

Sunday Mass Ordinary Time Cycle A

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance: Gather Your People

Refrain: Gather your people, O God.
Gather your people, O God.
One bread, one body, one spirit of love.
Gather your people, O God.

1. Draw us forth to the table of life: brothers and sisters,
Each of us called to walk in your light.
2. We are parts of the body of Christ, needing each other,
Each of the gifts the Spirit provides.

Greeting

Presider: Let us begin as we begin all good things; In the name of God the + Creator, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Introduction

Presider: My friends, in today's Gospel we hear the parable of the sower and the seed. Jesus explains this parable to his disciples, describing different kinds of soil; different ways we might receive — and sometimes reject — the Word of God. One way that is not described is familiarity: The temptation to say, "Oh yeah, I've heard that before," and then not really listen to the message. Open your ears and your mind and your heart to God's message and listen to it as if it was the first time to hear it. Let's pray for the grace to be a child of God and take in the Word of God with joy.

Opening Prayer

Deacon: May the grace of Jesus the Risen Christ, the love of God and the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you.

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All: And also with you.

Presider: Creator God, you give us the invitation to everlasting life, if only we listen and allow your spirit within us to grow and flourish.

All: Amen.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Call to Confession

Presider: Confident that we are promised growth through repentance and forgiveness, let us turn to God and to one another, confessing our sin..

C.) All: Merciful and gracious God, we walk in a way that is not good. We follow our own devices. We ignore your image in ourselves and in our neighbors. At times we fail to pick up our own cross and follow you. Hear our cry for blessing. Lead us out of the darkness we inhabit. Guide us in your light so we may walk in your way.

The Kyrie

Deacon: Christ Jesus, you call us to you to hear the word of Abba God: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Deacon: Christ Jesus, you call us to spread the word by our actions and our voice: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Deacon: Christ Jesus, you tell us to scatter the seed and encourage us to be good soil: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Presider: May our Merciful God absolve you and me, a sinner, and with the authority vested in me through Jesus the Christ, I absolve you from

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all your sins; in the name of God the Creator +, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

Gloria

Presider: Let us join in prayer as we proclaim God's glory and say:

All: Glory to God in whom we live and move and have our being; and peace to God's people on earth. O God, heavenly King, wonderful Creator, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Jesus the Christ, only Son of God; O God, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of God; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Most High, Jesus the Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Deacon: God of life, by the power of your Spirit come to us now. Plow our hearts with your living Word until we who are broken become fertile with your love, for we long to bear fruit in a world that is wasting.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading:

Isaiah 55:10-11

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

For just as from the heavens
the rain and snow come down
and do not return there
till they have watered the earth,
making it fertile and fruitful,
giving seed to the sower

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and bread for food,
so will my word be
that goes forth from my mouth:
it will not return to me empty,
but will carry out my will,
achieving the end for which I sent it.

The Word of God.

R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14

R. (Lk 8:8) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You have visited the land and watered it;
greatly have you enriched it.
God's watercourses are filled; you have prepared the grain.

R The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows,
breaking up its clods,
Softening it with showers, blessing its yield.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You have crowned the year with your bounty,
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;
The untilled meadows overflow with it,
and rejoicing clothes the hills.

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R The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

The fields are garmented with flocks
and the valleys blanketed with grain.
They shout and sing for joy.

R The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Second Reading:

Romans 8: 18-23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I consider the sufferings of the present to be as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed in us. Indeed, all of creation eagerly awaits the revelation of the children of God. Creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but by the one who once subjected it; yet not without hope, because the world itself will be freed from its slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that from the beginning until now, the entire creation has been groaning in one great act of giving birth. And not only creation, but all of us who possess the first fruits of the Spirit - we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The Word of God.

R./ Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA!

The Seed is the word of God;

Christ is the sower.

ALLELUIA!

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 13:1-23

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Deacon: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Deacon: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you o God.

Deacon prays silently: May your words be in my mind, on my lips and in my heart, and may I worthily proclaim them.

