I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

**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.**

Universal Prayer

Leader: Let us thank God for the wonder of "our common home", and pray that God will always keep us mindful of our responsibility for it and for each other.

1. For the Pope and all our bishops: that they may continue to teach us to be sensitive to the needs of our world, and to encourage governments to commit to protecting the creation entrusted to our care. Lord, hear us.
2. For those working for peace and justice in the world: that they may help us to avoid the threats that confront us and the environment, and that they will reach out to those who are living in poverty, exile or suffering from the pandemic. Lord, hear us.
3. For those suffering the effects of climate change through extreme weather conditions, storms and drought. Lord, hear us.
4. For young people as they look to the future: that they may see how they can play their part in building God's new world, and shaping a culture which respects the dignity of every person. Lord, hear us.
5. For those who are sick with Covid-19, those who care for them; for those in isolation and those who live alone; that the Lord may give them healing and hope. Lord, hear us.
6. For those who have died recently, especially Sr Margaret Lanigan, Sr Monica Nugent, Sr Marie Hayes, Monsignor Anthony Toms, Mary Theresa Mulholland, Anne Wixted; those who have died through Covid-19; and all whose anniversaries occur. Lord, hear us.

Leader: Heavenly Father,
you never give up on us.
You continue to build your new creation.
Help us to be aware of all that we can do together

to bring about the salvation for which Jesus died and rose again.
Through the same Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All: **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.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

Amen.

The Concluding Rite

Leader: May the Lord be with us and protect us now and for ever.
All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Leader: Let us go in peace, glorifying the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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