



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (30 August 2020)

Liturgy and Prayer Resources for Catholic Communities During Suspension of Liturgical Celebrations Due to Coronavirus (2020)

During the period of suspension of public liturgies in response to the Coronavirus crisis, Catholics can take heart from one of the key decrees of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) on Christ's presence in the liturgy:

"Christ is always present in his Church, especially in its liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of his minister, 'the same now offering, through the ministry of priests, who formerly offered himself on the cross' but especially under the Eucharistic elements. By his power he is present in the sacraments, so that when a man baptises it is really Christ himself who baptises. He is present in his word, since it is he himself who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the Church. He is present, lastly when the Church prays and sings, for he promised: 'Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them'" (Mt 18:20).

[Vatican Council II, Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (1963) art. 7]

If parishioners pray at home at the same time they would normally be together praying at Mass, there is a very real sense in which two or three are gathering in Christ's name, in the unity of their prayer rather than of their physical person. Individual and family prayer based on the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours and other sources provides members of parishes and families with an opportunity to honour Christ's presence in the domestic Church as those present pray to God in thanksgiving for gifts received, and for the needs of the Church and the world.



RESOURCE PREPARED BY THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

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VARIOUS PRAYER RESOURCES

WEBSITES

- [Liturgy Brisbane](#)
- [Liturgy Help](#) (Creative Ministry Resources)
- [Masses Online and Prayer Resources](#) (Australian Catholic Bishops Conference)
- [Pray.com.au](#) (Jesuit Publications)
- [Pray with the Pope](#)
- [Universalis](#)

CREATING SPACE FOR PRAYER

1. Create a prayerful, welcoming space;
2. Include familiar liturgical symbols: water, cross, Bible, greenery/flowers and others as appropriate;
3. Light a candle and utilise music and singing;
4. Foster a reflective atmosphere of praise, thanks and intercession.

Today is Social Justice Sunday 2020. Read the full statement and access resources here: ["To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today"](#).

CONFITEOR

Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to hear God's word.

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,
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,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

OR

PENITENTIAL ACT

Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate God's word.

Lord, Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us and make us holy:
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory with salvation for your people:
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

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

All: Amen.

SEASONAL HYMN

SIGN OF THE CROSS

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

R. Amen

V. With one heart and one mind let us bless the Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the way, the truth and the life.
Bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

R. Blessed be God for ever.

GLORY TO GOD

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.

PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray.

God of might, giver of every good gift,
put into our hearts the love of your name,
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,

you may nurture in us what is good
and, by your watchful care,
keep safe what you have nurtured.
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.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:7–9 (JB)

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be
seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, 'I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.'
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 62:2–6, 8–9 (JB)

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **R.**
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**
4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 12:1–2 (JB)

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Ephesians 1:17, 18 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 16:21–27 (JB)

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURAL REFLECTION

YOUR LOVE IS BETTER THAN LIFE

Today's psalm is a beautiful love poem that expresses the intimate bond between God and the worshipper. It is especially appropriate for this Sunday's liturgy because of the line 'Your love is better than life'. In today's Gospel Jesus urges his disciples to choose him over life itself.

Up until the second century before Christ, the Jewish people had no clear belief in an afterlife. They had no doubt that life was God's greatest gift, to be treasured above all else. This psalm is the only place in the Old Testament where anything is praised above life itself. The psalmist rightly recognises that God's love is greater than life because God's love is the creative force that generates life. Without the love of God there can be no life.

We will choose God's love over everything if we have had some experience of that love. The prophet Jeremiah speaks of being seduced by God. Somehow he allowed God to win over his heart. He fought with God, got angry and frustrated, only to be overwhelmed by the fire of God's love burning in his heart.

If we tend to relate to God in a formal, distant way we could do well to enter into the feelings of passionate engagement with God that characterise today's readings. Perhaps we need to set aside some of our defences that the ardent love of God may enter our being and ignite us.

Michael Goonan SSP

THE GOD WHOM I SEEK

Today we hear the human experience of great longing for God, which includes intense joy but also suffering and frustration.

Jeremiah the prophet cries out to God, accusing God of tricking him. Jeremiah finds that God provokes him to speak, but what he must say makes Jeremiah the object of ridicule. God's word in Jeremiah is like fire trapped inside him, in his bones. Even though it is an unwelcome message of coming violence and outrage, Jeremiah must speak the word of the Lord.

Like Jeremiah, the psalmist uses the imagery of intense bodily need, of pining and thirsting, to speak of the desire for God. It is the song of the human being longing for God.