On leaving the house, Jesus sat down by the lake shore. Such great crowds gathered that Jesus went and took a seat in a boat while the crowd stood along the shore. He addressed them at length in parables:

"One day a farmer went out sowing seed. Some of the seed landed on a footpath, where birds came and ate it up. Some of the seed fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. This seed sprouted at once since the soil had no depth, but when the sun rose and scorched it, it withered away for lack of roots. Again, some of the seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. And some of it landed on good soil, and yielded a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty - or thirtyfold. If you have ears to hear, then listen!"

When the disciples came to Jesus, they asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"

Jesus answered, "The secrets of the kingdom of Heaven are for you to know, but not for them. To those who have, more will be given until they have an abundance; those who have not will lose what little they have. I use parables when I speak to the people because they look but do not see, they listen but do not hear or understand. Isaiah's prophecy is being fulfilled in them, which says,

‘You will be ever hearing but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.
For this people's heart has become calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes.
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,

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and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts and turn back to me, and I would heal them.'

"But happy are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. I assure you, many prophets and holy people longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it."

"Now listen to the parable of the sower. When people hear the message about the kingdom of God without understanding it, the evil one comes along and snatches away what was sown in their hearts. This is the seed sown along the path.

Those who received the seed that fell on rocky ground are the ones who hear the word and at first welcome it with joy. But they have no roots, so they last only for a while.

When some setback or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. Those who receive the word that fell among the thorns are the ones who hear the word, but then worldly anxieties and the lure of wealth choke it off, and the word produces no fruit. But those who receive the seed that fell on rich soil are those who hear the word and understand it. They produce a crop that yields a hundred, or sixty, or thirty times what was sown."

The Good News of Salvation!

R. Glory and praise to our Savior Jesus Christ!

Homily

Deacon/ Speaker/Presider:

The Profession of Faith

All: We believe in God who made us all, and whose Divine Presence and infinite love infuses all of life and creation with the sacred.

We believe that Jesus is the face of God on earth in whom we best see the divine justice, divine mercy, and divine compassion to

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which we are all called. He celebrated with outcasts and sinners and touched the broken so that they could leap and dance.

We believe that Jesus suffered so that we might realize that the spirit in us can never be killed, whatever price we have to pay for staying true to the mind of God. That Jesus died and was raised on the third day. He changed all of life for all of us thereafter. He ascended into the life of God, the life beyond life, and waits there for us. He lived in those he left behind and lives in each of us as well.

We believe in the Christ who is One with the Creator and who shows us the presence of God in everything that is and calls out the sacred in ourselves. The Christ who calls us beyond the boundaries of ourselves to forgiveness, and to everything that stretches our hearts to the infinite dimensions of God.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who gives light to hearts now blind and infuses energy into spirits yet weary, isolated, searching and confused. That this Spirit is ever present and urges us to live joyfully and walk hopefully.

We believe in the Church as a community of the sons and daughters of God, the mystical body of Christ.

We believe that we will live forever in the embrace of God and trust that creation goes on creating in this world and in us forever. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

Deacon: My friends, let us pray that these seeds we scatter will find good soil to take root. Help us to be fertile ground to welcome the Holy Spirit to carry our prayers to make a difference.

Leader: Our response is... O God, hear our prayer..

All: O God, hear our prayer.

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Leader: For the whole church that by its example the Church will sow the Word of God among all peoples... we pray,

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who are in poor soil in living out God's call; may they receive help to root and grow as God's children ... we pray,

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For organizations, groups and individuals who sow the Gospel by serving needs in the community, ... we pray,

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For your earth, that suffers at the hands of your own people. Pour out your healing mercy on this planet you have made, and help us to hear the earth to change our ways, we pray...

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all who are traveling this summer: that God will watch over them and renew them through their journeys. ...we pray,

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all who are struggling to adapt to climate change; especially the heat. ...we pray,

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For our neighbors, close to home and around the world, including any you wish to mention at this time. (Pause)
We pray.

