

# The Eucharist

17 March 2021 ♦ ST PATRICK, PRINCIPAL PATRON OF IRELAND / B



**S**t Patrick is the link through which the people of Ireland and the people of God were brought together. Throughout their history, the people of Israel considered that they and they alone were God's people. With the teaching of the prophets this narrow outlook gradually opened out so that by the time of Jesus, the stage was set for the expansion of God's word to the ends of the earth. While we rejoice on St Patrick's feast day we pray that our Christian life may be an example and an inspiration for the whole world.



*'I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'*

## FIRST READING

*(Jeremiah 1:4-9)*

This reading tells of the call of Jeremiah as a prophet of the Lord. A prophet was someone whose task was to speak the word of the Lord which had been spoken to them first. The little phrase 'to the nations' is another reminder that the word is for all.

## SECOND READING

*(Romans 10:9-18)*

St Paul through his letter to the Romans tells us today that we are to believe, to confess Jesus as Lord of all life. We are saved but we must preach this Gospel and we must be part of those who send others forth to preach this Good News.

## GOSPEL

*(Mark 16:15-20)*

In today's Gospel we have two directions to travel. It points horizontally, to the four horizons of the world where we must share the Good News and which we must transform with the values of the Gospel. It also points vertically, to heaven where Jesus sits at the right hand of God.

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

*(Gen 12:1-2)*

**Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.**

**I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, 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

Lord, through the work of Saint Patrick in Ireland  
we have come to acknowledge the mystery of the one  
true God  
and give thanks for our salvation in Christ;  
grant by his prayers  
that we who celebrate this festival  
may keep alive the fire of faith he kindled.  
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

(Jer 1:4-9)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.  
The word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,

‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;  
before you came to birth I consecrated you;  
I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.’

I said, ‘Ah, Lord God; look, I do not know how to speak: I  
am a child!’

But the Lord replied,

‘Do not say, “I am a child.”  
Go now to those to whom I send you  
and say whatever I command you.  
Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to protect you –

it is the Lord who speaks!’

Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth and  
said to me:

‘There! I am putting my words into your mouth.’

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

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 116)

**R** Go out to the whole world:  
proclaim the Good News.

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples. **R**
2. Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful for ever. **R**

### SECOND READING

(Rm 10:9-18)

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

If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe  
in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you  
will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made  
righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When  
scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause  
for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek:  
all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however  
many ask his help, for everyone who calls on the name of  
the Lord will be saved.

But they will not ask his help unless they believe in him, and  
they will not believe in him unless they have heard of him,  
and they will not hear of him unless they get a preacher, and  
they will never have a preacher unless one is sent, but as  
scripture says: The footsteps of those who bring good news  
are a welcome sound. Not everyone, of course, listens to the  
Good News. As Isaiah says: Lord, how many believed what  
we proclaimed? So faith comes from what is preached, and  
what is preached comes from the word of Christ.

Let me put the question: is it possible that they did not hear?  
Indeed they did; in the words of the psalm, their voice has  
gone out through all the earth, and their message to the  
ends of the world.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Mt 28:19-20)

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!  
Go, make disciples of all nations, says the Lord;  
I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.  
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!**

### GOSPEL

(Mk 16:15-20)

**The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.**  
 A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and he said to them,  
‘Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all  
creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he  
who does not believe will be condemned. These are the  
signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they  
will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they  
will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should  
they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the  
sick, who will recover.’

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was  
taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took  
his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the  
Lord working with them and confirming the word by the  
signs that accompanied it.

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

Lord, accept this pure sacrifice  
which, through the labours of Saint Patrick,  
your grateful people make  
to the glory of your name.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer III

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,  
and to proclaim your greatness with due praise  
as we honour Saint Patrick.

For you drew him through daily prayer

in captivity and hardship  
to know you as a loving Father.

You chose him out of all the world  
to return to the land of his captors,  
that they might acknowledge Jesus Christ,  
their Redeemer.

In the power of your Spirit you directed his paths  
to win the sons and daughters of the Irish  
to the service of the Triune God.

And so, with the Angels and Archangels,  
and with the great multitude of the 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.**

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, recognizing 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 unfailing help.

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation, we pray, O Lord, advance the peace and salvation of all the world. 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.**

**Ár nAthair atá ar neamh,  
go naofar d'ainm,  
go dtaga do ríocht,  
go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh,  
mar a dhéantar ar neamh.  
Ar n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu,  
agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha,  
mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin,  
agus ná lig sinn i gcathú,  
ach saor sinn ó olc.**

Deliver us, Lord, ...

**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,  
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. Mt 8:11)*

**Many will come from east and west  
and sit down with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob  
at the feast in the kingdom of heaven, says the Lord.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Strengthen us, O Lord, by this sacrament so that we may profess the faith taught by Saint Patrick and to proclaim it in our way of living.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

May God the Father, who called us together to celebrate the solemnity of Saint Patrick, bless you, protect you, and keep you faithful.

**Amen.**

May Christ the Lord, the High King of Heaven, be near you at all times and shield you from evil.

**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, who is the source of all holiness, make you rich in the love of God's people.

**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.**