

Prayer over the Gifts:

Father, receive these gifts which our Lord Jesus Christ has asked us to offer in his memory. May our obedient service bring us to the fullness of your redemption. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Preface:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

So great was your love

that you gave us your Son as our redeemer.

You sent him as one like ourselves, though free from sin,
that you might see and love in us what you see and love in Christ.

Your gifts of grace, lost by disobedience,
are now restored by the obedience of your Son.

We praise you, Lord, with all the angels and saints in their songs of joy:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. 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.

Communion Antiphon: **The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to those who are searching for his love.**

Communion Reflection:

Lord, you planted me on this earth. You fenced me around with the love of family and friends. Their care towered over me. In the shelter of this tower I grew in safety and peace. I put out early blossoms; I filled up with leaves. People had great hopes for me. You had great hopes for me. But now the year of my life is passing. The harvest is approaching. What fruit have I to show? What if, after all this care, I had nothing to offer but sour grapes? May you, Lord, have mercy on me, and with your patient urging, help me to produce the fruits of love.

Prayer after Communion:

Lord, may the Eucharist you have given us influence our thoughts and actions. May your Spirit guide and direct us in your way. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final Blessing:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

May almighty God bless you:

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Mass is ended: Go in peace to serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year A

Lord, the whole world is in your power; no one can resist your will; you have made heaven and earth, and everything under heaven; you are the Lord of all.

The Old Testament tells us that God cared for his people as a good gardener cares for his vineyard. Yet they failed to produce the desired fruits. We are the new people of God, the vineyard planted and cared for by Christ. God

looks to us to produce the fruits of justice, holiness, and peace. This is a great privilege and a great challenge too. Sadly, we often fail God.

So let us confess our sins, especially those of omission.

I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault, in my thoughts and in my words and in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angles and saints, and you my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. 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.

Let us pray:

Father, your love for us surpasses all our hopes and desires. Forgive our failings, keep us in your peace and lead us in the way of salvation. We ask this through Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away

its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Response: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.
Then why have you broken down its walls?

Response

It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field.

Response

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.

Response

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon our name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Response

SECOND READING: A reading from St Paul's letter to the Philippians.
There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you everything
I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord.**
Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "Listen to

another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other: 'This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.' So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They answered: "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives." Jesus said to them: "Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?"

I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us make our profession of Faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father; God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again 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. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offertory:

Pray, brethren, that our sacrifice 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 Church.