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the ministers of our Jurisdiction and our community: that they may truly be light for others and led by your truth. We pray.

All: O God, hear our prayer.

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Leader: For the growth of St Marguerite Faith Community, that we will be prayerful in witnessing to others Jesus' Gospel message of love and inclusion. We pray.

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all who suffer because of illness, injury, or age and for those who care for them including any you wish to mention at this time.

(Pause)

and for all those recently deceased to rest in the everlasting domain of Christ including any you wish to mention at this time. (Pause)

We pray:

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: And for all the prayers that we hold in the quiet of our hearts.

(Pause) We pray:

All: O God, hear our prayer.

Presider: Creator God, Your word transforms all who have ears to hear. Hear these prayers and may your word in us yield a fruitful harvest. We ask this through Jesus the Christ.

All: Amen.

The Sign of Peace

Deacon: If you are offering your gift, and remember your sister or brother has something against you, leave your gift there and go; first to be reconciled to your sister or brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Presider: The peace of God be with you always.

All: And also with you.

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Presider: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another with a sign of His peace.

Offertory: Tree of Life

Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry, In your death we are reborn.
Though you die in all of hist'ry, Still you rise with ev'ry morn.
Still you rise with ev'ry morn.

Light of life beyond conceiving, Mighty Spirit of our God;
Give new strength to our believing, give us faith to live your Word.
Give us faith to live your Word.

Give us eyes to see you clearly, Make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly As your gospel shining bright.
As your gospel shining bright.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparations

Presider: Blessed are you, God of the universe, through Your goodness we have this bread to offer; which earth has given and human hands have made, let it become the bread of life.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Presider or Deacon: By the mystery of this wine and water, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled Himself to share in our humanity.

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Presider: Blessed are you, God of the universe, you are the giver of this wine, fruit of the vine and of human labor. May it become the cup of Love.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Presider: As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside and now reunited on this table in bread and wine, O God, may your whole church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

Presider: Merciful God, we ask You to receive us and be pleased with the gifts we offer You with humble and contrite hearts.

Washing of the Hands

Presiders: Creator God, cleanse my heart, and open it to whatever You wish for me.

Presider: Pray, my brothers and sisters, that these gifts may be acceptable to God.

All: May God accept these gifts, for the praise and glory of Your name, for our good and the good of all Your Church.

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: O God, be pleased with the gifts we bring to you. Bless + this bread and this wine and make them the sacrament of our salvation. We ask this through Jesus, the Christ.

All: Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer (Offertory)

Deacon: God dwells in you.

All: And also with you.

Deacon: Lift up your hearts.

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All: We lift them up to God.

Deacon: Come to the table with thankful hearts.

All: We open our hearts to God and one another.

Preface

Presider: In the blessed abundance of creation, we gather to celebrate the nourishing gift of life. We gather in the power of the Spirit whose breath inspires the primal waters, calling into being the variety and abundance we see around us. That same Spirit sustains and animates our every endeavor, inviting us to act in wisdom and in truth. In gratitude and joy we embrace our calling and we lift our voices to proclaim as one the ancient song of praise:

All: Holy, holy, holy God! God of wonder and awe; heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of Our God. Hosanna in the highest!

Eucharistic Prayer: (Canon)

Presider: As a worshiping people, we gather in the power of the Spirit, refreshing wind, refreshing rain and living breath for the variety and diversity of life. As a Christian people we seek to live as Jesus taught us, wise and holy as Spirit-filled people, courageous and prophetic, ever obedient to the Spirit's call.

Institutions

Presider: That same Spirit we now invoke, to liberate in these gifts of bread and wine, the nourishing power of holy wisdom, that they may become for us the Body and Blood of Jesus our Saviour.

