

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year A



I call upon you, God, for you will answer me; bend your ear and hear my prayer. Guard me as the pupil of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings.

We give God something that we do not give to anyone else. That thing is worship. And this is why we are gathered here - to worship God, Creator of the universe and Lord of all. Sadly, in practice we don't always put God first in our lives. Even though God is all-powerful, he exercises his power by showing mercy to sinners.

Lord, you are kind and full of compassion; slow to anger, abounding in love. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your deeds. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you support the weak, and raise the fallen. Lord have mercy.

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:

Almighty and ever-living God, our source of power and inspiration, give us strength and joy in serving you as followers of Christ, 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. Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: 'It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun, that, apart from me, all is nothing'.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

Out of love for sinful men, he humbled himself to be born of the Virgin.

By suffering on the cross he freed us from unending death,
and by rising from the dead he gave us eternal life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven we proclaim your glory
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

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:

See how the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those who hope in his love; that he may rescue them from death and feed them in time of famine.

Communion Reflection:

Life and religion.

Who can separate his faith from his actions,
or his belief from his occupations?

Who can spread his hours before him, saying:

'This for God and this for myself;

this for my soul and this other for my body?'

He who wears his morality but as his best garment
were better naked.

Your daily life is your temple and your religion.

Whenever you enter into it take with you your all.

Take the plough and the forge and the mallet and the lute,
the things you have fashioned in necessity or for delight.

And take with you all men.

And if you would know God ... look about you

and you will see him playing with your children.

Kahlil Gibran.

Prayer after Communion:

Lord, may this Eucharist help us to remain faithful. May it teach us the way to eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final Blessing:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

Amen.

May His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

Amen.

May He look upon you with kindness and give you his peace.

Amen.

May Almighty God bless you:

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Mass is ended: Go in peace.

Thanks be to

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

All: Give the Lord glory and power.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples.

All: Give the Lord glory and power.

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all Gods;
the Gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens.

All: Give the Lord glory and power.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power;
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his court.

All: Give the Lord glory and power.

Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples with fairness.

All: Give the Lord glory and power.

SECOND READING: A reading from St Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.
From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in
God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace
from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and
constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith
in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus
Christ. We know brothers, that God loves you and that you have been
chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you
not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter
conviction.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord.**
The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in
what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the
Herodians, to say: 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach

the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone,
because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then, is it
permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their
malice and replied: 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me
see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius and he
said: 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's', they replied. Then he
said to them: 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to
God what belongs to God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us now 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.**

Prayer over the Gifts:

Lord God, may the gifts we offer bring us your love and forgiveness and give
us freedom to serve you with our lives. 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.