The Gospel this week follows on immediately from that of last week, where Jesus gave Peter immense authority. Today, Jesus reveals plainly his own fate: he will suffer, die and be raised on the third day. In a massive change, Peter utterly rejects this vision for Jesus; Jesus utterly rejects Peter's view. Jesus then goes on to teach a message of self-denial and suffering not unlike Jeremiah's message of violence and outrage. We find it hard to imagine God allowing this fate to those who love God. Yet Jesus insists that God has a larger view than we do, in which God will resolve all that remains to be reconciled.

Paul speaks of letting ourselves be shaped by God's view, not by the mindset of our age. God's vision, given to us in Jesus, unites us in peace with God.

Michele Connolly RSJ

St Pauls Publications and the authors have allowed the publication of this reflection to support the spiritual needs of Catholics unable to attend Mass at this time.



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,

(All bow, up to the word “man”)

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.

Amen

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Introduction

Let us bring our intentions to God, whose wisdom is beyond
our understanding, but whose love and care for us is always
within reach when we call.



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (30 August 2020)

Intentions

We pray for Pope Francis, and all bishops, clergy, religious and lay faithful: that through their ministerial responsibilities and pastoral care, they will shepherd your flock through the crosses and crises of our age. We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer

On this Social Justice Sunday, we pray for all civic leaders and their constituents: that their way of life and resources will be used to foster social justice for all, particularly the poor, those without employment and those who suffer from discrimination. We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer

We pray for all communities dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic: that their leaders in government, health care and scientific research will be successful in treating the sick and finding accessible vaccines. We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer

We pray for all who thirst for God and for his reign on earth: That they will be patient in dealing with experiences of feeling isolated and put their trust in God's providence and loving care until the end of time. We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer

We pray for all affected by natural disasters, human catastrophes and atrocities, or accidental misadventure, particularly N. _____: that those who lost their lives will find peace and rest in Christ and that local communities, families and individuals will be strengthened to assist the injured and to rebuild their lives. We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer

We pray for all who have died recently, especially those who have died in aged care, the victims of the COVID-19 virus and those whose anniversaries occur around this time, especially N. _____. That they will rest in the peace of Christ and rise in glory on the last day. We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer

Conclusion

Loving Lord, and God of all, be pleased to hear the prayers of your pilgrim people who seek to do your will by following in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us join our prayers with the prayer Jesus gave us:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Lord Jesus Christ, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

St Alphonsus Liguori, alt. (1696-1787)

CONCLUSION

Leader: Let us pray.

Renewed by our spiritual communion in
your word and sacrament,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the sources of charity,
your gifts may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Let us go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

CONCLUDING SEASONAL HYMN OR SONG OF PRAISE/THANKSGIVING

PSALM AND CANTICLES FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

COMMON PSALM FOR ORDINARY TIME

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **R.**
3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**
4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

BENEDICTUS (Morning) Luke 1:68–79 (ICET tr.)

All make the sign of the cross.

1. Blessed be + the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.
2. Through his holy prophets he promised of old
that he would save us from our enemies, from the
hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.
3. This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
4. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most
High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.
5. In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
6. Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

MAGNIFICAT (Evening)

Luke 1:46–55 (ICET tr.)

All make the sign of the cross.

1. My soul + proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour
for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
2. From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
3. He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
4. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
5. He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.
6. Glory to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS (Night)

Lk 2:29–32; (ICEL tr.)

**R. Protect us, Lord, as we stay awake;
watch over us as we sleep,
that awake we may keep watch with Christ,
and, asleep, rest in his peace.**

1. Lord, + now you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled. **Ant.**
2. My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people. **Ant.**
3. A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel. **Ant.**
4. Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore ever. **Ant.**

PRAYER FROM VOTIVE MASS FOR THE SICK

[*Roman Missal (2010) p. 1378*]

Collect

Let us pray:

O God, who willed that our infirmities
be borne by your Only Begotten Son
to show the value of human suffering,
listen in kindness to our prayers
for our brothers and sisters who are sick;
grant that all who are oppressed by pain,
distress or other afflictions
may know that they are chosen
among those proclaimed blessed
and are united to Christ
in his suffering for the salvation of the world.
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.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

*The National Council of Churches, who have invited all of
us to pray this prayer at 7pm each day:*

Gracious God,
We give thanks anew for your providence and presence.
We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and
overseas.
We pray for those in need of healing.
We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or
grieving.
We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain
all those who are serving in response.
We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment
amidst the many choices and decisions
facing our national, community and medical leaders.
We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do
to help those who are vulnerable.
This prayer for our nation in the family of nations,
with all that is on our hearts,
we gather now and pray
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Almighty and all-merciful God,
lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,
in whom there is no shadow of death,
save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;
watch over all medical people
as they tend the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,
that hope may never die
and the light of Easter, the triumph of life,
may shine upon us and the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.
Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.
St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.

The Most Reverend Mark Coleridge
Archbishop of Brisbane

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO MARY DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith
firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.
Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God.
Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial,
but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed
Virgin.

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