

# The Eucharist

14 February 2021

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B



**H**ere the portrayal of Jesus healing the person who is sick with leprosy is, basically, the gospel writer asking the question: 'Who is this man, Jesus?' and inviting the listener to reply. The close bond between God the Father and his Son Jesus, in a dramatic way after his death, meant that Jesus, like God the Father, had the power to heal those who were sick in any way.



*A leper came and pleaded with Jesus: 'If you want, you can cure me.' ... 'Of course, I want to!' ... And the leprosy left him at once.*

## FIRST READING *(Leviticus 13:1-2.44-46)*

The Bible's third book, Leviticus, is mainly a catalogue of regulations for sacrifices. It concerns priests and Levite-ministers. Today we read the Levitical regulations concerning leprosy, regarded as a highly infectious and crippling disease.

## SECOND READING *(1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1)*

We read again from First Corinthians. This short reading could well be taken as our personal programme or lifestyle. Paul tells us today how to live in this modern world.

## GOSPEL *(Mark 1:40-45)*

One special feature of Mark's Gospel is the 'Messianic Secret'. The miraculous powers of Jesus mystified his contemporaries. The revelation of Jesus as Messiah and Son of God came gradually.

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

*(Cf. Ps 30:3-4)*

**Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.**

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.*

**I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,**

*And, striking their breast, they say:*

**through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

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

**Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

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

### 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, who teach us that you abide  
in hearts that are just and true,  
grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace  
as to become a dwelling pleasing to you.  
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**

*(Lev 13:1-2.44-46)*

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*(Ps 31:1-2.5.11)*

**R You are my refuge, O Lord;  
you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,  
whose sin is remitted.  
O happy the man to whom the Lord  
imputes no guilt,  
in whose spirit is no guile. **R**
2. But now I have acknowledged my sins;  
my guilt I did not hide.  
I said: 'I will confess  
my offence to the Lord.'  
And you, Lord, have forgiven  
the guilt of my sin. **R**
3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,  
exult, you just!  
O come, ring out your joy,  
all you upright of heart. **R**

**SECOND READING**

*(1 Cor 10:31-11:1)*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.  
Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at  
all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to  
anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as  
I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my  
own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so  
that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(Cf. Eph 1:17-18)*

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.  
Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**

*(Mk 1:40-45)*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to,' he said, 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Profession of Faith**

*(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,**

*At the words that follow, up to and including  
and became man, all bow.*

**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.**

The priest introduces the Prayer of the Faithful.

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*Offering the bread, the priest says:*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the bread we offer you:

fruit of the earth and work of human hands,  
it will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Offering the chalice, the priest says:*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the wine we offer you:

fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
it will become our spiritual drink.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

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**

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray,  
cleanse and renew us  
and may it become for those who do your will  
the source of eternal reward.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Eucharistic Prayer III**

*(Preface III 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.

For we know it belongs to your boundless glory,  
that you came to the aid of mortal beings with your divinity  
and even fashioned for us a remedy out of mortality itself,  
that the cause of our downfall  
might become the means of our salvation,  
through Christ our Lord.

Through him the host of Angels adores your majesty  
and rejoices in your presence for ever.

May our voices, we pray, join with theirs  
in one chorus of exultant praise, as 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.**

You are indeed Holy, O Lord,  
and all you have created  
rightly gives you praise,

for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
by the power and working of the Holy Spirit,  
you give life to all things and make them holy,  
and you never cease to gather a people to yourself,  
so that from the rising of the sun to its setting  
a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you:

by the same Spirit graciously make holy  
these gifts we have brought to you for consecration,  
that they may become the Body and Blood  
of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

For on the night he was betrayed

he himself took bread,

and, 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 the chalice,

and, 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.

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

Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial  
of the saving Passion of your Son,  
his wondrous Resurrection  
and Ascension into heaven,  
and as we look forward to his second coming,  
we offer you in thanksgiving  
this holy and living sacrifice.

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church  
and, recognising the sacrificial Victim by whose death  
you willed to reconcile us to yourself,  
grant that we, who are nourished  
by the Body and Blood of your Son  
and filled with his Holy Spirit,  
may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

May he make of us

an eternal offering to you,

so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect,  
especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary,

Mother of God,

with blessed Joseph, her Spouse,

with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs

(with Saint N.: the Saint of the day or Patron Saint)

and with all the Saints,

on whose constant intercession in your presence  
we rely for unailing help.

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation,

we pray, O Lord,

advance the peace and salvation of all the world.

Amen.

Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant **N.** our Pope and **N.** our Bishop, the Order of Bishops, all the clergy, and the entire people you have gained for your own.

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family, whom you have summoned before you: in your compassion, O merciful Father, gather to yourself all your children scattered throughout the world.

To our departed brothers and sisters and to all who were pleasing to you at their passing from this life, give kind admittance to your kingdom. There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory through Christ our Lord, through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.

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 and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will.

Who live and reign for ever and ever. The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And with your spirit.**

Amen.

*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, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

*Showing the Eucharist 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**

*(Cf. Ps 77:29-30)*

**They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord, that we may always long for that food by which we truly live. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

### THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you in his kindness and pour out saving wisdom upon you.

Amen.

May he nourish you always with the teachings of the faith and make you persevere in holy deeds.

Amen.

May he turn your steps towards himself and show you the path of charity and peace.

Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Personal Prayer

Lord, let me find my way back through the Church to you; through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where I confess my wrongs – those little stones that trip me as I walk the path of life – and am brought back to your love through the words of your priest.

You are the light of the world. Let me cease to be subject to the powers of darkness. You give joy and comfort, so let me remove sadness from the lives of those I meet.

Divine Master, I am inclined to be very self-centred, so help me to console others, rather than to be always asking for sympathy; to understand what others are trying to do, rather than to hope that they will understand me; to show love to others, rather than expect that they would love me – because it is in emptying myself that I will find myself. If I have a spirit of forgiveness, others will forgive me, and by dying to myself I know that I will find eternal life. Amen.