

The Eucharist

26 July 2020



17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A



Today's first reading and the Gospel deal with finding a pearl of great price. It is 'wisdom' for Solomon, it is the kingdom of God in the Gospel. What is your treasure? Is it a smart phone? When you are facing death there will be no network, hence you won't be able to communicate. So, connect with God in prayer now and stay connected.



'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found ...'

FIRST READING

(1 Kings 3:5.7-12)

Solomon requested the gift of discernment from God. Before he began his public ministry, Jesus withdrew into the desert to discern what God wanted him to do. Meditation is a good way to discern God's will. Each of us needs to discern what is the right way to do things and what is the correct way to relate to people.

SECOND READING

(Romans 8:28-30)

This reading states, 'God cooperates with all those who love him.' We should also cooperate with other people. If they show any sign of reconciliation or understanding, let us cooperate with them so that peace will prevail. God has called us to be brothers and sisters of Jesus. Hence, let us treat others with respect and dignity.

GOSPEL

(Matthew 13:44-52)

The primary common feature in the first two parables is that the central character goes and sells everything for the sake of the one thing important to him. The two parables make clear to us that the only worthwhile treasure in life is a close personal relationship with God and good relationships with significant people in our lives.

- Fr Patrick Moroney, SVD

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 67:6-7:36)

**God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

Brethren (brothers and sisters),
let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves
to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

A brief pause for silence follows.

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:

Lord, have mercy.

Or: Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Or: Kyrie, eleison.

You came to call sinners:

Christ, have mercy.

Or: Christe, eleison.

Christ, have mercy.

Or: Christe, eleison.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father
to intercede for us:

Lord, have mercy.

Or: Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Or: Kyrie, eleison.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

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.

Collect

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure.

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

(1 Kg 3:5-7-12)

A reading from the first book of the Kings.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this,' the Lord said, 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 118:57-72.76-77.127-130)

R Lord, how I love your law!

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. **R**
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. **R**
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **R**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. **R**

SECOND READING

(Rm 8:28-30)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those

he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Jn 15:15)

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

(Mt 13:44-52)

(For shorter form, read between ♦ ♦)



The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

♦ Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.♦

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Profession of Faith

(Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

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.

The priest introduces the Prayer of the Faithful.

Pray, brethren (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

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings
which we bring from the abundance of your gifts,
that through the powerful working of your grace
these most sacred mysteries may sanctify
our present way of life
and lead us to eternal gladness.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I

(Preface II of the Sundays in Ordinary Time)

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,
through Christ our Lord.

For out of compassion for the waywardness that is ours,
he humbled himself and was born of the Virgin;
by the passion of the Cross he freed us from
unending death,
and by rising from the dead he gave us life eternal.

And so, with Angels and Archangels,
with Thrones and Dominions,
and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven,
we sing the hymn of your glory,
as without end we acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...

To you, therefore, most merciful Father,
we make humble prayer and petition
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord:
that you accept
and bless ✠ these gifts, these offerings,
these holy and unblemished sacrifices,
which we offer you firstly
for your holy catholic Church.
Be pleased to grant her peace,
to guard, unite and govern her
throughout the whole world,
together with your servant **N.** our Pope
and **N.** our Bishop,
and all those who, holding to the truth,
hand on the catholic and apostolic faith.

Remember, Lord, your servants **N.** and **N.**
and all gathered here,
whose faith and devotion are known to you.
For them, we offer you this sacrifice of praise
or they offer it for themselves
and all who are dear to them:
for the redemption of their souls,
in hope of health and well-being,
and paying their homage to you,

the eternal God, living and true.

In communion with those whose memory we venerate,
especially the glorious ever-Virgin Mary,
Mother of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ,
and blessed Joseph, her Spouse,
your blessed Apostles and Martyrs,
Peter and Paul, Andrew,
(James, John,
Thomas, James, Philip,
Bartholomew, Matthew,
Simon and Jude;
Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus,
Cornelius, Cyprian,
Lawrence, Chrysogonus,
John and Paul,
Cosmas and Damian)
and all your Saints;
we ask that through their merits and prayers,
in all things we may be defended
by your protecting help.
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Therefore, Lord, we pray:
graciously accept this oblation of our service,
that of your whole family;
order our days in your peace,
and command that we be delivered from eternal damnation
and counted among the flock of those you have chosen.
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Be pleased, O God, we pray,
to bless, acknowledge,
and approve this offering in every respect;
make it spiritual and acceptable,
so that it may become for us
the Body and Blood of your most beloved Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the day before he was to suffer,
he took bread in his holy and venerable hands,
and with eyes raised to heaven
to you, O God, his almighty Father,
giving you thanks, he said the blessing,
broke the bread
and gave it to his disciples, saying:
TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended,
he took this precious chalice
in his holy and venerable hands,
and once more giving you thanks, he said the blessing
and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:
TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

The mystery of faith.

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.**

Therefore, O Lord,
as we celebrate the memorial of the blessed Passion,

the Resurrection from the dead,
and the glorious Ascension into heaven
of Christ, your Son, our Lord,
we, your servants and your holy people,
offer to your glorious majesty
from the gifts that you have given us,
this pure victim,
this holy victim,
this spotless victim,
the holy Bread of eternal life
and the Chalice of everlasting salvation.
Be pleased to look upon these offerings
with a serene and kindly countenance,
and to accept them,
as once you were pleased to accept
the gifts of your servant Abel the just,
the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith,
and the offering of your high priest Melchizedek,
a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.

In humble prayer we ask you, almighty God:
command that these gifts be borne
by the hands of your holy Angel
to your altar on high
in the sight of your divine majesty,
so that all of us, who through this participation at the altar
receive the most holy Body and Blood of your Son,
may be filled with every grace and heavenly blessing.
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Remember also, Lord, your servants **N.** and **N.**,
who have gone before us with the sign of faith
and rest in the sleep of peace.
Grant them, O Lord, we pray,
and all who sleep in Christ,
a place of refreshment, light and peace.
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

To us, also, your servants, who, though sinners,
hope in your abundant mercies,
graciously grant some share
and fellowship with your holy Apostles and Martyrs:
with John the Baptist, Stephen,
Matthias, Barnabas,
(Ignatius, Alexander,
Marcellinus, Peter,
Felicity, Perpetua,
Agatha, Lucy,
Agnes, Cecilia, Anastasia)
and all your Saints;
admit us, we beseech you,
into their company,
not weighing our merits,
but granting us your pardon,
through Christ our Lord.

Through whom
you continue to make all these good things, O Lord;
you sanctify them, fill them with life,
bless them, and bestow them upon us.
Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command ...
Our Father, who art in heaven, ...

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ...
**For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ...
Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.

*The priest may invite the people to exchange a sign of peace
and Christian fellowship. As the priest breaks the consecrated
Host the following is sung or said:*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, ...

Showing the Host to the people, the priest says:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion Antiphon

(Ps 102:2)

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.**

Prayer after Communion

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament,
the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son;
grant, we pray, that this gift,
which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling,
may profit us for salvation.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

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.

Personal Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
Where there is hate, let me bring love.
Where there is guilt, let me bring pardon.
Where there is dissension, let me bring unity.
Where there is error, let me bring truth.
Where there is darkness, let me bring faith.
Where there is suffering, let me bring joy.
Lord, let the aim of my life be:
to comfort, rather than to be comforted,
to understand, rather than to be understood,
to love, rather than to be loved.
For when we give, we receive:
When we pardon, we are forgiven;
When we die, we enter into life.

Amen.

(Prayer of St Francis of Assisi)