

And so, with the company of Angels and Saints,
we sing the hymn of your praise, 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: **Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.**

COMMUNION REFLECTION: Children
Jesus warned those who would lead the little ones astray, but he blessed those who cared for them. One of the most touching things about children is their openness. But this openness leaves them extremely vulnerable. They may not say much but they feel everything. They are like crocuses: frail, delicate, beautiful creatures - innocents in an unpredictable climate. If they are embraced by the sun, they bloom to their full potential. But if they are assailed by hail, they die an early death. Love is to a child what sunshine is to a flower.

Prayer after Communion:

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we proclaim his Death. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Final Blessing

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Risk more than others think is safe.
Care more than others think is wise.
Dream more than others think is practical.
Expect more than others think is possible. *Claude Bissell.*

Prayer: God of all creation, maker of the universe who is present everywhere, open my eyes and heart and mind to see you in unlikely places and people. Help me to understand that universality is not uniformity. Give me the grace to listen to those who live outside the tent of my life, my family, my culture, my educational background, my church. Let me have the wisdom to honour and revere their thoughts, to learn from their opinions, to communicate my own with charity, and to grow in the process. Amen.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year B



Entrance Antiphon: **All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.**

Modern life has brought us closer to one another than ever before. We influence one another in all sorts of ways. God wants us to be stepping stones for one another. But unfortunately sometimes we are stumbling blocks.

Let us ask pardon for the harm we do and the good we fail to do to our brothers and sisters.

Lord Jesus, when we are dead through sin, you raise us up.

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

Christ Jesus, you call us to repentance by your word of grace.

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

Lord Jesus, you heal our wounds and carry our weaknesses.

Lord, have mercy. **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 manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. 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 Numbers.

Numbers 11:25-29

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy

in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses: 'Look', he said 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth: 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him: 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!' The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 18

Response: The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

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. **R/.**

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **R/.**

So in them your servant finds instruction;
great reward is in their keeping.
But who can detect all his errors?
From hidden faults acquit me. **R/.**

From presumption restrain your servant
and let it not rule me.
Then shall I be blameless, clean from grave sin. **R/.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James James 5:1-6
An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them - listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-43.45.47-48

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, Lord.**
John said to Jesus: 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said: 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward. But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

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 Gifts:

Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing may be laid open before us. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface:

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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,
through Christ our Lord.

For by his birth he brought renewal to humanity's fallen state
and by his suffering cancelled out our sins;
by his rising from the dead
he has opened the way to eternal life,
and by ascending to you, O Father,
he has unlocked the gates of heaven.

**And with your spirit.
We lift them up to the Lord.
It is right and just.**