

and have arranged the changing of times and seasons;
you formed man in your own image
and set humanity over the whole world in all its wonder,
to rule in your name over all you have made
and for ever praise you in your mighty works,
through Christ our Lord.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you,
as in joyful celebration 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: **The earth is replete
with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.**

REFLECTION: Will you also leave me?
Jesus tells the apostles: 'Will you also go away?' These words are
addressed to us too. But why would we want to leave the Lord, who alone
has the words of eternal life? We need to make our own Peter's profession
of faith. We need the Lord to strengthen our faith. Lord, confirm our
decision to stay with you. Draw us closer to you in bonds of trust, love and
freedom.

Prayer after Communion:
Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and
graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Prayer: The time has come for me to choose the way of God, to win despite apparently insurmountable odds! I pray, this day, for courage and strength that I might sustain the journey's length whether mountain high or valley low. I want to continue this way, to go and live each moment as if it were my last, gracing the present with the hopes of the past, entering future's surprising arms with trust in goodness, not in harm. With praise and joy I make my plea, God, my God, remember me. Amen.

Twenty-First Sunday of the Year B



Entrance Antiphon: **Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. Psalm 85:1-3**

We read today about people leaving Jesus. Many still leave him. But we are here. Each Sunday gives us an opportunity to confirm our faith in him who alone has the words of eternal life.

Lord Jesus, you confirm our faith in you. Lord, have mercy.
You confirm our hope in what you promise. Christ, have mercy.
You confirm our love for you and for one another. Lord, have mercy.

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.

Let us pray:

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. 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 Joshua Joshua 24:1-2. 15-18
Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.' The people answered: 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed? We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33

Response: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

I will bless the Lord at all times
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

R/.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The Lord turns his eyes to the just
and his ears to their appeal.

R/.

They call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

R/.

Many are the trials of the just man
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.
He will keep guard over all his bones,
not one of his bones shall be broken.

R/.

Evil brings death to the wicked;
those who hate the good are doomed.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

R/.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians Ephesians 5:21-32
Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies, for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and, looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia!**Your words are spirit, Lord,
and they are life:****You have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

John 6:60-69

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, Lord.**

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said: "This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?" Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said: "Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? 'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.' But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on: "This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him." After this many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve: "What about you, do you want to go away too?" Simon Peter answered: "Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life and we believe, we know that you are the Holy One of God."

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, brethren, that our sacrifice 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 Offering:

O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface:

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.

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 laid the foundations of the world