

The Eucharist

1 November 2023 ✦ ALL SAINTS / A



Today's feast directs our attention to the next world, to the joy of all those who have passed through temptation, persecution, weakness and suffering in growing into the eternal 'Yes' of Christ to the Father. Already Christ's joy is complete in them. Their present glory gives us direction in our lives and strengthens our hope of sharing in their victory over suffering and death.



Let us all rejoice in the Lord and keep a festival in honour of all the Saints.

FIRST READING *(Apocalypse 7:2-4.9-14)*

This passage is a very vivid figurative expression of the victory of the risen Christ over sin and evil and his sharing of his glory with all those who have stood firmly in the faith despite difficulties and persecution.

SECOND READING *(1 John 3:1-3)*

This reading tells of our present reality and the future glory held out to us. Because of Christ we are already God's children and can hope to become more like Him, i.e., join those whose feast we celebrate today.

GOSPEL *(Matthew 5:1-12)*

This passage reminds us of Moses receiving the Law on Mount Sinai. Jesus, however, does not give a new version of the Law but rather a new key for the interpretation of the Law of Moses. We have set out here signposts to the joy which Jesus came to give: their fruits are to be seen in the great crowd of saints who have that joy complete in them.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Antiphon

**Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all
the Saints,
at whose festival the Angels rejoice
and praise the Son of God.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

Brethren (brothers and sisters), ...

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, ...

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

Almighty ever-living God,
by whose gift we venerate in one celebration
the merits of all the Saints,
bestow on us, we pray,
through the prayers of so many intercessors,
an abundance of the reconciliation with you
for which we earnestly long.

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

(Apoc 7:2-4.9-14)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words: 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 23:1-6)

℟ Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **℟**
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **℟**
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **℟**

SECOND READING

(1 Jn 3:1-3)

A reading from the first letter of St John.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been
revealed;

all we know is, that when it is revealed

we shall be like him

because we shall see him as he really is.

Surely everyone who entertains this hope
must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Mt 11:28)

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Come to me, all you who labour and
are overburdened,
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

(Mt 5:1-12)



The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat
down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to
speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute
you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my
account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great
in heaven.'

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 these offerings we bring in honour of all the Saints be pleasing to you, O Lord, and grant that, just as we believe the Saints to be already assured of immortality, so we may experience their concern for our salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer III

(Preface III of Saints: The Glory of Jerusalem, Our Mother)

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 today by your gift we celebrate the festival of your city, the heavenly Jerusalem, our mother, where the great array of our brothers and sisters already gives you eternal praise.

Towards her, we eagerly hasten, as pilgrims advancing by faith,

rejoicing in the glory bestowed upon those exalted members of the Church

through whom you give us, in our frailty, both strength and good example.

And so, we glorify you with the multitude of Saints and Angels,

as with one voice of praise 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.

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
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 (Mt 5:8-10)

**Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake
of righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.**

Prayer after Communion

As we adore you, O God, who alone are holy
and wonderful in all your Saints,
we implore your grace,
so that, coming to perfect holiness in the fullness
of your love,

we may pass from this pilgrim table
to the banquet of our heavenly homeland.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Go in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Personal Prayer

Lord Jesus, as we celebrate Mass today we celebrate what we are: your body. You share with us not only your love and knowledge but also your risen life.

We already share in its beginnings, that glorious life of the saints we celebrate today. Help us to cherish and nurture this new life and make it grow in us until every tear will be wiped from every eye and everything in us will please God. Amen.