

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

PENITENTIAL ACT

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
You came to call sinners:
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
You are seated at the right hand of the
Father to intercede for us:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us... Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord spoke to Moses, "Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried, "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation."

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. "Lord," he said, "why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever." So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 50

R. I will leave this place and go to my Father.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence.

O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. [R]

2. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. [R]

3. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.

My sacrifice is a contrite spirit; a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn. [R]



SECOND READING 1 Timothy 1:12-17

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown me, because until I became a believer I had been acting

in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, in-visible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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 Luke 15: 1-32 *Shorter from in italics (15: 1-10)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

* The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say, "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance.

'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.'

He also said, "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

"When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly.



focus on sunday

When God wants to tell us what he's like, he tells the story of the Prodigal Son. It is a story of patience, forgiveness, love and acceptance.

Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son."

But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant, "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening."

The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

AFTER THE CONSECRATION

The mystery of faith.

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



We find many problems in the gospel today - a sheep got lost, a coin was mislaid, and a son left home. Yet the main theme is to Rejoice. Jesus rejoices at the repentance of a sinner more than remembering the sin. Not just because he has said sorry, but because his turning to God. This makes God happy. He seems to want to give the best of himself - his mercy.

MERCY IS OUR DESTINY

Receiving and opening to mercy is our destiny. We are at our best in receiving the mercy of God and the forgiveness of another. We belong to the community of mercy. The sheep belonged in the sheepfold and now is back, a happy sheep on the shoulders of Jesus. The coin represents the lady's dowry, so she was very pleased to have it back in her possession. Shepherd and lady were rejoicing, not giving out to the sheep nor giving out about the coin. With the mercy of God we are back where we belong - in the love of God. We rejoice in this and God rejoices in our happiness with him.


If we can be grateful for mercy in our lives, then we will rejoice for mercy shown to others. Mercy heals desires for revenge and lessens anger. Then we are sharing in the joy of Jesus. It is the beating heart of the gospel (Pope Francis).

Remember a time in your life when you felt the mercy of God or the forgiveness and understanding of another. Be grateful!

Lord Jesus, have mercy on me and heal the wounds of my sin.

Donal Neary SJ Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger.

Liturgical texts: copyright © original. *General Metric: Archdiocese of Dublin. Used with permission. *General Metric: Archdiocese of Dublin. Taken from the English translation of the Roman Missal. © 2011 International Committee on English in the Liturgy. All rights reserved. English Translation of the Roman Missal (2011), International Commission on English in the Liturgy. All rights reserved. Used with permission. The Jerusalem service of the Synaxis is copyright © Darton, Langdon & Todd & Dunsford & Co. Ltd. Reproduced with copyright. The Good & Beautiful. Published by Logos Publications, Gwynedd, G. Website: Phone 012876883.



St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield
Twenty Forth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
11th September 2016

Mass Times
 Saturday : 6 pm Vigil
 Sundays : 10:30 am & 12 noon
 Weekdays : Mon. – Fri. 10:00 am
 Mon. 7:30 pm Sat. 11:00 am

Contact: Co-Parish Priest Fr. Paddy Boyle 086 1011 415
 Co-Parish Priest Fr. Gerry Corcoran (Moderator) 01 847 9822
 Team Assistant Fr. Tom Colreavy (Retired) 01 848 4836
 Parish Office 8160984 Sacristy 8160981
 www.stpaulsparishayrfield.com Email : parishofficeayrfield@eircom.net

We remember at Mass and in our prayers those who have gone before us

Sunday 11th 10:30am
Don Treacy & Helen Whelan
 Anniversaries
12:00noon
Bridie, Eddie & Paul O'Rourke
 Anniversaries
Una & Michael Kelleher
 Anniversaries

~~~~~  
*Your prayers are requested for*  
**Margaret Lillicrap, Denis Ryan,**  
**Carmel Parker & Maureen Creaner**  
 recently deceased  
 ~~~~~

Monday 12th 10:00am
Gerry Burke Anniversary
Wednesday 14th 10:00am
Sean Connolly 8th Anniversary
Joseph Ashmore Birthday Rem.
Friday 16th 10:00am
Delia Brennan Rec. deceased
May they rest in peace

St. Vincent De Paul will take up their monthly collection after all masses this weekend.

Wednesday 14th is the Feast of The Exaltation of the Cross.
Thursday 15th is the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.



Bereavement Information Evening

Venue: B.A.S.E.
 Brackenstown Road, Swords, Co. Dublin
Date: Wednesday, September 21st 2016
Time: 7.30pm – 9.30pm
 (Registration from 7:15pm)
 Please note this event is open **to all bereaved parents**, regardless of the age of their child or the circumstances of their death.
See our notice board for more details.




Social Support Agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin
 The Annual Collection for **CROSSCARE Community & Homeless Services** will be taken up at all masses next weekend the 17th & 18th September. This will replace the normal SHARE collection.
 Inspired by the example and teachings of Jesus Christ, Crosscare has:
 A **VISION** of a society where all people have the opportunity to fulfil their potential. A **MISSION** to provide innovation and relevant services to those most in need.

Thought for the day: *'Behold the Handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to your word'*

Last Wednesday the 7th of September, almost 2,000 people set out for Lourdes on the annual Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage. For some it will be the first time they have visited Our Lady's shrine while others will have come many times. On the 7th of September 1921 the Legion of Mary, was founded in Dublin by Frank Duff. Today between active and auxiliary (praying) members there are over 10 million members worldwide making it the largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church. Membership is highest in South Korea, Philippines, Brazil, Argentina and the Democratic Republic of Congo. These countries have between 250,000 and 500,000 members each. There is an active legion of Mary group in almost every parish in Ireland and we are extremely grateful for the work the Legion has and is still doing, under the patronage of Mary, Mother of God, on our behalf in our own parish.

Prayer: **'Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen'**



Legion of Mary - Annual Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine
Sunday, September 25th
Cost: €32 which includes coach, snack (tea/ coffee, scone) on outward journey and light hot meal on homeward journey. Children €20.
Departure Point: Blunden Drive, outside the church. **Time:** 7:30am approx
Book early to avoid disappointment. For further information and/or reserve seat contact: **Meg Offiah 087 – 9521 1048** or **Jimmy Lyons 086 – 3287 343**

Secondary School Open Days of interest for 5th & 6th Class pupils:

Donaghies Community School	(Mixed) - Monday	12th Sep	7pm – 9pm
Manor House School, Raheny	(Girls) - Thursday	15th Sep	6pm – 8pm
Ardcoil La Salle, Raheny	(Mixed) - Thursday	15th Sep	7pm – 8:30pm
Mercy College, Malahide Road	(Girls) - Monday	19th Sep	7pm – 9pm
St. Paul's College, Raheny	(Boys) - Monday	19th Sep	6:30pm – 8:30pm

Notice to Coeliacs: *If you have been advised to abstain from Gluten, please contact the Priest before Mass so that we can try to accommodate your requirements.*