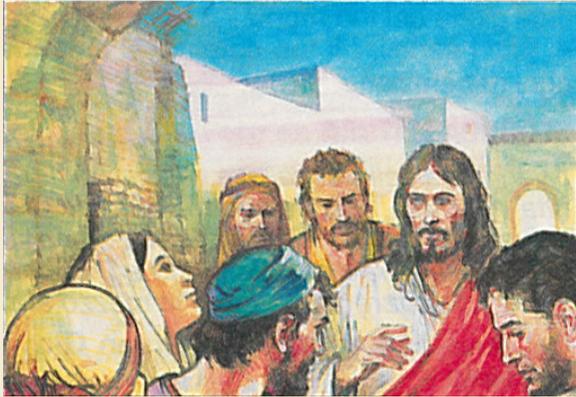


# The Eucharist

18 September 2022 ♦ 25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C



One of the themes of today's readings is the link between religious faith and the question 'How ought I to live?' The aspect of right living that is touched upon is social justice. Acting unjustly towards a person or a group of people, or not challenging unjust systems that oppress people is not compatible with belief in God.



*'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn.'*

## FIRST READING (Amos 8:4-7)

The Greek word for prophet 'prophetes' conveys the idea of a person who speaks on behalf of someone else. The biblical prophets spoke, and speak, on behalf of God. Biblical prophecy was different from the technical action of divinisation, though both aimed to discover or discern God's will. Sometimes, as in the case of Amos, prophets prophesied reluctantly, and against their own will or better judgement.

## SECOND READING (1 Timothy 2:1-8)

Thirteen of the twenty-seven books of the New Testament are connected with Paul. Three of these, 1 and 2 Timothy and the letter to Titus are called 'Pastoral Epistles'. They are considered by many scholars to have been written by a close disciple of Paul. They are 'pastoral' because the writer takes on the role of shepherd in dealing with certain issues. The topics covered indicate that Christian communities were already well established.

## GOSPEL (Luke 16:1-13)

As we make our way through Luke's Gospel, last week we heard the three parables that make up Chapter 15. Today we hear another parable, found at the start of Chapter 16. We are stopped in our tracks by the vividness of the story and, as we have learned to expect from the parables which Jesus employs, we are also left in some doubt and with a lot of questions. Is the servant a role model whose actions are to be copied? Are his moral failures excusable?

– Dr Gearard Ó Floinn

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

**I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.  
Should they cry to me in any distress,  
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.**

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.

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

**Amen.**

**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 founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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

(Am 8:4-7)

A reading from the prophet Amos.

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country, you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat? Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweeping of the wheat.' The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 112:1-2.4-8)

**R** Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

1. Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord! May the name of the Lord be blessed both now and for evermore! **R**
2. High above all nations is the Lord, above the heavens his glory. Who is like the Lord, our God, who has risen on high to his throne yet stoops from the heights to look down, to look down upon heaven and earth? **R**
3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly, from the dunghheap he raises the poor to set him in the company of princes, yes, with the princes of his people. **R**

### SECOND READING

(1 Tm 2:1-8)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy.

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Cf. Acts 16:14)

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son,  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

(Lk 16:1-13)

(For Shorter Form, read between ♦ ♦)



The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

♦ Jesus said to his disciples, ♦ 'There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, "What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer." Then the steward said to himself, "Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes."

'Then he called his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, "How much do you owe my master?" "One hundred measures of oil" was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty." To another he said, "And you, sir, how much do you owe?" "One hundred measures of wheat," was the reply. The steward said, "Here, take your bond and write eighty."

'The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

'And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. ♦ The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own?

'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money. ♦

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**

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray,  
the offerings of your people,  
that what they profess with devotion and faith  
may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Eucharistic Prayer II**

The Lord be with you.  
Lift up your hearts.

*(Preface Proper)*

**And with your spirit.  
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,

Father most holy,  
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,  
your Word through whom you made all things,  
whom you sent as our Saviour and Redeemer,  
incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin.  
Fulfilling your will and gaining for you a holy people,  
he stretched out his hands as he endured his Passion,  
so as to break the bonds of death and manifest  
the resurrection.

And so, with the Angels and all the Saints  
we declare your glory,  
as with one voice 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,  
the fount of all holiness.

Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,  
by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,  
so that they may become for us  
the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed  
and entered willingly into his Passion,  
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it,  
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, once more giving thanks,  
he gave it 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.

**Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**

Therefore, as we celebrate  
the memorial of his Death and Resurrection,  
we offer you, Lord,  
the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation,  
giving thanks that you have held us worthy  
to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray  
that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ,  
we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.  
Remember, Lord, your Church,  
spread throughout the world,

and bring her to the fullness of charity,  
together with **N.** our Pope and **N.** our Bishop  
and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters  
who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection,  
and all who have died in your mercy:  
welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray,  
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,  
with blessed Joseph, her Spouse,  
with the blessed Apostles,  
and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout  
the ages,

we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life,  
and may praise and glorify you  
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

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.

**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 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 118:4-5)

**You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;  
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Graciously raise up, O Lord,  
those you renew with this Sacrament,  
that we may come to possess your redemption  
both in mystery and in the manner of our life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

May the Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.**

May he let his face shine upon you  
and show you his mercy. **Amen.**

May he turn his countenance towards you  
and give you his 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 forth, the Mass is ended. **Thanks be to God.**

### Personal Prayer

Lord Jesus, your teaching makes it clear that wealth  
and possessions are not to be used for selfish motives,  
but are to be shared with the poor, the weak and the  
deprived. Your word condemns the philosophy of profit  
before people which so often prevails in the business  
world. It forbids dishonest dealing, shoddy work, and  
exploitation of the vulnerable.

We pray for those who are in positions of power and  
influence that they may strive to promote justice in all  
walks of life, and that they may have special concern for  
the rights and needs of the poor and the vulnerable.  
We pray for Church leaders that they may proclaim the  
demands of social justice according to the spirit of the  
Gospel.

May all of us realise that we serve God best not by  
acquiring possessions or power, but by respecting our  
neighbours and caring for them in their moments of  
need. Amen.