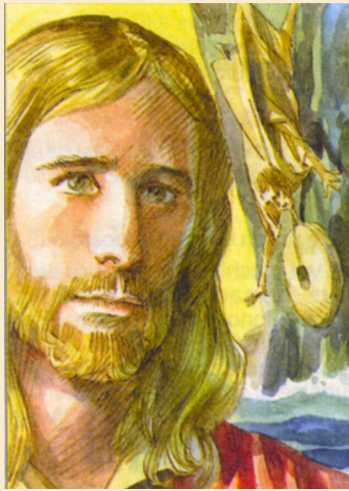


# The Eucharist

26 September 2021 ♦ 26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**T**oday's readings combine to sound a note of warning to zealous and lax alike. 'Professionals' in the service of God, like Joshua and John the apostle, can so easily come to believe they know God's ways: that they know what to expect and – especially what not to expect. On the other hand, those who pay no heed to God and go after the good life and throw their weight around will find weeping and misery just around the corner.



*'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, ... he will most certainly not lose his reward.'*

## FIRST READING

(Numbers 11:25-29)

God does not fall into line with the expectations of even his closest followers but can and does use the most unlikely people to speak his word and accomplish his purposes.

## SECOND READING

(James 5:1-6)

James has a talent for calling a spade a spade. He is not trying to start a class war: he lays into the rich, not because they are well-off but because their comforts are built on cheating and reducing others to misery. They will not get away with it.

## GOSPEL

(Mark 9:38-43.45.47-48)

The dire warning against obstructing people in responding to Jesus must be understood in figurative terms as, indeed, must be the statements about what to do with those aspects of our lives that hinder our own response to him. The colourful language serves to emphasize the great damage estrangement from Jesus causes in people's lives.

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

(Dan 3:31.29.30.43.42)

**All that you have done to us, O Lord,  
you have done with true judgement,  
for we have sinned against you  
and not obeyed your commandments.  
But give glory to your name  
and deal with us according to the bounty of  
your mercy.**

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, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven.

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**

*(Num 11:25-29)*

A reading from the book of Numbers.

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*(Ps 18:8.10.12-14)*

**℟ The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.**

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple. **℟**
2. The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just. **℟**
3. So in them your servant finds instruction;  
great reward is in their keeping.  
But who can detect all his errors?  
From hidden faults acquit me. **℟**
4. From presumption restrain your servant  
and let it not rule me.  
Then shall I be blameless,  
clean from grave sin. **℟**

**SECOND READING**

*(Jas 5:1-6)*

A reading from the letter of St James.

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own

sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(Cf. Jn 17:17)*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Your word is truth, O Lord,  
consecrate us in the truth.  
Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL**

*(Mk 9:38-43.45.47-48)*



The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

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

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

Grant us, O merciful God,  
that this our offering may find acceptance with you  
and that through it the wellspring of all blessing  
may be laid open before us.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer III

*(Preface V of 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 you laid the foundations of the world  
and have arranged the changing of times and seasons;  
you formed man in your own image  
and set humanity over the whole world in all its wonder,  
to rule in your name over all you have made  
and for ever praise you in your mighty works,  
through Christ our Lord.

And so, with all the Angels, we praise you,  
as in joyful celebration 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  $\text{✠}$  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.

**We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
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 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 ...

**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.

**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. Ps 118:49-50)*  
**Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,  
by which you have given me hope.  
This is my comfort when I am brought low.**

## Prayer after Communion

May this heavenly mystery, O Lord,  
restore us in mind and body,  
that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ,  
to whose suffering we are united  
whenever we proclaim his Death.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**  
May the God of all consolation order your days in his  
peace

and grant you the gifts of his blessing. **Amen.**

May he free you always from every distress  
and confirm your hearts in his love. **Amen.**

So that on this life's journey  
you may be effective in good works,  
rich in the gifts of hope, faith and charity,  
and may come happily to eternal life. **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 forth, the Mass is ended. **Thanks be to God.**

## Personal Prayer

Lord Jesus, you come with great power and strength. All humankind seeks your face, seeks to be reborn in you. You bring us wisdom, fresh understanding, new vision. Your good news can transform our lives. Your truth shows us the way to the Father. Born of a woman, even in our flesh you show us how to find eternal life and joy. For all these things we thank you and praise you.

May our lives be filled with your light. May we bring your light to others, especially those living in the darkness of depression, doubt, anxiety or despair. Fill our hearts with your joy so that wherever we go we may bring good news. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.