

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.**

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and prince of peace: Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**  
 Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary: Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**  
 Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father: 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.**



**OPENING PRAYER**

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING Exodus 24: 3 - 8**

**A reading from the book of Exodus**  
 Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 115:12-13,15-18**

**R. The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name. or Alleluia!**

1. How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me? The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name. (R)
2. O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. (R)
3. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people. (R)

**SECOND READING Hebrews 9: 11 - 15**

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

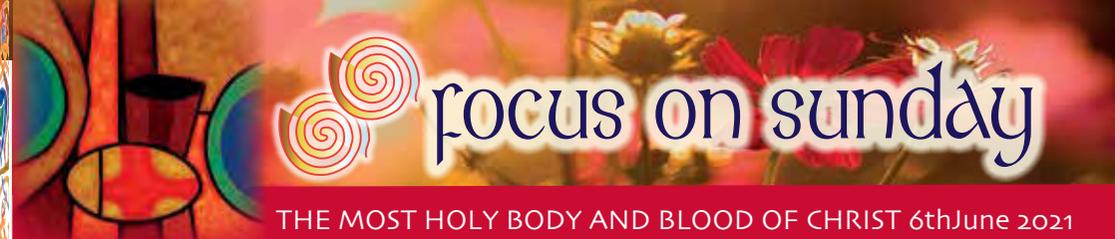
**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL Mark 14: 12-16. 22-26**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**  
 On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.'



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST 6th June 2021

**Today is our celebration that Jesus is present always with us, in signs we can recognise but not understand. It is a feast of the mystery of his presence, always close to his people.**

Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.' After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

**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.**

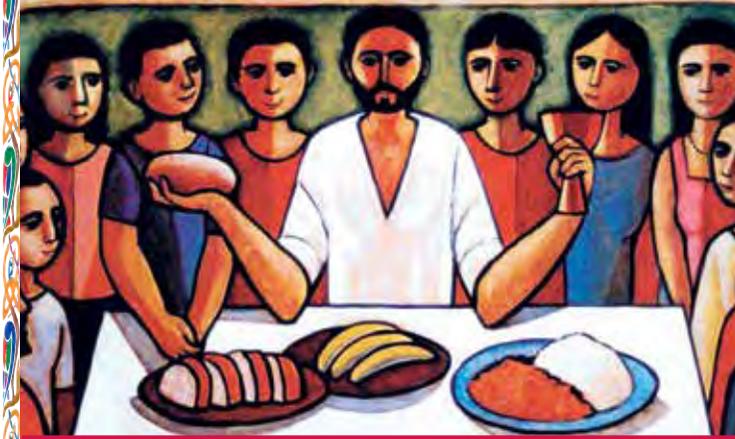
**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**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**

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

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



We are coming up to the feast of the Sacred Heart (Friday 11th), with its historical link to the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. The Eucharist and the devotion to the Sacred Heart have always been connected – many prayers in the old devotion linked our prayer to the prayer of the Mass.

In a sense the Mass is going on all the time. The mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus is now outside of time. We often reminded ourselves of that by saying 'every minute there is a Mass being celebrated somewhere in the world, and we can join our prayers to that Mass'. Like the devotion, the Eucharist is based on the love of God, seen particularly in Jesus our God assuming our humanity. The bread and wine of the Eucharist is the food of Jesus' humanity, the centre of the devotion to the Heart.

The devotion like many devotions in the Church has waned. Many of the prayers and hymns are in an outdated language, and the images often do not appeal today. But the Eucharist and Heart of Jesus will always be the centre of Christian faith.

The heart of Jesus is a human heart beating with divine love. In Jesus humanity and divinity mingle, as we pray at Mass; 'by the mingling of this water and wine may we come to share the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.'

*Donal Neary SJ, editor, Messenger of the Sacred Heart.*