

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
 always and everywhere to give you thanks,
 Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
 For you have given your children a sacred time
 for the renewing and purifying of their hearts,
 that, freed from disordered affections,
 they may so deal with the things of this passing world
 as to hold rather to the things that eternally endure.
 And so, with all the Angels and Saints,
 we praise you, as without end we acclaim:

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.

The mystery of faith. **When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**

Communion Antiphon: Psalm 83:4-5
The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

REFLECTION: *A prayer found written over the door of a church.*
 'Lord, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride, and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, nor to straying feet. Make this house a house of prayer and a gateway to your kingdom.'

Prayer after Communion:
 As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final Blessing
 The Lord be with you: **And with your spirit.**
 May almighty God bless you: **Amen.**
 the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
 Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. : **Thanks be to God.**

Lord, let me not remain stuck in my own ideas or allow me to pray only in the pews of my own desires. Inspire me with God-sight. Give me a vision of the divine kingdom I am uniquely called to serve. Show me the way to go home to you in the company of the saints you have placed along my path. Give me the courage to accept, receive, and integrate the gift of consuming zeal for your house, your people. Help me as I strive to be a saint. Amen.

Third Sunday in Lent B

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

We are gathered in the house of God: a house of prayer and worship. Only we can make of this church a true house of prayer. Let us reflect for a moment on the attitude we bring to our worship.

Jesus, who is present among us, helps us to worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

Lord, you help us to worship in a spirit of humility. Lord, have mercy.
 You help us to worship in a spirit of deep reverence. Christ, have mercy.
 You help us worship as a community united in love. Lord, have mercy.



Let us pray:

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Exodus.

Exodus 20: 1-17

God spoke all these words. He said: "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house slavery.

You shall have no gods except me.

You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals, nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the Sabbath day and made it sacred.

Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given you.

You shall not kill.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour's house.

You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Psalms 118

Response: You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **Response**

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is dear,
it gives light to the eyes. **Response**

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **Response**

They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. **Response**

SECOND READING:

A reading from St Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. 1 Cor 1:22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we, preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,
whoever believes in me will never die.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

GOSPEL

John 2:13-25

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you Lord.**

Just before the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers: "Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market." Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said: "What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?" Jesus answered: "Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews replied: "It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

Offertory:

Pray, 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.

Prayer over the Offerings:

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface:

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And with your spirit.

We lift them up to the Lord.

It is right and just.