

into the mystery of our salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I-VIII of Sundays in Ordinary Time – pages 23-26.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 147:12-14

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

Or:

Cf. Jn 6:51

The bread that I will give, says the Lord,
is my flesh for the life of the world.

Prayer after Communion

May the communion in your Sacrament
that we have consumed, save us, O Lord,
and confirm us in the light of your truth.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing – pages 57-59.

14 AUGUST

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Celebrated today in Ireland)

(The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated
today in England, Wales and Scotland –see page 328.)

In Luke's gospel there is a unique portrayal of what it means to be a follower of the Way of Jesus. His term is 'disciple'. The essential aspect of discipleship is 'staying with' Jesus especially on his final journey to Jerusalem.

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 83:10-11

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Greeting, Penitential Rite, Gloria – pages 7-13.

Collect

O God, who have prepared for those who love you
good things which no eye can see,

fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love,
so that, loving you in all things and above all things,
we may attain your promises,
which surpass every human desire.
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.

FIRST READING

Jer 38:4-6.8-10

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

You have borne me to be a man of dissension for all the land.

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 39:2-4.18

R Lord, come to my aid!

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. **R**
2. He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm. **R**

3. He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. **R**
4. As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay. **R**

SECOND READING

Heb 12:1-4

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

We shall keep running steadily in the race we have started.

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cf. Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,
to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Or:

Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,
says the Lord,
I know them and they follow me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 12:49-53

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

I am not here to bring peace, but rather division.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Profession of Faith – pages 14-15.

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive our oblation, O Lord,
by which is brought about a glorious exchange,
that, by offering what you have given,
we may merit to receive your very self.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I-VIII of Sundays in Ordinary Time – pages 23-26.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 129:7

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

Or:

Jn 6:51-52

I am the living bread that came down from heaven,
says the Lord.

Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

Prayer after Communion

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments,
we humbly implore your mercy, Lord,
that, conformed to his image on earth,
we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Solemn Blessing – pages 57-59.

21 AUGUST

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

'Who is Jesus?' is a question which Luke seeks to answer in his gospel and in the Acts of the Apostles. To answer this question he sometimes finds it necessary to correct an inadequate view of Jesus. As in the case of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus who are demoralised about the events surrounding Jesus' crucifixion. It is by returning to Jerusalem, which is also a journey back to the risen Lord, that they begin to have the question answered.

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Greeting, Penitential Rite, Gloria – pages 7-13.

Collect

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful
to unite in a single purpose,
grant your people to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, amid the uncertainties of this world,
our hearts may be fixed on that place
where true gladness is found.
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.

FIRST READING

Is 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

They will bring all your brothers from all the nations.

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy

mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 116

R Go out to the whole world;
proclaim the Good News.

Or:

Alleluia!

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! **R**
2. Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. **R**

SECOND READING

Heb 12:5-7.11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

The Lord trains the one that he loves.

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him. Alleluia!

Or:

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;

no one can come to the Father except through me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 13:22-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Men from east and west will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Profession of Faith – pages 14-15.

Prayer over the Offerings

O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I-VIII of Sundays in Ordinary Time – pages 23-26.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 103:13-15

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.

Or:

Cf. Jn 6:54

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
has eternal life, says the Lord,
and I will raise him up on the last day.

Prayer after Communion

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray,
the healing work of your mercy
and graciously perfect and sustain us,
so that in all things we may please you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing – pages 57-59.

28 AUGUST

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The parables of Luke's gospel appear towards the end of Jesus' ministry when some of the crowds are abandoning him, perhaps from fear of the establishment or for reasons of respectability. The 'harsh ones' are a last warning that such a path is the direct opposite to true discipleship which by contrast is portrayed as remaining with Jesus who remains with his followers.

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 85:3,5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

Greeting, Penitential Rite, Gloria – pages 7-13.

Collect

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.

FIRST READING

Eccles 3:17-20.28-29

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

Behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord.

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business,
and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.
The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly,
and then you will find favour with the Lord;
for great though the power of the Lord is,
he accepts the homage of the humble.
There is no cure for the proud man's malady,
since an evil growth has taken root in him.
The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables,
an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 67:4-7.10-11

R In your goodness, O God,
you prepared a home for the poor.

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,
they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. **R**
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,
such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in;
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. **R**
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain:
when your people were starved you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home,
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. **R**

SECOND READING

Heb 12:18-19.22-24

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

You have come to Mount Zion and the city of the living God.

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels

have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him. Alleluia!

Or:

Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shoulder my yoke and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 14:1.7-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are

fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Profession of Faith – pages 14-15.

Prayer over the Offerings

May this sacred offering, O Lord,
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,
that what it celebrates in mystery
it may accomplish in power.
Through Christ our Lord.

Preface I-VIII of Sundays in Ordinary Time – pages 23-26.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

Or:

Mt 5:9-10

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Prayer after Communion

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing – pages 57-59.

4 SEPTEMBER

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

'The Kingdom of God' is a term which we frequently meet in Luke's gospel. It is a metaphor used by Jesus to refer to God's reign in the world being accepted by humankind. The Kingdom is not identical with the Church. Wherever the values which Jesus lived and preached are operating, even though the Church may not be established in that place, the Kingdom is already there.

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 118:137.124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Greeting, Penitential Rite, Gloria – pages 7-13.

Collect

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ
may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance.
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.

FIRST READING

Ws 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

Who can divine the will of the Lord?

'What man can know the intentions of God?

Who can divine the will of the Lord?

The reasonings of mortals are unsure

and our intentions unstable;

for a perishable body presses down the soul,

and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.

It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,

laborious to know what lies within our reach;

who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not
granted Wisdom

and sent your holy spirit from above?