Presider: While they were at supper, he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

***Take this all of you, and eat it:
This is my body. Do this in memory of me.***

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Presider: After supper in the same way, he took the cup, filled with wine. He gave thanks, blessed it and handed it to those at table and said:

*Take this, all of you, and drink:
This is the cup of my blood,
the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.
It is poured out for you and for all.
Do this in memory of me.*

Acclimation

All: Remembering your gracious acts, we offer our lives to you in service and praise as we keep the feast that Christ prepares: bread of heaven, cup of love, celebration and life.

Deacon: Great is the mystery of faith:

All Sing: *Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.*

Epiclesis

Presider: Gracious God, now pour out your Holy Spirit:

+ in this bread, in this cup;
one in the body, one in the blood, one with Christ, one in ministry, in this place, in this world, in the world to come.

Commemorations

Presider: Remember o God, your one holy catholic and apostolic church, rejuvenated by the Spirit and your Son. Reveal its unity, guard its faith and preserve it in peace.

Remember our bishops and all who minister in your church. Grant that the various ministries we share may be a sign of the unity in diversity that is your kingdom.

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Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith are known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

Conclusion

In addition, grant that we may find our inheritance, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with prophets, apostles and martyrs, St Marguerite and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son, Jesus, the Christ.

Great Amen

All: Through Christ, may all creation unfold.

With Christ, may all creation be one.

In Christ, may all life be healed.

We eat this bread, we drink this cup.

We share as one body of Christ.

We give our thanks!

Amen, amen, amen!

Our Father

Deacon: Now let us praise, thank and petition our God, as Jesus the Christ taught us:

All: 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.

Following Prayer

Presider: May we be blessed with wisdom and courage; with vision and resolve; and forever be committed to God's justice for all, love for

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everyone and peace to the world. Let us be faithful to God's grace all the days of our lives with grateful hearts.

Doxology

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Presider: This cup which we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ?

All: Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

Lamb of God

**All: Lamb of God, You call us to the Gospel of Peace,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You call us to the Gospel of Love,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You call us to the Gospel of Hope,
grant us peace.**

Presider: May the union of divinity and humanity + in Jesus Christ bring us sanctification and eternal life.

All: Amen.

Communion Prayer

All: Jesus the Christ, Son of the living God, by the will of God and the work of the Holy Spirit, Your death brought life to the world. By Your Holy Body and Blood, free us from every evil. Keep us faithful to Your teaching and never let us be parted from You.

Presider: We will take the Bread of heaven and call upon the name of the Christ.

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All: Jesus, you have made us worthy to receive you, by saying the word and healing us.

Presider: The gifts of God are given by Jesus who said: I am the bread of life; feed on Him in faith with thanksgiving.

All: Amen.

Holy Communion - Communion Song

Communion: I Am the Bread of Life

1. I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger;
And who believes in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me, unless the Father draws him.

Refrain: And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up.
And I will raise you up on the last day.

2. The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world,
And if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever,
You shall live forever.

CONCLUDING RITE

Prayer after Communion

Presider: God works through you.

All: And also through you.

Presider: Let us pray :

B: Holy God, we give you thanks and praise for light and life and love,
and – above all – the presence of the living God among us. By your
Spirit who breathes within us, you have given us your Word and

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Sacrament, may they strengthen our faith, that we may use these gifts, to work in our lives to bear witness to the resurrection of the Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Announcements

Final Blessings

Deacon: Bow your heads and ask for God's blessing.

Blessing

Presider: May the blessing of God, the + Creator, the + Son and the + Holy Spirit be with you today and forevermore.

All: Amen.

Charge

Deacon: This mass is ended. Go forth to sow the gospel wherever you go, not judging the soil on which you stand, for God brings forth fruit from unexpected places.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing: Sent Forth By God's Blessing

1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended, O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.

Refrain: The seed of Christ's teaching receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did incite us, His love shall unite us
To further God's kingdom and answer His call.

2. With praise and thanksgiving to God who is living,
The tasks of our everyday life we embrace.

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Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
We claim as our neighbor all those of each race.

**Refrain: One bread that has fed us, one light that has led us
 Unite us as one in His life that we share.
 Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
 Give honor to the Christ and His name that we bear.**