

THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Friday 13 September 2024

Entrance hymn: This is the Day! (*Leslie Garrett*)

This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made.

This is the day, this is the day
when he rose again, when he rose again.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it and be glad in it.
This is the day when he rose again.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day when he rose again.

This is the day, this is the day
when the Spirit came, when the Spirit came.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it and be glad in it.
This is the day when the Spirit came.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day when the Spirit came.



Sign of the Cross and Greeting

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

All: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Penitential Rite

P: You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

P: You came to call sinners:
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

P: You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

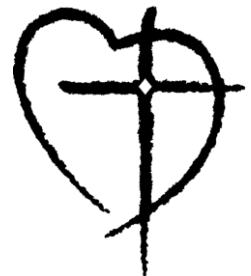
P: May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

P: Let us pray:
O God, who willed that your Only Begotten Son
should undergo the Cross to save the human race,
grant, we pray, that we, who have known his mystery on earth,
may merit the grace of his redemption in heaven.
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.

All: Amen.



Liturgy of the Word

First reading: A reading from the book of Numbers

(21:4-9)

One day, the people of Israel got angry and starting insulting Moses and God. They said, 'Did you bring us out of Egypt just to let us die in the desert? There's no bread or water in this place. We are sick of this awful food!'

So the Lord sent poisonous snakes to attack the people, and many of them were bitten and died. The others came to Moses and said, 'We were wrong to insult you and the Lord. Please pray for the Lord to take these snakes away.' Moses prayed for the people and the Lord said, 'Make a snake out of bronze and put it on a pole. The people who are bitten can look at the snake and they won't die.' So Moses made a bronze snake and put it on a pole, and if anyone was bitten by a snake, they looked at the bronze snake and lived. Everyone who looked at the snake lived, even after being bitten by a poisonous snake.

The word of the Lord.

R/ Thanks be to God.

Responsorial psalm:

(Ps 77; 1-2.34-38 R/ v7)

The Response is: Never forget the deeds of the Lord.

- 1 Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the word of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable,
and reveal the hidden lessons of the past.
- 2 When he slew them he knew they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.
They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer.
- 3 But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.
For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant.
- 4 Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage.

Second reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians (2:6-11)

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names, so that all beings, in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend at the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

R/ Thanks be to God.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ and we bless you;

because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia!

The Gospel

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (3:13-17)

All: Glory to you, O Lord.



Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘No-one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Prayer of the faithful:

R: On the Cross, Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them'.
Lord, forgive us for the things we have done, said, or thought
which have hurt others.
Lord, in your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer

R: On the Cross, Jesus said, 'Mother, here is your son...'
Lord, we pray for our families:
bring them peace where there is worry; joy where there is sadness;
love where there is mistrust.
Lord, in your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer

R: On the Cross, Jesus cried out, 'My God, my God, why have you
forsaken me?'
Lord, help us to remember that we are never alone
and that however difficult the path becomes, you will walk with us.
Lord, in your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer

R: On the Cross, Jesus said, 'Into your hands I commit my spirit.'
Lord Jesus, we know that you left this life to spend eternity with your
Father in heaven, where you welcome all who have died in faith.
Welcome our family and friends who have died. Tell them that we love
them, that we miss them and that they are not forgotten.
Lord, in your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer

R: We ask Mary, who stood at the foot of the Cross and watched as her
son died for our salvation, to pray with us and we say:

ALL: Hail Mary
full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

P: 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.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

P: 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.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

P: Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

**All: 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.**

P: Let us pray:
May this oblation, O Lord,
which on the altar of the Cross
cancelled the offence of the whole world,
cleanse us, we pray, of all our sins.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.



The Eucharistic Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

P: 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 through the saving Passion of your Son,
the whole world has received a heart
to confess the infinite power of your majesty,
since by the wondrous power of the Cross
your judgement on the world is now revealed
and the authority of Christ crucified.
And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints,
we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

**All: 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.**

P: 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:

All: 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 into the fulness of charity,
together with Francis, our Pope, Malcolm, 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 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.

All: Amen.

The Communion Rite

P: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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.

P: 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.

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

P: 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 grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

P: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Breaking of Bread

All: 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.

Invitation to Communion

P: 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.
All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion

Those are unable to receive Communion today are invited come forward to receive a blessing.

Music for Communion: Taste and See

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray:
Having been nourished by your holy banquet,
we beseech you, Lord Jesus Christ,
to bring those you have redeemed
by the wood of your life-giving Cross
to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

The Concluding Rite

P: The Lord be with you
All: And with your spirit.

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

P: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.
All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn: Give me Joy in my Heart!

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
give me joy in my heart, I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
keep me praising 'till the end of day.

Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King!

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
give me peace in my heart, I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
keep me resting 'till the end of day.

Sing hosanna ...

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
keep me serving 'till the end of day.

Sing hosanna ...