ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you have given us the consolation of the truth:
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, leading us into everlasting life:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us……Amen.

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.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *Acts 2:14.36-41*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' 'Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.'

They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalm 22:1-6*

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. or Alleluia!

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. ***[R]***

2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your
staff; with these you give me comfort. ***[R]***

3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. ***[R]***

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. ***[R]***

SECOND READING *1 Peter 2: 20 - 25*

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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: 1 - 10*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:
'I tell you most solemnly,
I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate.
Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture.
The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

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.

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.
We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Liturgical texts: concordat cum originali: †Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin Other texts: cum permissu: †Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin. Excerpts from the English translation of the Roman Missal: © 2010,International Committee on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem version of the Scripture is copyright Darton, Longman & Todd & Doubleday & Co. Inc. Responsorial psalms are copyright The Grail & or Geoffrey Chapman Ltd. Published by Logos Publications, 26 Tolka Valley Business Park, Ballyboggan Rd, Glasnevin, D11 WK38 Phone (01 830 6751).

focus on sunday

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Day of Prayer for Vocations) 3rd May 2020

We are all called into God's service, some as priests and religious. Today we pray for all people who have given their life to serving God and living his Gospel. We pray that many others may follow the Lord in this way.

Vocation is not something out there! It begins 'in here!', and goes 'out there'. God works from the goodness inside each of us - the goodness we are born with, and indeed born into, in family and community. He plants this goodness from the first moment - small beginnings from the bodies of father and mother, to grow and develop right through eternity.

It is that which reaches out to help others, and to Jesus in prayer.

Vocation, in many ways of life, is nourished by working for good, in mindfulness, meditation, prayer and community, and in the care of and concern for the poor near and far. This inborn and nourished goodness will bring good to the world and to others.

Each of us, in baptism, is called to know we are loved, that God is planted within us, and also to serve in the way of Jesus, himself 'the beloved Son'.

To know that we are called and to be able to serve this way, we must first of all believe in the eternal goodness inside each of us.

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger